

Kathmandu Environmental Education Project

Journey from 1992 - 2017



GOLDEN FARM PVT. LTD



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Coffee Processing Training

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Director: Santosh Giri Gurung
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Director: Santosh Giri Gurung
Lagankhel, Ward no 5, Lalitpur, Kathmandu

G & G PRIVATE LTD.

Director: Santosh Giri Gurung
Boudha, Ward No. 6, Kathmandu, Nepal

VOLUNTEER SEWA NEPAL

Founder: Santosh Giri Gurung
Old Baneshwor, Ward No. 9, Kathmandu, Nepal



Foreword from Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation

It is a great pleasure to read the Kathmandu Environmental Education Project's (KEEP) souvenir reminiscence of 25 years of history in contributing to the tourism industry of Nepal, with the theme of 'Helping Tourism Work for Nepal'.

I noted that in KEEP's early history, it all started with a great concern of a young British foreigner on Nepal's environmental degradation & awareness, who lost her life while climbing in the Khumbu glacier. In her memory, with the support, initiative of several prominent individuals including Sir Lord John Hunt, leader of the first successful ascent of Mt. Everest, and Dr. Chandra Gurung, respected Conservationist, KEEP's value at the time of its establishment was very much recognised and benefitted thousands of global travelers from its travelers' information centre.

Unquestionably, one of the most important breakthroughs by the KEEP organization began in the early '90s, with the opening of a location in Thamel, Kathmandu which provided free, unbiased information to trekkers, mountaineers and tourists from all over the world. It certainly played a great role in bringing awareness and information to visitors, and in, promoting Nepal in the international arena at a time when the trekking information was not readily available. KEEP filled the gap. Today as well, with the advance time, KEEP has continued to maintain itself as a unique organization through its innovative approaches and strategies promoting sustainable tourism. Nepal, with its unique rich culture, multi-ethno religions, heritage and physical geography, can offer much for any tourists' taste.

Rural poverty alleviation through tourism is one of KEEP's endeavors and this is where KEEP's training programs have been playing such a vital role in promoting skilled human development in Nepal. Such skill enhancing programs initiated by KEEP will always be vital to tourism development. Equally important are KEEP's environmental awareness programs, the porters' clothing bank and the many community development programs KEEP has undertaken.

Globally, Tourism is a dynamic and ever growing sector. Since 1991, KEEP has continued to expand its sphere of services, and develop. Therefore, to more innovatively contribute as a leading ecotourism organization in Nepal, we want to commend the KEEP organization for its invaluable contribution to our tourism industry and to Nepal.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM NTB (NEPAL TOURISM BOARD)



It's a great pleasure to know that KEEP (Kathmandu Environmental Education Project) has completed its 25 years. KEEP and NTB have jointly worked previously in different ventures related to environment conservation, heritage preservation, community participation and sustainable tourism devel-

opment, amongst many others.

There is no denying that KEEP has established itself as a leading organization dealing with promoting sustainable tourism. KEEP still stands tall and straight in its 25th year regardless of all other competitions and struggles.

It is a well understood fact that no achievements is possible without effort and dedication. Therefore, I would like to congratulate KEEP on its accomplishments, particularly in the area of sustainable and respon-

sible tourism, and also hope and expect that KEEP will produce its 100th years magazine and beyond.

Lastly, I would like to mention that hopefully in the future NTB and KEEP would be able to work together again in various exciting projects, and promote Nepalese tourism industry.

Deepak Raj Joshi,
CEO, NTB

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Marking the 25th anniversary of KEEP, I would like to extend my utmost gratitude towards our partners, donors, volunteers, past presidents, founder members, advisors and staff members for their overwhelming support and generosity for KEEP. With your generous contribution, KEEP has been able to continuously instill positive changes across Nepal.

As the chairman since 2015, it has

been an honor to see the positive impact that KEEP has had towards the society. Despite the devastating earthquake in 2015, KEEP has conducted numerous amounts of projects from promoting sustainable tourism to assisting community development in the aid of the post-earthquake recovery. Needless to say, this would not have been possible without the countless efforts and dedication from the staff members.

Lastly, it has been a hugely rewarding journey to be with KEEP for the last two years. KEEP continues to grow and strives to create a bet-

ter future for the people in Nepal. I would like to thank Mr. D.B Gurung, Director of KEEP for his leadership and devotion towards KEEP, and all donors, advisors, board members & staffs for always being with KEEP. He has been with us from the very start of KEEP, in other words for 25 years! I would personally like to applaud him and the staff members at the KEEP office for their successful accomplishments.

Bimal Naharki
Chairman, KEEP

LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



As I begin to write this letter, I realize how quickly my 25 years and KEEP's 25 years has passed. These 25 years in KEEP has been both rewarding and challenging. Through these years, we saw a lot of solid progress, as well as breakdowns. Nevertheless, we continuously seek to establish new ideas and projects.

I am honored to be just the fourth executive director of KEEP in its long history. This also shows the stability and harmony in the organization. I am

also truly grateful to lead the talented and dedicated team, who continuously work for the success and sustenance of KEEP.

A few of the most important challenges that the world is facing today is environment, poverty and access to education. KEEP works and has been working effortlessly to promote Eco-tourism, alleviate poverty and boost education through different means and methods around Nepal.

KEEP has seen a lot of ups and downs in its 25 years, but has never turned away from its duties and responsibilities. This has paved a strong relationship of trust and understanding with the donors and well wishers.

As an executive director, I am committed to continue and lead the mission of the organization throughout the highs and lows. I would like to take this opportunity to request all the staffs and board members to work in harmony, remain intact and understand their roles and responsibilities.

I would also like to provide heartfelt thanks and gratitude towards our donors and well-wishers without whom the sustenance of KEEP would have been impossible.

Congratulation and best wishes for the future!

DB Gurung,
Executive Director, KEEP

LETTER FROM SECRETARY GENERAL



As KEEP has stepped on its 25th years of service towards tourism, community and Environment, first of all I would like to congratulate executive Director Mr. DB Gurung for constantly standing by KEEP through its 25 years.

