CONSERVATION AND
RESTORATION OF

COMMUNITY POND

Chisapani, Solukhumbu, Nepal

THE PARTNERS NEPAL

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Conservation and Restoration of Community Pond
August 2025

Text and Concept:
Ang Rita Sherpa, The Partners Nepal

Photo Credits:
Ang Rita Sherpa, Bheem Raj Rai, Bhala Kaji Kulung, & Som Prasad Katel

Design and Processed by: Spandan Design Communication, Kupondole, Lalitpur

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN
OF THE PARTNERS NEPAL

On behalf of The Partners Nepal, we express our sincere appreciation to all who supported the revival of the historic Chisapani community pond in Nechasalyan. This effort was born out of a deep local desire to restore a once-vital water source that had long served the needs of the community—for agriculture, livestock, and ecosystem balance. Over time, the pond had fallen into disrepair, leaving the area increasingly vulnerable to water scarcity and the impacts of climate change.

The initiative to revive the pond was driven by strong community interest and the recognition that restoring traditional water systems is essential to building local resilience. This project not only fulfills a long-held aspiration of the Chisapani community but also serves as a model for climate adaptation in Nepal's mid-hill and mountain regions. It reflects our shared commitment to sustainable development, environmental restoration, and safeguarding water security for future generations.

The success of this initiative was made possible through the collaborative efforts of committed partners, dedicated technical experts, and the steadfast support of local institutions. We remain hopeful that this revived pond will help advance our collective goal to adapt to and mitigate the ongoing effects of climate change in the region.

Ang Rita Sherpa
Chairman, The Partners Nepal

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF **NECHASALYAN RURAL MUNICIPALITY**

As Chairman of Nechasalyan Rural Municipality, it is my honor to commemorate the successful conservation and restoration of the Chisapani community pond. This achievement reflects what can be accomplished when committed leadership, technical expertise, and collaborative partnerships come together for a shared purpose.

I extend my sincere appreciation to The Partners Nepal and its dedicated members—Ang Rita Sherpa, Bheem Raj Rai, and Bhala Kaji Kulung—for their outstanding financial and technical support. Their commitment, timely coordination, and problem-solving ensured the project was completed with quality and efficiency.

We are grateful for the generous support and encouragement of Prof. Wolfgang Nairz (Nepal Hilfe-Tirol) and Ambassador (Ret.) Scott H. DeLisi (Engage Nepal), whose guidance was instrumental throughout the project.

Special thanks to Mr. Ghanashyam Bastola of the Jhajhare Setidevi Community Forest Users Committee for his grassroots leadership and for facilitating the necessary forest approvals.

“This achievement reflects what can be accomplished when committed leadership, technical expertise, and collaborative partnerships come together for a shared purpose.

I also recognize Civil Engineer Mr. Dev Kumar Paikra for his expert design, which ensured both durability and function. Mr. Som Prasad Katel played a crucial role in managing daily operations under challenging weather and terrain. Mr. Kisan Procha (Rai) provided vital logistical support by procuring materials and coordinating machinery and supplies. Together, these efforts have restored a vital water source and delivered lasting value to the Chisapani community.

Dhanjan Rai
Chairman of Nechasalyan Rural Municipality

INTRODUCTION

The historic community pond of Chisapani, which was once central to local irrigation and livestock watering, has been fully revitalized through a strategic partnership between The Partners Nepal and Nechasalyan Rural Municipality. Crucial funding has been provided by Nepal Hilfe-Tirol and Engage Nepal. The pond was previously neglected.

The pond now effectively collects monsoon runoff and spring discharge as a result of extensive restoration efforts, which included the de-silting of the basin, the reinforcement of the stone embankment, the installation of a high-performance impermeable liner, and the rerouting of spring inflows through upgraded channels. This rehabilitated system now guarantees year-round water security for more than 300 households, recharges the local aquifer, and restores critical aquatic ecosystems, thereby securing both environmental resilience and livelihoods in the region.

BACKGROUND OF CHISAPANI

On the border of Solukhumbu and Okhaldhunga, the Chisapani Water Pond, situated in Ward 3 of Nechasalyan Rural Municipality, was once an essential, year-round water source. It supported livestock, wildlife, local recreation, and a diverse ecosystem, with a surface area of approximately 55 m x 100 m and a depth of six feet during the monsoon.

The pond has experienced a rapid decline in the past 15 years, with water retention rates of less than one week, even during periods of intense rainfall.