I would also like to congratulate all the donors, advisors, board members and staffs, for their service towards KEEP. I hope KEEP will be reaching many more milestones and continue to provide service to Nepalese environment, community and tourism sector.

Ram Kumar Puri
General Secretary (KEEP)

CONGRATULATIONS FROM CO-ORDINATOR



As the coordinator of KEEP's 25th anniversary, I would like to congratulate KEEP for its marvelous 25 years and wish for many more.

With the support of its advisors, board members, staff and general members, KEEP has been able to conduct two major programs as a celebration of its 25th anniversary. The first one was "a day green hike" on 14th January 2017, to promote green route. And, the second one being "tree plantation", on 8th of August, 2017, where the KEEP team was able to plant more than 100 trees, continuing its aim to preserve nature.

KEEP has continuously been able to provide its service and follow its mission despite various struggles and pitfalls. Nevertheless, it has marked its silver jubilee and hopefully will be able to mark many more jubilees. Congratulations to all!!

Devi P. Panta
Co-ordinator

HISTORY OF KEEP BY FOUNDERS!

In February 1991 two young British women, Joanne Chittenden and Tracey Taylor-Young, set out to climb Imja Tse (Island Peak). Their trip aimed to highlight the issue of litter on the trails in the Khumbu region besides to enjoy themselves and spend some time amidst the majestic peaks of the Nepal Himalaya. Their journey ended in tragedy, however, when Tracey slipped while crossing an icefall and was killed. It was the love that Jo and Tracey's fiancé, Johnnie Woods had for her that inspired the establishment of KEEP.

Jo and Johnnie found some willing and enthusiastic collaborators in the then director of the Annapurna Conservation Area Project, Dr Chandra Gurung, along with two American residents of Kathmandu, Wendy Brewer-Lama and Steve Powers. It was a huge step forward when

Chandra agreed to be chair of KEEP.

Johnnie writes "Raising funds and persuading busy people like Sir Chris Bonington to give their time to KEEP (Chris came to our official opening in 1992) meant that we had to be very clear about what KEEP was trying



Mountains are the only place I can be truly happy. It is just nature, beauty, looking at them and feeling them. They can make me cry with emotion. – Tracey Taylor Young (1959 -1991)



to achieve and why it was actually needed. To me KEEP was always much

more than an environmental protection project. Providing information for trekkers and training for trekking staff on how to reduce their environmental impact was and is very important. The bigger prize, however, is to build a more equal economic and cultural relationship between visitors and hosts so that trekking can actively contribute to the well-being of the Nepali people and help to protect the wonderful Himalayan environment for future generations."

Joe Chittenden
Founder, KEEP

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE KEEP TEAM!



In Tracey's memory, her fiancé Johnnie Woods and friend Jo Chittenden, came Nepal from UK to honor her. They contacted a few like-minded Nepalis and ex-pats and together set up the Kathmandu Environmental Education Project (KEEP); Johnnie and Jo returned to the UK to establish the Tracey Taylor Young Mountain Trust to help raise money for KEEP.

It was the vision and commitment of Johnnie, Jo, together with Dr. Chan-

dra Gurung, Pertemba Sherpa, Steve Powers and myself, Wendy Brewer Lama that inspired the birth of KEEP in the fall of 1992.

KEEP Executive Director D.B. Gurung has been through it all, bringing his expertise and vast knowledge of trekking as a previous guide to share with KEEP visitors. We laud his 25 years of service!

First few years KEEP struggled to pay rents and staffs. Mountaineering notables Lord John Hunt, who led the first successful climb of Mt. Everest by the 1953 British expedition team, and Chris Bonington, a highly accomplished British mountaineer, were early supporters, helping im-

ensely to raise funds and KEEP's profile. The present and past directors and their team worked tirelessly to educate visitors, and in due time, to offer English, first aid and environmental management training to tourism professionals.

To those in Nepal's tourism industry, please continue to support KEEP's invaluable work. Become a KEEP lifetime member and look for ways to partner with KEEP to support your shared goals, and help champion this small but effective organization that has remarkably thrived over 25 years to serve a highly worthwhile need.

Wendy Brewer Lama,
Founding Member, KEEP

INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF KEEP IN 1992



Attended by Lord Hunt and Sir Chris Bonington, along with late Dr. Chandra Gurung and KEEP's staffs and volunteers.



Late Lord, John Hunt during KEEP's inauguration program in 1992, at Kathmandu. Hunt was the leader of 1953 Everest Expedition when Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay Sherpa made the first ascent of the world's highest peak the Mt. Everest

KEEP's list of board members & advisors from 1992 - present

Year	Chairman	Vice Chairman	General Secretary	Secretary	Treasurer	Asst Treasurer	Board Members	Advisors
1992-1995	Dr. Chandra Gurung 	Mr. Pertemba Sherpa	-	Mr. Yogendra Kayastha	Mr. Bala Raj Rai	-	Mr. Ukesh Raj Bhuju Mr. Dibya Gurung Mr. Dal Bahadur Gurung	Johnnie Woods Jo Chittenden Steve Powers Wendy Brewer Lama
1995-1997	Dr. Chandra Gurung 	Mr. Pertemba Sherpa	-	Mr. Darbey R. Shakya	Mr. Ashok R. Tuladhar	-	Dr. Gyanendra R. Tuladhar Mr. Bal Krishna Donju Mr. Balaraj Rai Mr. Shailendra Thakali Mr. Ukesh Raj Bhuju Mr. Valla Maskey Ms. Yankila Sherpa	Mr. Sudersan Tiwari Dr. Pralhad Yonjan Dr. Kamal Banskota Johnnie Woods Steve Powers Wendy Brewer Lama
1997-1999	Mr. Pertemba Sherpa 	Mr. Ukesh Raj Bhuju	-	Mr. Giridhari Sharma	Mr. Raju Shrestha	-	Ms. Shanti Adhikari Mr. Bhalla Maskey Mr. Murali Ranjit Mr. KD Khwaju Mr. Hum B. Gurung Shailendra Thakali Mr. Jyangbu Lama Sherpa	Dr. Pralhad Yonjan Dr. Kamal Banskota Mr. Karna Shakya Mr. Johnnie Woods Mr. Steve Powers Ms Wendy B. Lama
1999-2001	Mr. Ukesh Raj Bhuju 	Mr. R. K. Shrestha	Mrs. Radhika Upreti	Mr. Pemba G. Sherpa	Mr. Hemraj Bastola	Mr. Ngawang Sherpa	Dr. Suresh Babu Malla Mr. Mangalman Shakya Mr. Palden Lama Mr. Binod Bab.u Tiwari Mr. Dambar B Gurung	Mr. Pertemba Sherpa Mr. Karna Shakya Dr. Pitambar Sharma Dr. Kevin Va Dorothy McIntosh
2001-2003	Mr. Mangalman Shakya 	Mr. R. K. Shrestha	Mr. Pemba Gelu Sherpa	Mr. Binod Babu Tiwari	Mr. Gyaljen Sherpa	Mr. Ang Thupten Sherpa	Dr. Suresh babu Malla Dr. Ajit Gurung Mrs. Radhika Upreti Mr. Ngawang Gyalgen Sherpa Mr. Palden Lama Mr. Gel Chiri Sherpa	Mr. Pertemba Sherpa Mr. Karna Shakya Dr. Pitamber Sharma Dr. Kevin Vang Dorothy McIntosh Mr. K.C Pradhan Ross Hazelwood

Year	Chairman	Vice Chairman	General Secretary	Secretary	Treasurer	Asst Treasurer	Board Members	Advisors
2003-2006	Mr. R.K Shrestha 	Dr. Ajit Kumar Gurung	Pemba G. Sherpa	Mr. Binod Babu Tiwari	Mr. Lal Bahadur Tamang	Nawang G. Sherpa	Mr. Mangal Man Shakya Dr. Suresh Babu Malla Mr. Ang Thupten Sherpa Mr. Rajendra Singh Suwal Mrs Radhika Upreti	Mr. Pertemba Sherpa Mr. Karna Shakya Mr. Ukesh Raj Bhuju Dr. Pitamber Sharma Dr. Kevin Vang Dorothy McIntosh
2006-2009	Dr. Ajit Kumar Gurung 	Dr. Suresh Babu Malla	Mr. Binod Babu Tiwari	Mr. Taranath Ghimire	Mr. Ang Thupten Sherpa	Mr. Govinda Poudel Prasad	Mr. Mangal Man Shakya Mr. Pitamber Gurung Mr. Om Man Shrestha Mrs. Radhika Upreti	Mr. Pertemba Sherpa Mr. Karna Shakya Mr. Sailendra Thakali Chris Mackay
2009-2012	Dr. Ajit Kumar Gurung 	Mr. Sagar Pandey	Mr. Ang Thupten Sherpa	Mr. Devi Pd. Pant	Mr. Pitambar Gurung	Mrs. Shova Ghimire	Dr. Suresh Babu Malla Mr. Bimal Naharki Mr. Ram Kumari Puri Mr. Om Man Shrestha Mr. Mangal Man Shakya	Mr. Ukesh raj Bhuju Mr. Shailendra Thakali Chris Mackay Ian Wall Jane Crouch Iris Sebba
2012-2015	Mr. Sagar Pandey 	Mr.Bimal Naharki	Mr. Devi Prasad Panta	Mr. Ram Kumar Puri	Mr. Pitamber Gurung	Mrs. Shova Ghimire	Dr. Suresh Babu Malla Dr. Ajit Kumar Gurung Mr. Rishi Prasad Nepal Mrs. Meggi Chhetri Mr. Dawa Sherpa	Mr. Ukesh Raj Bhuju Mr. Shailendra Thakali Chris Mackay Ian Wall Jane Crouch Iris Sebba
2015-present	Mr. Bimal Naharki 	Mr. Devi Prasad Panta	Mr. Ram Kumar Puri	Mr. Rishi Prasad Nepal	Mr. Pitamber Gurung	Mrs. Meggi Chettri	Dr. Ajit Kumar Gurung Dr. Suresh Babu Malla Mrs. Santwoshi Giri Gurung Mrs. Mina Sherpa Mr. Dawa Sherpa	Mr. Ukesh Raj Bhuju Mr. Shailendra Thakali Chris Mackay Ian Wall Jane Crouch

STRUCTURE OF CURRENT ADVISORS



Ukesh Raj Bhujyu,
Nepal



Shailendra Thakali,
Nepal



Jane Crouch,
Australia



Chris Mackay,
USA



Ian Wall, UK

STRUCTURE OF CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS



Mr. Bimal Naharki
Chairman



Mr. Ram K Puri
General Secretary



Mr. Devi P Panta
Vice-Chairman



Mr. Rishi P Nepal
Secretary



Mr. Pitamber Gurung
Treasurer



Mrs. Meggie Chhetri
Asst. Treasurer



Dr. Ajit Kumar Gurung
Board Member



Dr. Suresh Babu Malla
Board Member



Dawa Sherpa
Board Member



Mrs. Mina Sherpa
Board Member



Mrs. Santosh Giri Gurung
Board Member

STRUCTURE OF CURRENT STAFF



DB Gurung
Exe. Director



Tara Datt Joshi
Account/Adm. Officer



Arjun Kumar Limbu
Program Officer



Sadiksha Basnet
Asst. Program Officer



Narmada Magar
Cafe Supervisor



Thakur Danai
PCB in-charge



Kalpana Dhimal
Cafe Assistant

Special Thanks and Gratitude

On this auspicious occasion, KEEP would like to take the opportunity to express sincere thanks & gratitude towards all those who supported us throughout our journey of 25 years. KEEP owes its success to all of its friends and supporters.