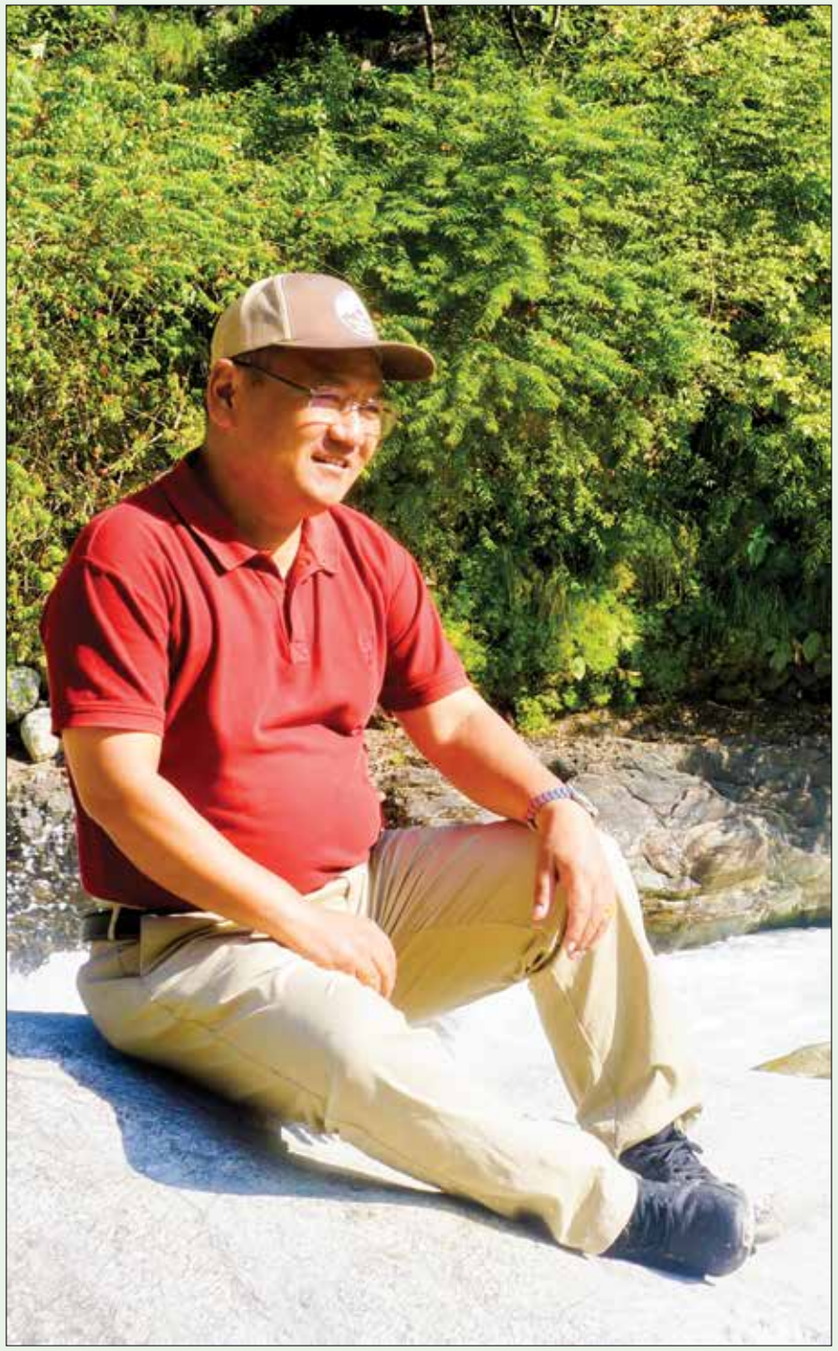
The crisis has been exacerbated by climate change, which has accelerated the loss of ecosystems, glaciers, and agricultural productivity. Local residents urgently urged The Partners Nepal to restore the pond, which is a critical resource for ecological resilience, irrigation, and drinkable water.

HISTORY OF THE **COMMUNITY POND AT CHISAPANI**

The Chisapani community pond has been the foundation of village life for a long time. Its cool, deep waters, which once reached over three meters at the center, have sustained the well-being of generations, as well as agriculture, livestock,and wildlife. The pond, which was cleverly carved into the hillside to capture monsoon runoff and a natural spring, became a crucial year-round source of irrigation, drinking water, and a flourishing habitat for small mammals, birds, and frogs.

However, a solemn chapter of local memory rests beneath its life-giving surface. Two villagers tragically perished in its depths during its early years, their bodies never recovering due to hidden currents. The pond's dual nature serves as a poignant reminder of their story, which is etched into local lore. It is a source of sustenance and grief, resilience and remembrance. As the pond is reborn, it serves as a potent symbol of the enduring character of the Chisapani community and the process of renewal.

DREAMS COME TRUE



Bheem Raj Rai, a Necha native, has consistently demonstrated courage and determination in his pursuit to restore life to the village's parched lands. Bheem, who is a proud son of Nechasalyan-5 and the Programme Coordinator for The Partners Nepal, leveraged his demonstrated experience to restore community ponds in nearby regions. He was aware that a single revitalized pond could significantly impact biodiversity, groundwater levels, livestock health, and irrigation.

Bheem perceived potential rather than failure when the Chisapani pond laid neglected and cracked. He secured critical support from Nepal Hilfe-Tirol, Engage Nepal, and local authorities, mobilized technical teams, and engaged the Community Forest Users Group. Stone embankments were rebuilt, heavy silt was removed, and spring-fed inlets were reconnected under his leadership, which was guided by an unwavering commitment to his community and expertise.

> The waters that have been replenished are now used to irrigate crops, provide sustenance for livestock, recharge aquifers, and support fauna.

The Chisapani pond, which has been restored, is now more than just a source of water; it is a testament to the resilience, vision, and local leadership that the community has demonstrated. The waters that have been replenished are now used to irrigate crops, provide sustenance for livestock, recharge aquifers, and support fauna. Bheem Raj Rai's unwavering commitment has transformed a forgotten pond into a flourishing legacy that will endure for generations to come.