Partners

International

- Crooked Trails, USA
- BridglT Water Foundation, Aus
- Annapurna HR, UK
- GloboTrek, Switzerland
- Edinburgh Global Partnership, UK
- International Porters Protection Group (IPPG),
- Mountain People, Norway
- Nepal Trekking, UK
- Swiss Foundation for Solidarity in Tourism (SST) Switzerland
- The International Mountain Explorers Connection (IMEC) USA
- PP UK
- Worldwide Education Partnership (WWEP), USA
- Association Porteurs dAvenir, Fra
- A.S Hornby Educational Trust, UK
- Antipodeans Abroad, Australia
- Aussie Action Board, Australia
- George & Beatrice Jost, Switzerland

- Cicerone Publications, UK
- Lonely Planet Publication
- PATA International,
- Raw Travel. Australia
- Rhododendron Edu. Trust, UK
- The Intrepid Foundation, Australia
- TTY Mountain.Trust, UK
- World Expeditions, Australia
- Community Action Nepal, UK
- The Mountain Fund, USA
- Peregrine Adventures, Australia
- KE Adventures Travel, UK
- Exodus Travels, UK
- Australian Foundation for Asia Pacific (AFAP), Australia

National

- Department of national Parks and Wildlife Conservation(DNPWC)
- Annapurna Conservation Area Project (ACAP)
- National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC)
- Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA)
- Nepal Tourism Board (NTB)
- Trekking Agencies' Association of Nepal (TAAN)
- WWF Nepal
- Kathmandu Metropolitan City (KMC)
- Himalayan Glacier Trekking
- Exodus Treks & Expds



KEEP's Board member, advisors, volunteers and staff at the 20th Annual General Meeting



KEEP's present Executive Director DB Gurung & then Chairman Dr. Ajit K. Gurung felicitating Joe Chittenden
at KEEP's Office, Kathmandu

Remembering Dr. Chandra Gurung



Joe Chittenden, Jhonnie Woods, Wendy Lama along with Dr. Chandra Gurung are regarded as the backbone behind the establishment of KEEP. The then Director of ACAP (Annapurna Conservation Area Programme), Dr. Chandra Gurung brought expertise to KEEP and served as its chairman from 1992-1997. Dr. Gurung has been felicitated by various awards in his lifetime, including the Order of the Golden Ark from the Netherlands, and, Gorkha Dakshin Bahu from the Government of Nepal. KEEP on completing its 25th anniversary would like to provide heartfelt gratitude towards Dr. Gurung for his contribution to KEEP as well as mountain environment of Nepal. Dr. Gurung died in a helicopter crash while returning back from a ceremony held in Mt. Kanchenjunga, on September 23, 2006. The contribution of Dr. Gurung stays alive at present in the form of Chandra Gurung Conservation Trust (CGCT).

Major Programs of KEEP

A. Traveler's Information Centre

For a long time now, KEEP has been operating Travelers' Information Centre (TIC). Located in the hot spot Thamel area, TIC provides free and impartial information to trekkers. Along with TIC KEEP operates green-cafe and eco-shops as a means to be financially self-sufficient. Following are the list of services provided by TIC:

- FREE trekking information from experts on where to trek, mountain safety and environment friendly trekking.
 - FREE trekkers logs to update information and recommendations
- from people who have just come back from the trip.
 - FREE Wi-Fi and embassy registration service.
 - FREE daily videos and slide shows on key issues such as porters' welfare.
 - Eco-friendly fair-trade trekking supplies including biodegradable soaps/shampoo, refillable water bottles, water purification solutions, waterproof 'Go-bags' (garbage bags) and a range of maps and guidebooks
 - Safe water re-fill station – say no to disposable bottles!
 - A well equipped library
 - How to leave a positive cultural impact on Nepal



Ex. Director DB Gurung providing information to visitors

List of Travellers Information Centers operated by KEEP

Name	Location	Year
Traveler's Information Center	Thamel, Kathmandu	1992 - present
Bardia Visitor's Center	Bardia	1999 - 2000
Sermanthang Visitor's Center	Helambu, Langtang	2000 - 2003
Salleri Visitor's Center	Salleri, Solukhumbu	2000 - 2001
Pokhara Visitor's Information center	Lakeside, Pokhara	2003 - 2005

B. Eco-tourism Capacity Building

Following its mission to advocate Eco-tourism, KEEP has been conducting various trainings and workshops annually. Following are the list of eco-tourism capacity building programs:

1. Language Course

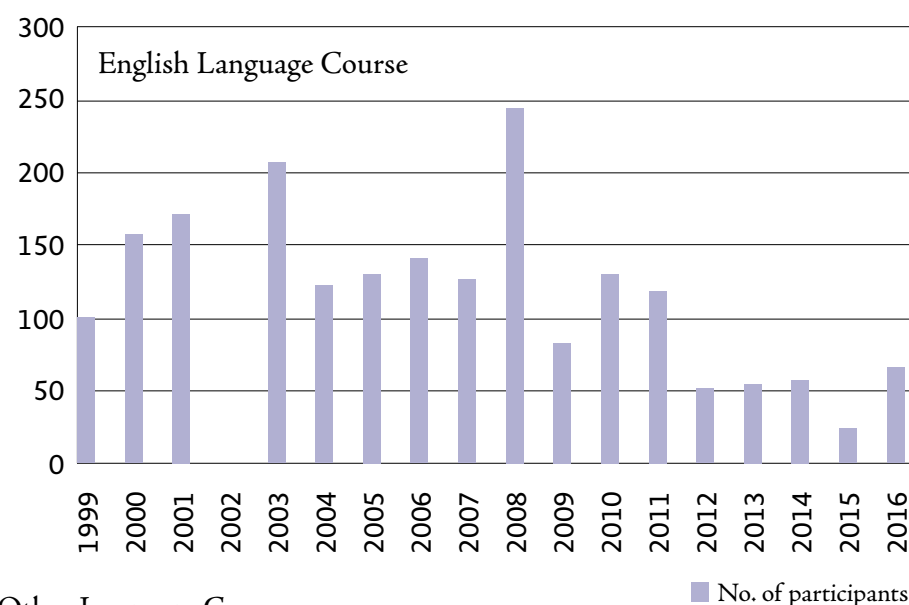
KEEP runs tailored English language courses aimed to improve the communication skill of tourism professionals throughout Nepal. The

course runs for four weeks and is instructed by experienced native English instructors who are assisted by Nepali instructors. These language courses also includes crucial topics like tourism in Nepal, clients hospitality, safety issues and conservation matters. Besides English language, KEEP also occasionally provides French and German languages depending upon the availability of volunteers.