Bheem Raj Rai
Secretary, The Partners Nepal

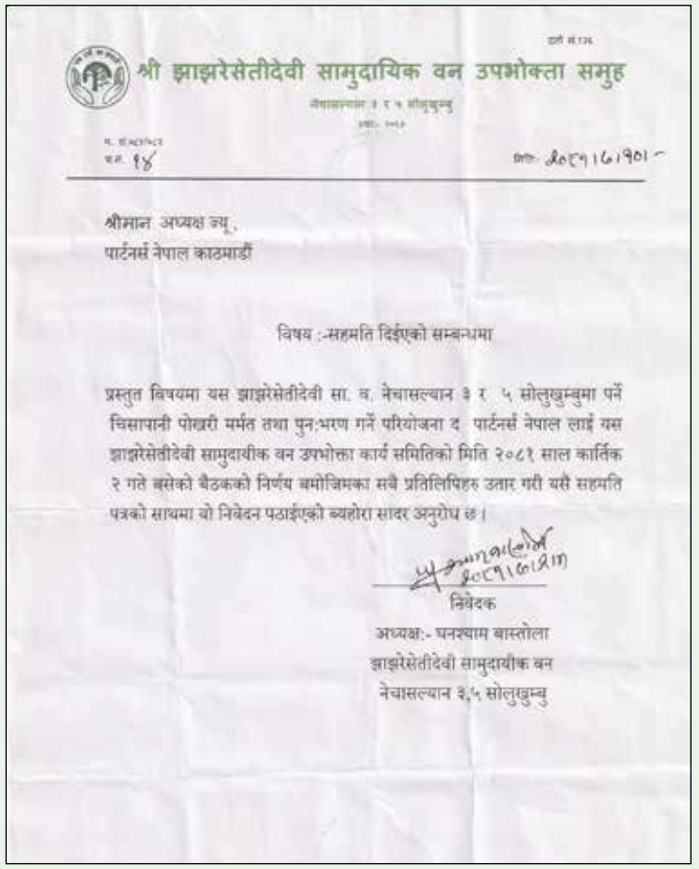
RECEIVED REQUEST LETTER FROM **NECHASALYAN RURAL MUNICIPALITY AND JHAJHARE SETIDEVI COMMUNITY FOREST USERS COMMITTEE**

On behalf of Nechasalyan Rural Municipality and the Jhajhāre Setidevi Community Forest Users Committee, Ward No. 3, we respectfully request The Partners Nepal's financial and technical support for the restoration of the long-neglected Chisapani Community Pond.

Historically carved into the hillside by our ancestors, this pond was a vital resource—providing irrigation for terraced agriculture, drinking water for livestock, and habitat for local wildlife. However, years of neglect, siltation, and structural degradation have left it unusable, threatening local agriculture, water security, and biodiversity.

Nechasalyan Rural Municipality and the Forest Users Committee are fully committed to this effort. We will contribute local labor, available construction materials, and ensure strong community oversight. We seek your valued support for technical design, excavation, stone embankment reinforcement, inlet connection from the natural spring, and long-term maintenance planning.

With your partnership, we can restore the Chisapani Pond as a critical resource for local livelihoods, climate adaptation, and ecological preservation in this fragile mountain region.



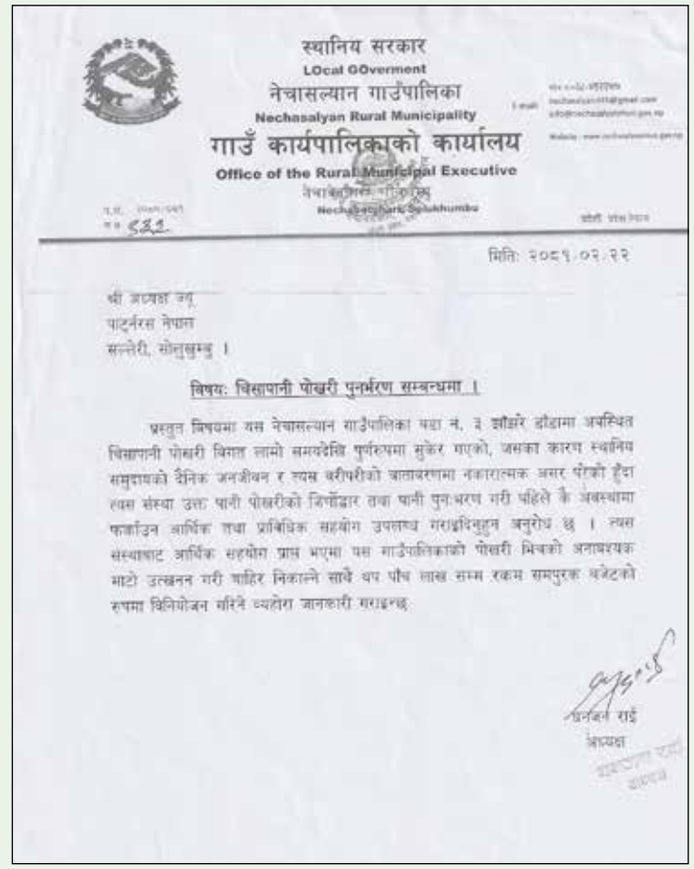
श्री झाझरेसेतीदेवी सामुदायिक वन उपभोक्ता समुह