Volunteer instructor teaching English language to guides and porters

Numbers of ELC conducted and number of participants



Other Language Courses

Year	Course	Number of Participants
2000	German Language Course	
2003	German Language Course	6
2004	German Language Course	6
2005	German language Course	6
2006	German Language Course	4
2008	Four Week German Language Course	23
2008	German language Course	17
2011	French Language Course	17

2. Wilderness First Aid Course

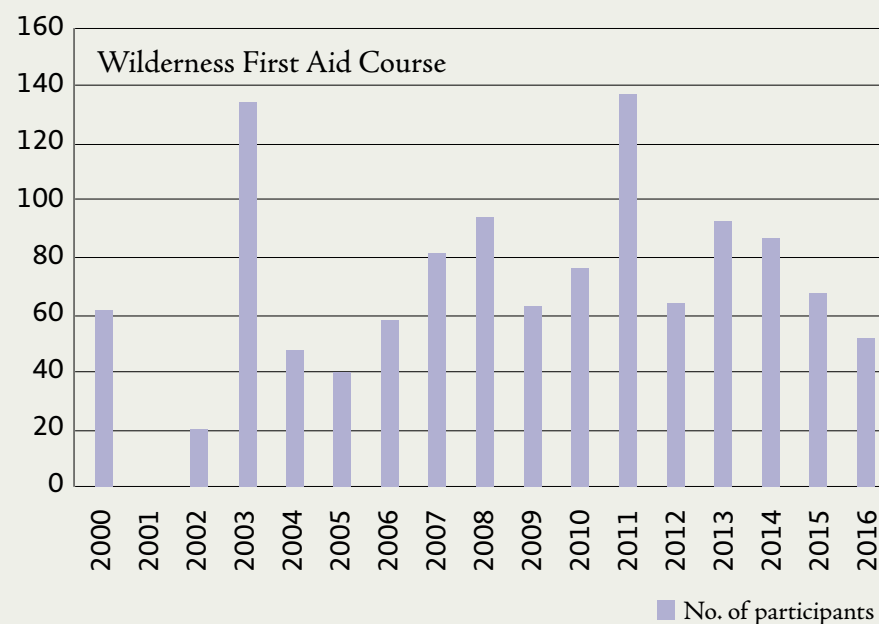
Understanding safe tourism as a part of eco-tourism, KEEP has been continuously organizing Wilderness First-aid Course twice a year for more than 10 years now. This training has an incredible importance to teach tourism professionals about mountain injuries. KEEP annually conducts two First Aid Courses:

three-day refresher courses (RW-FAC) and a five-day intensive course (IWFAC). The training includes topics like in-field treatment, mountain safety, altitude sickness, practical demonstration of CPR methods, and use of portable altitude chambers (PAC bags) and Oximeter.



Participants learning to use a Gamow bag at a KEEP training demonstration

Number of First Aid trainings and participants





A massive earthquake hit Nepal on 25th April, 2015. The aftermath was disastrous, thousand lives lost and thousands of shelter crushed. KEEP along with the help of Crooked Trail, USA, helped the victims with the relief worth \$25,000.

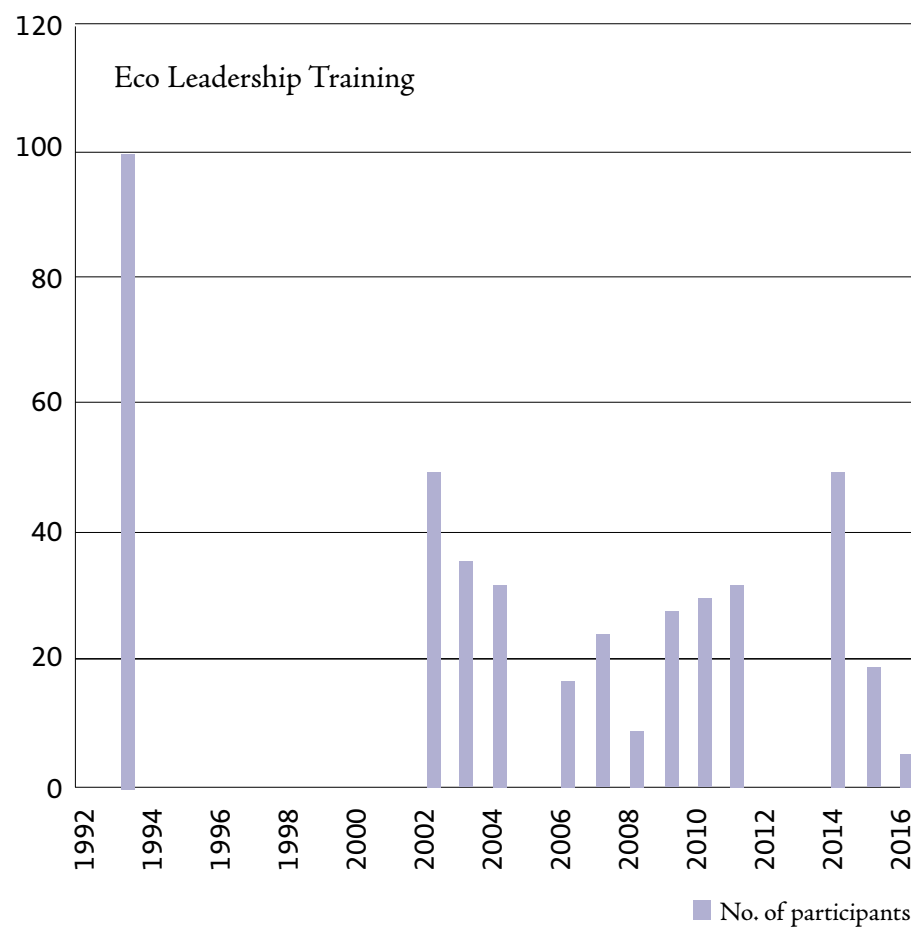
3. Eco Leadership Trekking Course

The course is designed to produce eco-friendly leaders/guides within the fast growing tourism industry of Nepal. This foundation course helps to certify the guides and distinguishes them from general leaders/guides. The course links tourism with the aspects of environment, sustainability and leadership.