श्रीमान अध्यक्ष ज्यू,
पार्टनर्स नेपाल काठमाडौं

विषय :-सहमति दिईएको सम्बन्धमा

प्रस्तुत विषयमा यस झाझरेसेतीदेवी सा. व. नेचासल्यान ३ र ५ सोलुखुम्बुमा पर्ने चिसापानी पोखरी मर्मत तथा पुनःभरण गर्ने परियोजना द पार्टनर्स नेपाल लाई यस झाझरेसेतीदेवी सामुदायीक वन उपभोक्ता कार्य समितिको मिति २०८१ साल कार्तिक २ गते बसेको बैठकको निर्णय बमोजिमका सबै प्रतिलिपिहरु उतार गरी यसै सहमति पत्रको साथमा यो निवेदन पठाईएको व्यहोरा सादर अनुरोध छ ।

निवेदक
अध्यक्ष:- घनश्याम बास्तोला
झाझरेसेतीदेवी सामुदायीक वन
नेचासल्यान ३,५ सोलुखुम्बु



स्थानिय सरकार
LOcal GOverment
नेचासल्यान गाउँपालिका
Nechasalyan Rural Municipality
गाउँ कार्यपालिकाको कार्यालय
Office of the Rural Municipal Executive
Nechasalyan, Solukhumbu

मिति: २०८१.०२.२२

श्री अध्यक्ष ज्यू
पार्टनरस नेपाल
सन्तेरी, सोलुखुम्बु ।

विषयः चिसापानी पोखरी पुनर्भरण सम्बन्धमा ।

प्रस्तुत विषयमा यस नेचासल्यान गाउँपालिका वडा नं. ३ झाँझरे डाँडामा अवस्थित चिसापानी पोखरी विगत लामो समयदेखि पूर्णरुपमा सुकेर गएको, जसका कारण स्थानिय समुदायको दैनिक जनजीवन र त्यस वरीपरीको जातावरणमा नकारात्मक असर पर्दै गएको हुँदा त्यस संस्था उक्त पानी पोखरीको जिर्णोद्धार तथा पानी पुनःभरण गरी पहिले कै अवस्थामा फर्काउन आर्थिक तथा प्राविधिक सहयोग उपलब्ध गराइदिनुहुन अनुरोध छ । त्यस संस्थाबाट आर्थिक सहयोग प्राप्त भएमा यस गाउँपालिकाको पोखरी भित्रको अनावश्यक माटो उत्खनन गरी बाहिर निकाल्ने लगायत पाँच लाख सम्म रकम सम्पुरक बजेटको रुपमा विनियोजन गरिने व्यहोरा जानकारी गराइन्छ ।

धनजंग राई
अध्यक्ष

MEETING WITH **STAKEHOLDERS AT CHISAPANI**

An interaction on meeting was organised with local beneficiaires including Jhajhare Setidevi Community Forest Users Group, Chairperson of Nechasalyan Rural Municipality and other elected ward representatives.

Drawing on community knowledge of agricultural, culinary, and drinking water needs, the Users Group pledged labor and local materials, while municipal authorities committed policy support and expedited administrative clearances.

The various elected members had emphasised the importance of restoring the Nechasalyan community pond to enhance water security and environmental resilience.

The Partners Nepal team contributed technical designs, funding allocations, and capacity building guidance, ensuring that every party's expertise and resources were aligned toward a resilient, communitydriven rehabilitation and longterm management plan.


नेचासल्यान गाउँपालिकामा
हार्दिक स्वागत छ।
यहाँहरुको दिन शुभ रहोस।
WELCOME TO
NECHASALYAN RURAL MUNICIPALITY
Have a nice day
नेचासल्यान गाउँपालिकाको कार्यालय।

FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR **COMMUNITY POND AT CHISAPANI**

From 25 September to 1 October 2024, members of The Partners Nepal (TPN) conducted a field mission to Nechasalyan to evaluate the feasibility of replicating the successful Phurke pond restoration at the Chisapani ridge, bordering Solukhumbu and Okhaldhunga. The assessment focused on Ward No. 3 of Nechasalyan Rural Municipality, where TPN carried out a detailed site study and engaged directly with local stakeholders.

Over the two-day visit, the team mapped the pond's catchment area, assessed embankment stability, and pinpointed major sources of siltation and water loss. In-depth discussions with community leaders and the Forest Users Group offered valuable insight into seasonal water flow patterns, traditional maintenance practices, and local labor availability.

These findings now form the foundation of a tailored restoration plan that combines engineering interventions—such as dry-stack stone embankments and realigned inlet channels—with community-based training. This integrated approach will ensure not only the structural rehabilitation of the Chisapani pond but also its long-term sustainability through local stewardship and resilience planning.

AN UPDATE FROM NECHA COMMUNITY POND, SOLUKHUMBU

REPORT SUBMITTED BY:

THE PARTNERS NEPAL

THE PARTNERS NEPAL

APRIL 2025

PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT

TPN translated the community's needs and field assessments into a comprehensive proposal outlining clear objectives, a phased technical workplan (including de-siltation, dry-stack embankment reinforcement, channel realignment, and a spring-fed inlet system), and structured community engagement through local labor, training sessions, and a dedicated management committee. The plan incorporates environmental safeguards and a robust monitoring and evaluation framework, with defined metrics for water storage capacity and irrigation impact

Backed by detailed engineering schematics, cost estimates, and letters of support from the Jhajhāre Setidevi Users Group and Nechasalyan Rural Municipality, the proposal was submitted to NepalHilfe-Tirol, Engage Nepal, and national grant programs. It aligns with donor priorities in climate resilience, rural livelihoods, and watershed restoration. The two-year implementation timeline targets improved crop yields, secure livestock water access, revitalized habitats, and a gradual transfer of technical management to trained local custodians—ensuring long-term sustainability.