Participants in Eco-leadership training

Numbers of ELT and participants



GREEN HIKE



On January 14, 2017, KEEP organized an Eco-hike, as a part of its 25 years of celebration, as well as to promote new route for hiking.

Green Hike- for Environment and Health

As a part of its 25th anniversary celebration, KEEP conducted a “Green Hike” for Environment & Health, on 14th January, 2017. The main aim of hike was to promote the green route of Nagarjun Hill, following the KEEP’s mission to maximize the positive and reduce the negative impacts associated with tourism. The hiking route was Mudku-Sonagaun-Palmati, Chilaunegaun-Bhanjyangpokhari. The total hiking hours was 4 hours and the highest altitude reached was 1500m.

The amount collected from the program was used for environment and community development projects through KEEP.



Environmental Awareness Workshop 2016, Kathmandu

C. Environmental Awareness Program

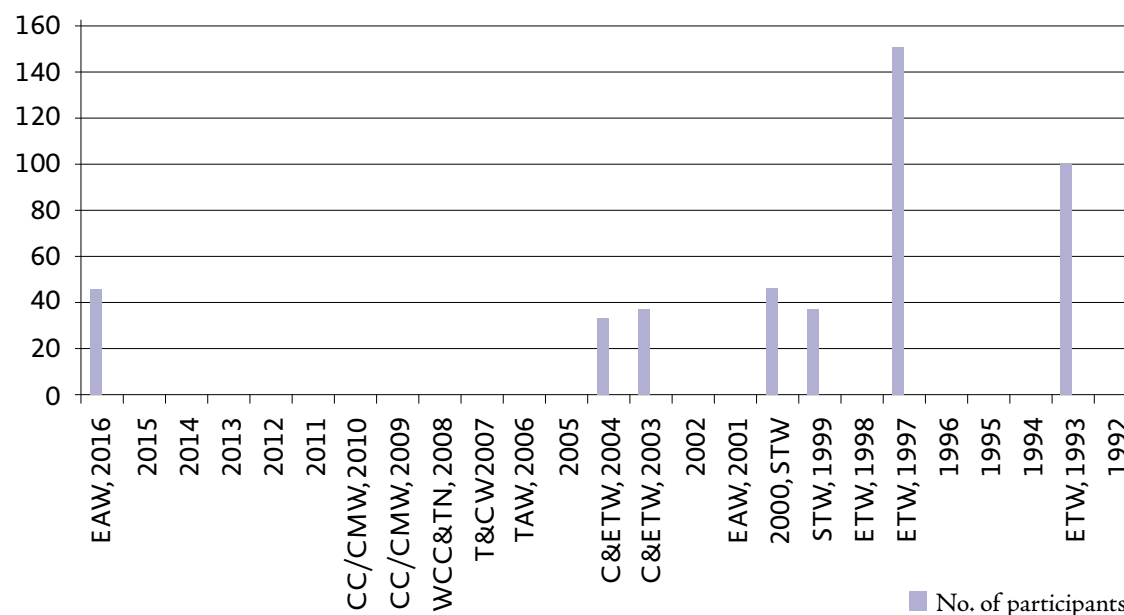
The objective of this program is to raise awareness of the conservation and protection of environment. By educating communities, these projects emphasize the issues related to the tourism industry regarding the environment, conservation and the need for responsible tourism.

KEEP has been providing video presentations on topics such as, responsible trekking leave no trace, waste management, mountain safety, reducing carbon footprints, natural & cultural heritages of Nepal and protected areas of Nepal. These videos are regularly shown to visitors and tourism professionals in order to promote eco-tourism and create environmental awareness.

1. Environmental workshop

KEEP has continuously organized different workshops on climate change and other environmental issues. The main objective of these workshops is to create awareness about environmental problems and ways to handle it.

Number of Environmental Workshops and participants
Environmental Awareness Workshop





KEEP's staff and volunteers in rally of World Tourism Day.

2. Tree Plantation and Clean-up

As a part of Environmental awareness programs, KEEP has been continuously planting trees and conducting cleanup programs in different parts of Nepal. Tree plantation is one of the major activities for environmental conservation done by KEEP.



Tree plantation by Ex. Director DB Gurung along with other participants

Clean up programs organized by KEEP

Year	Location	Association/ Partner
2002	Brijeshowri Temple	KMC
2003	Dhaulagiri Base Camp and Trekking Routes	Association Dhaul Giri, France
2004	Kathmandu	KMC
2005	Tinkune, Chovar, Bhimkhumveshwor	KMC
2006	Ranipokhari	KMC
2007	Ranipokhari, Bhagwati temple, Jalbinayak	KMC
2008	Brijeshowri Shova Bhagwati	KMC
2010	Ratna Park	KMC
2011	Swayambhu, Ratna Rajya park	KMC
2012	Chovar Park	
2014	Tilganga (Bagmati Cleaning Campaign), Tundikhel	KMC
2015	Baisdhara	

Tree Plantation Program on the auspicious occasion of 25th year of celebration!!

Continuing its commitment to protect and conserve the natural environment, KEEP Nepal planted more than 100 trees on the auspicious occasion of its 25th years anniversary at Chakhandole community Forest, Mulpani, Kathmandu, on 8th of August, 2017. The program was felicitated by KEEP's staffs, board members, advisors, volunteers and trekking agencies members. The types of tree planted during the program were Litchi, Guava, Mango, Pomegranate & Phyllanthus Emblica. The planted trees will be taken care by the local community and will be handed to them.

KEEP would like to provide heartfelt thanks to all the contributors for tree plantation.





Wearing a mask to work, school and everywhere we go has been a habit. Instead of giving into the habit, we need to create an environment where putting on a mask isn't a normal thing.



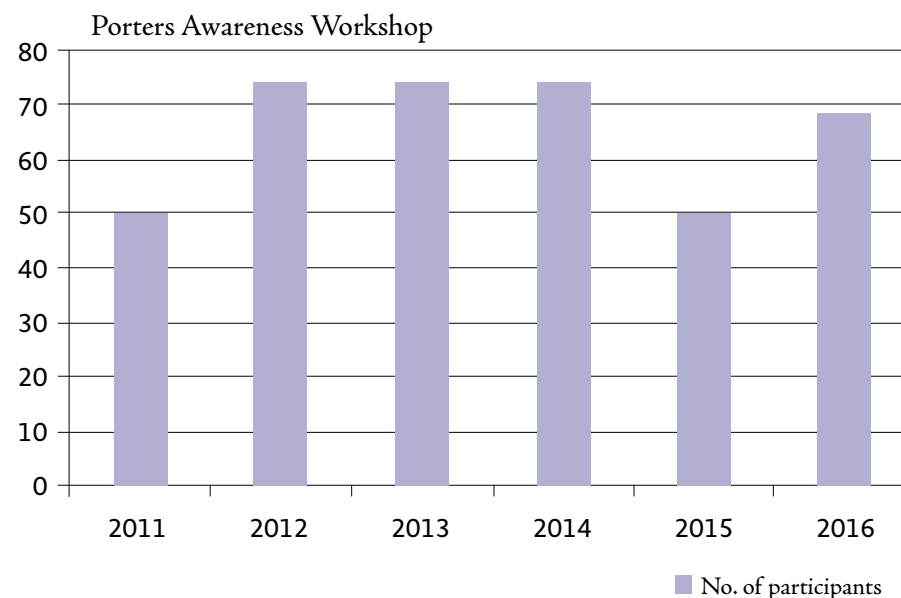
A glimpse of Porters Awareness Workshop

D. Porters Welfare Program

Porters play a vital role in Nepal's tourism industry. Regarded as the backbone of Nepalese tourism industry, porters & guides escort millions of tourist to picturesque areas of Nepal. They are the most neglected and underpaid segment of tourism industry. Therefore, recognizing the importance of porter

and the need to protect them, KEEP has been running porters' welfare program for more than 15 years now. During this session, KEEP has been conducting Porters' Awareness Workshop annually for more than 15 years and has also been serving as Porters Clothing Bank since 2009.

Number of Porter's Awareness Workshop and list of participants



1. Porters Awareness Workshop:

The Porter's Awareness Workshop is one of KEEP's major activities that educate porters' about their rights in relation to the International Labour Organizations' standards for decent work. This includes developing an

understanding of safety, health, hygiene and general First Aid. KEEP also aims to inform porters' about appropriate trekking clothing and how to access KEEP's Porter Clothing Bank.



KEEP's Porters Clothing Bank (PCB)

2. Porters' Clothing Bank

KEEP Porter's Clothing Bank (PCB) was established in September 2009, with the objective to provide a service to porters with a complete and better clothing sets suitable for trekking in high hills and harsh mountains of Nepal. This has further helped to reduce the number of unnecessary illnesses and fatalities which occur each year.



Guides and porters selecting clothes sets before trekking

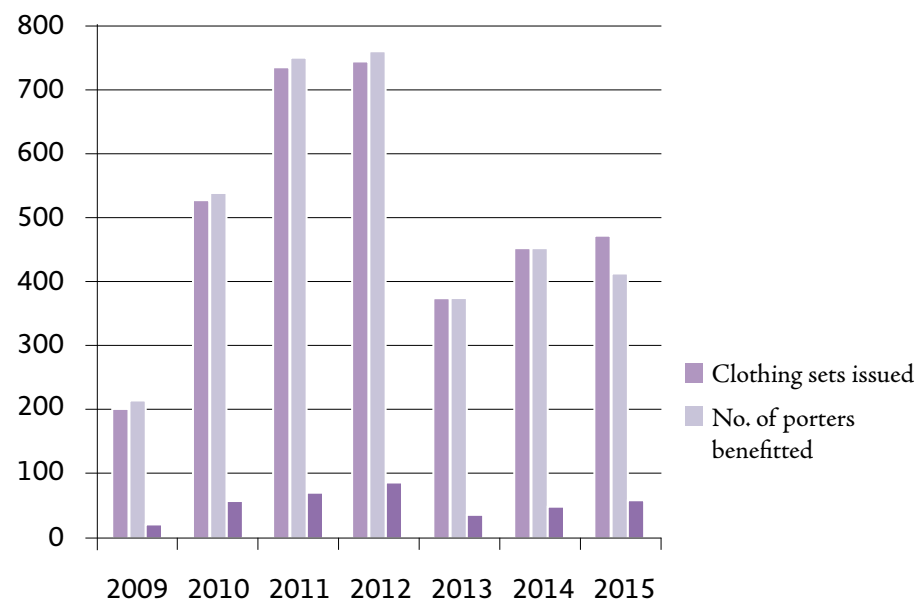


Taking stock of donations to PCB

Back from a trek and planning to throw away your trekking gears and costumes?

DONATE THEM to KEEP's PCB

List of Beneficiaries from Porters Clothing Bank



Dhaulagiri Base Camp Cleanup Expedition



Dhaulagiri base camp cleanup program is regarded as the milestone cleanup program of KEEP. For the second year, in partnership with the French-based Association Dhaulagueri, a clean-up of the Dhaulagiri Base Camp (DBC) and trekking

route was conducted.

Situated at an elevation of 4630 m, the Dhaulagiri Base Camp is considered as one of the most difficult treks in Nepal. Unlike 2002, at 2003 the team was able to reach the DBC re-

sulting in a tripling the amount of waste collected and properly disposing compared 2002.