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND RESTORATION OF COMMUNITY POND

NECHA SALYAN RURAL MUNICIPALITY, SOLUKHUMBU, NEPAL

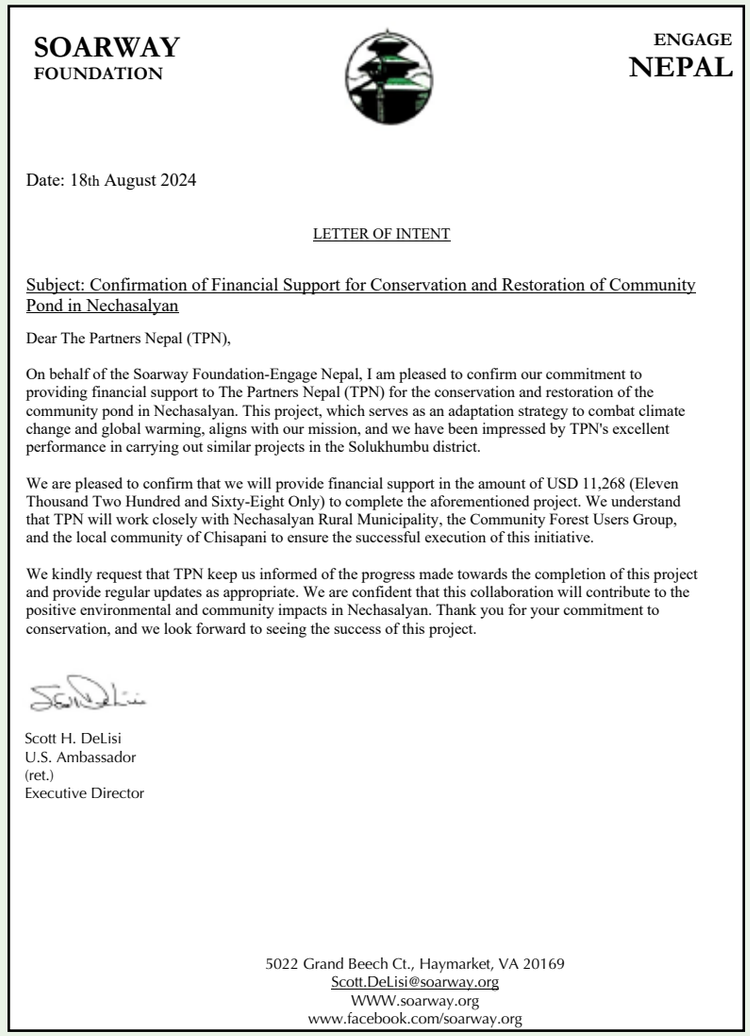
PROJECT PROPOSAL

Prepared for:	NEPAL HILFE-TIROL, AUSTRIA
Recipient Name,	PROFESSOR WOLFGANG NAIRZ
Prepared by:	THE PARTNERS NEPAL
Date:	18 November 2023
Proposal number:	1

FUNDING **APPROVED**

Nepal Hilfe-Tirol and Engage Nepal, two distinguished international NGOs, have officially confirmed their financial support for the Chisapani pond restoration project. Their generous funding will underwrite every phase of the initiative—from detailed engineering design and materials procurement to hands-on community training and long-term management—ensuring a fully integrated and sustainable rehabilitation of this vital water resource.

The Partners Nepal is deeply grateful for the continued backing of Nepal Hilfe-Tirol and Engage Nepal, both of which are committed to safeguarding Nepal's fragile alpine ecosystems, conserving cultural heritage, and addressing the challenges of climate change and global warming. With their renewed support, we are poised to expand climate-change adaptation initiatives throughout Solukhumbu and empower local communities to steward their environment for generations to come.



SOARWAY
FOUNDATION

ENGAGE
NEPAL

Date: 18th August 2024

LETTER OF INTENT

Subject: Confirmation of Financial Support for Conservation and Restoration of Community Pond in Nechasalyan

Dear The Partners Nepal (TPN),

On behalf of the Soarway Foundation-Engage Nepal, I am pleased to confirm our commitment to providing financial support to The Partners Nepal (TPN) for the conservation and restoration of the community pond in Nechasalyan. This project, which serves as an adaptation strategy to combat climate change and global warming, aligns with our mission, and we have been impressed by TPN's excellent performance in carrying out similar projects in the Solukhumbu district.

We are pleased to confirm that we will provide financial support in the amount of USD 11,268 (Eleven Thousand Two Hundred and Sixty-Eight Only) to complete the aforementioned project. We understand that TPN will work closely with Nechasalyan Rural Municipality, the Community Forest Users Group, and the local community of Chisapani to ensure the successful execution of this initiative.

We kindly request that TPN keep us informed of the progress made towards the completion of this project and provide regular updates as appropriate. We are confident that this collaboration will contribute to the positive environmental and community impacts in Nechasalyan. Thank you for your commitment to conservation, and we look forward to seeing the success of this project.

Scott H. DeLisi
U.S. Ambassador
(ret.)
Executive Director

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Scott.DeLisi@soarway.org
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NEPALHILFE TIROL

Obmann/ Chairman: Prof. Wolfgang Nairz
Kaiser- Josef- Str. 3, A- 6020 Innsbruck, Austria
@mail: alpinconsult@nairz.at, nepal@hs-stanger.at
www.nepalhilfe-tirol.at

7th July 2024

LETTER OF INTENT

NepalHilfe-Tirol is pleased to confirm our commitment to providing financial support to The Partners Nepal (TPN) for the conservation and restoration of the community pond in Chisapani, Nechasalyan, Solukhumbu District, Nepal. This project is as an adaptation strategy to combat climate change and global warming. We have been particularly impressed by TPN's outstanding performance in similar projects, especially in Chheskam village, Mahakulung Rural Municipality-1, Solukhumbu.

We are pleased to confirm our financial support of €14,500 (Fourteen Thousand Five Hundred Euros) to complete the aforementioned project. We understand that TPN will collaborate closely with Nechasalyan Rural Municipality, the Community Forest Users Group, and the local community of Chisapani to ensure the project's successful execution.

We expect TPN to keep us informed of the project's progress and provide regular updates as appropriate. We are confident that this collaboration will contribute positively to the environmental and community well-being in Nechasalyan.

Thank you for your dedication to conservation. We look forward to the successful completion of this important project.

Sincerely,

Prof. Wolfgang Nairz
6020 INNSBRUCK- Austria
Kaiser- Josef- Str. 3

Spendenkonto: RLB Tirol, IBAN: AT86 3600 0000 0064 5895, Spendenbegünstigungsbescheid: SO 2550

MEASUREMENT OF **THE COMMUNITY POND**

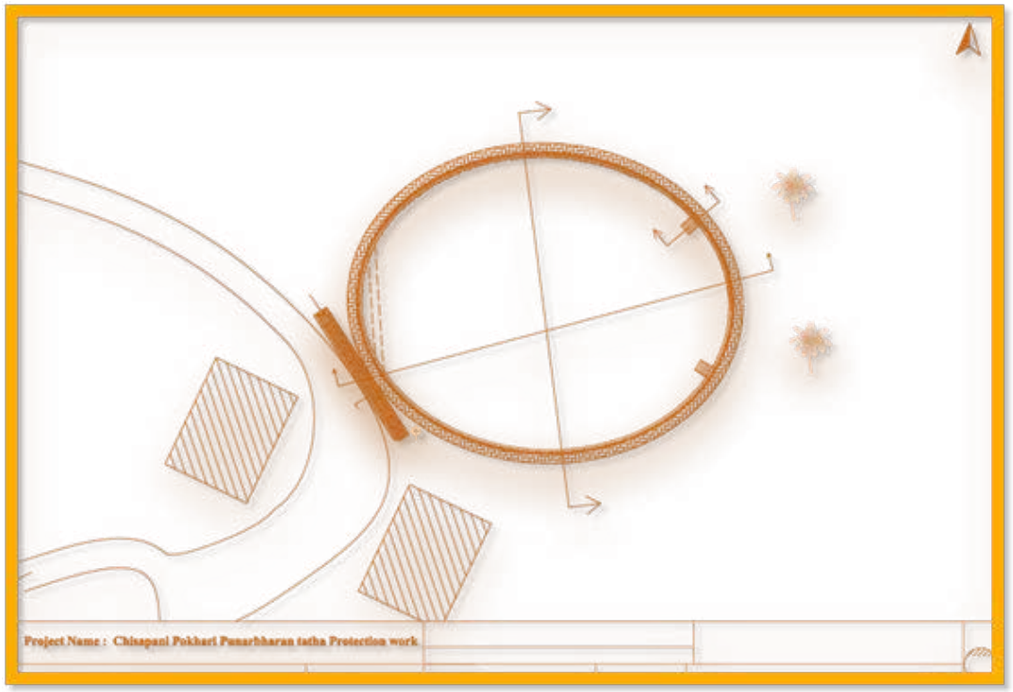
Accurate measurements are critical to any successful engineering project, which is why Civil Engineer Mr. Dev Kumar Paikra conducted a second, stakeholder-witnessed survey of the Chisapani pond—despite an initial assessment in October. By confirming the exact dimensions (45 meter in width and 70 meter in length) in the presence of local representatives, he ensured that the design, material estimates, and labor plans were precisely aligned with site realities.