Conducted by 37-person, over 3000kg of waste materials including non-biodegradable plastics and textiles, batteries, glass and metal scraps were collected. Recyclable materials were taken to down the mountain to be sent to India and France for recycling. Hi-

malayan Glaciers and Spirit Adventure were in charge of operation and planning. International Mountain Explorers Connection (IMEC) provided clothing to the porters participating in the event

E. Rural Community Development

KEEP's Rural Community Development Program allows travellers and International Foundations to directly support local communities' needs and gain a cultural understanding through home stays.

KEEP has conducted a number of community projects such as school renovations & constructions, water,

sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programs, toilets construction and educational exchange with the help of international foundations and volunteers. Through all these years, KEEP has undertaken such projects in more than 50 government schools in 8 districts of Nepal, with the participation of more than 2000 international enthusiastic volunteers.



Sindhupalchowk after the Earthquake funded by BridgeIT Foundation Australia

Major Community development projects undertaken by KEEP

Program	Year
Poverty alleviation through Eco Tourism micro enterprise initiative	2001
School Infrastructure Development Program	2002, 2008, 2009, 2010
International Student Conservation Program	2003-2004
Community Development program	2006-2007, 2011, 2012
Earthquake Resilient School Construction	2013-2014
Earthquake Relief Supply	2015
Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Project	2016

F. Volunteering

Since the establishment in 1992, KEEP has been allocating volunteers in various fields such as teaching at orphanage and community schools, participating in environmental awareness program and other KEEP's administrative works.



Chinese volunteers at a rural school in Jitpurphedi

Volunteer/Intern Remarks:

Working with KEEP is a really great experience. They are friendly and professional. The homestay they provided was amazing! (To be honest, I was really shocked when I found that people living in that kind of village could speak fluent English. They are the purest people in the world, treating me like family member).

Although the life there was not convenient and modern-style, I enjoyed it very much. I had a happy time there and I'm sure that I will come back again, just because of KEEP. Join KEEP and it may Change your life.

Han Zijian
Volunteer, China
Remarks from Beneficiaries

Volunteering/Internship Remarks:

During my 6 month working together with KEEP, I had amazing experiences. KEEP gave me the possibility to have a look in every field and work really independently. One of my favourite projects was the ELC, KEEP made me to a family member and welcomed me with open arms and hands. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you. You always had an open ear for me and helped me out with every upcoming problem. I will always think of you as a family and good friends. So far Nepal became my home, so I won't say goodbye, I will say see you next time?
Love
Marie Anna



Bindabashini School of Jogitar, Kavre was constructed by KEEP with the support of Crooked Trail, USA



Donation to schools and orphanages is one of the major activities of KEEP Community Development Projects



Ms. Christine Torrison Mackay, Executive Director & Co-Founder, Crooked Trail, USA, along with KEEP's staff and her team at a program



Antipodean Australia's volunteers with KEEP staffs. Antipodean Australia has funded various Community Development Projects at KEEP



Milk station construction with the aid of Crooked Trails, USA



Relief fund distribution during 2015 Earthquake supported by Crooked Trails, USA



Trekkers at KEEP Green Cafe



Volunteers painting the rural school



Volunteer & staffs all smiles



A Board meeting of KEEP



Screening students for English language course



Tourists attending Nepali language class at KEEP



Steve Powers' visit to KEEP

Celebrating 25 years of service



Volunteers constructing school at Jogitar



Staircase construction at Bindabasini School supported by Crooked Trails, USA



Volunteer's farewell at rural village



Drinking water project in Salang supported by BridglT Water Foundation, Australia



Volunteers helping in school reconstruction at Chattrdeurali, Dhading



KEEP's UK Partner Denis Gallagher visit to KEEP



Volunteer helping at KEEP's administrative work



Support to a school by KEEP staff



Map Reading Training



जनसङ्ख्या तथा वातावरण मन्त्रालय
सिंहदरबार, काठमाण्डौ



वातावरण पुरस्कार प्रमाण-पत्र २०६१

नेपालमा वातावरण संरक्षण एवं सम्बर्द्धनमा प्रशंसनीय कार्य गरी योगदान पुऱ्याए वापत विश्व वातावरण दिवस, २०६१ को अवसरमा श्री **Kathmandu Environmental Education Project**, काठमाडौँलाई रु. २५,०००/- को द्वितीय पुरस्कार सहित यो प्रमाणपत्र प्रदान गरिएको छ ।

(दीपेन्द्र विक्रम थापा)
सदस्य-सचिव

विश्व वातावरण दिवस, २०६१ मूल समारोह समिति

(मोहन बहादुर कार्की)
सचिव

जनसङ्ख्या तथा वातावरण मन्त्रालय

२०६१ जेठ २३ गते



श्री ५ को सरकार

वातावरण, विज्ञान तथा प्रविधि मन्त्रालय

सिंहदरवार, काठमाडौं, नेपाल



प्रशंसा-पत्र

विश्व वातावरण दिवस, २०६२ को अवसरमा यस मन्त्रालयद्वारा नेपाल राजकीय प्रज्ञा प्रतिष्ठान, कमलादीमा २०६२ साल जेठ २२ देखि २४ गते सम्म आयोजित वातावरण प्रदर्शनी मा सहभागी भई कार्यक्रम सफल पार्न सहयोग पुर्याउनु भएकोमा श्री. K.E.E.P. लाई स-धन्यवाद यो प्रशंसा-पत्र प्रदान गरिएको छ ।

राजेन्द्र मानन्धर

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संयोजक
प्रदर्शनी व्यवस्थापन समिति

लोफन्द्रा रेग्मी

लोफन्द्रा रेग्मी
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"A mind that is stretched by a new experience can never go back to its old dimensions."

Oliver Wendell Holmes

KarmaQuest salutes KEEP's 25 years of continued service to Nepal's trekking and tourism industry. Thank you KEEP for providing training to thousands of trekking staff in environmental protection and hiking safety, and for educating countless international visitors to be culturally and environmentally sensitive, safe trekkers. Sustainable tourism better serves us all. Keep up the good work!



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