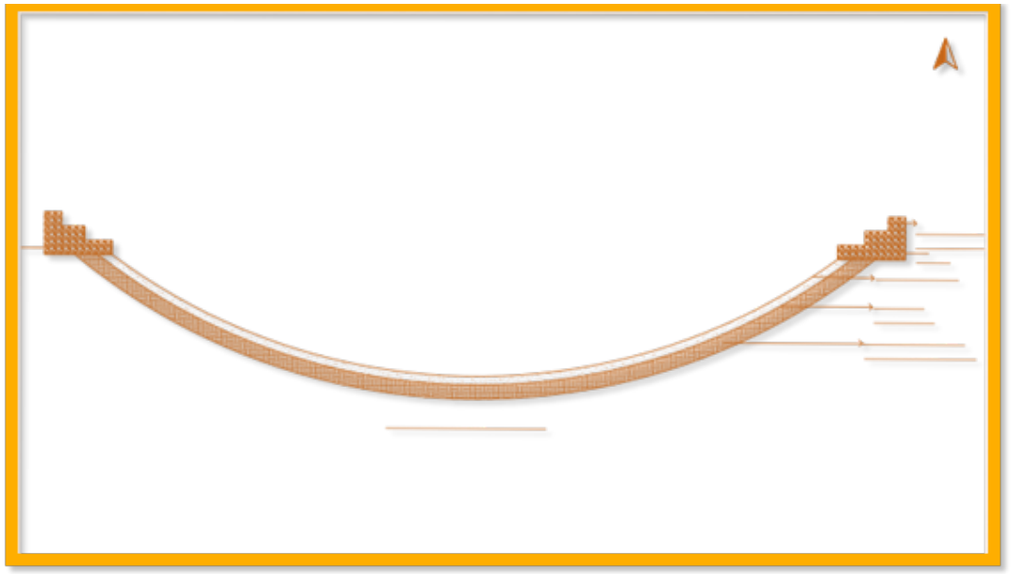
This transparency-driven, precision-based approach not only strengthened the technical soundness of the project but also fostered community trust—laying a solid foundation for both effective implementation and long-term ownership of the restored pond.

DRAWING OF **THE COMMUNITY POND**

Mr. Dev Kumar Paikra's initial drawing for the Chisapani pond restoration transforms precise field measurements into a clear, actionable blueprint. Based on a joint survey with community members, the schematic accurately captures the pond's 45-by-70-meter dimensions, surrounding contour lines, and excavation depths—ensuring optimal drainage and structural alignment.

Key features include detailed notations of reinforced embankments, stepped masonry access points, and inlet/outlet channels, all supported by a clear legend and scale bar for easy interpretation by both engineers and local stakeholders. By blending technical accuracy with accessible design, Mr. Paikra's blueprint provides a solid foundation for smooth, transparent, and efficient construction—guiding the team with confidence at every stage.





3Ds OF THE **COMMUNITY POND**

3D Drawing: Turning Plans into Precision

A 3D drawing goes beyond flat schematics—it visually represents length, width, and height using perspective, axonometric projection, and shading to bring the project to life.

Why it matters for the Chisapani Pond restoration:

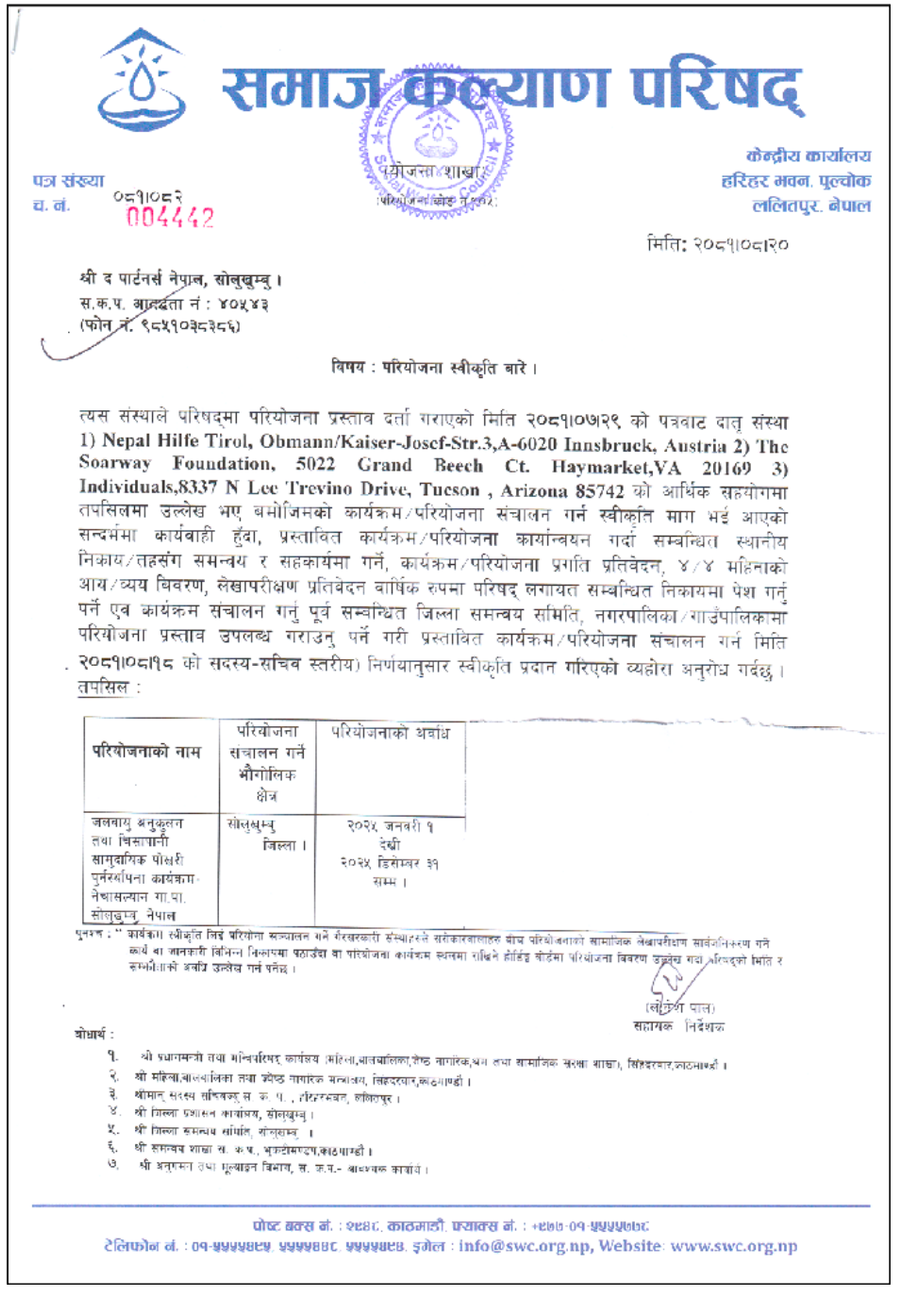
- **Accurate Earthworks:** It ensures precise excavation volumes and correct side-slope angles, critical for structural stability.
- **Clear Build Sequence:** Illustrates how each component—retaining walls, PCC rings, liners, and masonry—fits together, reducing construction errors.
- **Seamless Site Integration:** Aligns inlet/outlet channels and erosion controls with the pond's natural contours for efficient water flow.
- **Early Stakeholder Review:** Provides a visual tool for engineers, donors, and community members to detect design issues and suggest improvements before work begins.
- **Precise Material Take-Off:** Enables accurate calculations of liner surface area, rebar length, stone volume, and concrete needs—keeping costs realistic and controlled.

In short, a 3D drawing transforms complex specifications into a clear, foolproof visual roadmap—ensuring a durable, leak-proof, and community-approved pond restoration.

PROCEDURE **APPROVAL**

A comprehensive project proposal—outlining objectives, technical workplans, environmental safeguards, budget details, and letters of support—was formally submitted to Nepal's Social Welfare Council. The Council's endorsement confirmed regulatory compliance and granted official approval to proceed with on-the-ground implementation.

With this authorization, The Partners Nepal is now fully empowered to mobilize resources, engage local stakeholders, and launch the Chisapani pond restoration—confident that the project meets national standards for charitable initiatives and community development.



समाज कल्याण परिषद्

केन्द्रीय कार्यालय
हरिहर भवन, पुल्चोक
ललितपुर, नेपाल

पत्र संख्या
च. नं. ०८१।०८२ 004442

परियोजना शाखा

मिति: २०८१।०८।२०

श्री द पार्टनर्स नेपाल, सोलुखुम्बु ।
स.क.प. आबद्धता नं : ४०५४३
(फोन नं. ९८५१०३८३८६)

विषय : परियोजना स्वीकृति बारे ।

त्यस संस्थाले परिषद्मा परियोजना प्रस्ताव दर्ता गराएको मिति २०८१।०७।२९ को पत्रबाट दातृ संस्था 1) Nepal Hilfe Tirol, Obmann/Kaiser-Josef-Str.3,A-6020 Innsbruck, Austria 2) The Soarway Foundation, 5022 Grand Beech Ct. Haymarket,VA 20169 3) Individuals,8337 N Lee Trevino Drive, Tucson , Arizona 85742 को आर्थिक सहयोगमा तपसिलमा उल्लेख भए बमोजिमको कार्यक्रम/परियोजना संचालन गर्न स्वीकृति माग भई आएको सन्दर्भमा कार्यवाही हुँदा, प्रस्तावित कार्यक्रम/परियोजना कार्यान्वयन गर्दा सम्बन्धित स्थानीय निकाय/तहसंग समन्वय र सहकार्यमा गर्ने, कार्यक्रम/परियोजना प्रगति प्रतिवेदन, ४/४ महिनाको आय/व्यय विवरण, लेखापरीक्षण प्रतिवेदन वार्षिक रुपमा परिषद् लगायत सम्बन्धित निकायमा पेश गर्नु पर्ने एवं कार्यक्रम संचालन गर्नु पूर्व सम्बन्धित जिल्ला समन्वय समिति, नगरपालिका/गाउँपालिकामा परियोजना प्रस्ताव उपलब्ध गराउनु पर्ने गरी प्रस्तावित कार्यक्रम/परियोजना संचालन गर्न मिति २०८१।०८।१८ को सदस्य-सचिव स्तरीय निर्णयानुसार स्वीकृति प्रदान गरिएको व्यहोरा अनुरोध गर्दछु ।

तपसिल :

परियोजनाको नाम	परियोजना संचालन गर्ने भौगोलिक क्षेत्र	परियोजनाको अवधि
जलवायु अनुकूलन तथा चिसापानी सामुदायिक पोखरी पुनर्स्थापना कार्यक्रम- नेत्रासल्यान गा.पा. सोलुखुम्बु, नेपाल	सोलुखुम्बु जिल्ला ।	२०२५ जनवरी १ देखी २०२५ डिसेम्बर ३१ सम्म ।

पुनश्च : " कार्यक्रम स्वीकृति लिई परियोजना सञ्चालन गर्ने सरकारी संस्थाहरुले सरोकारवालाहरु बीच परियोजनाको सामाजिक लेखापरीक्षण सार्वजनिकरण गर्ने कार्य वा जानकारी विभिन्न विधिमा पठाउँदा वा परियोजना कार्यक्रम स्थलमा राखिने होर्डिङ बोर्डमा परियोजना विवरण उल्लेख गर्दा परिषद्को मिति र रुजुभौताको अवधि उल्लेख गर्न पर्नेछ ।

(लोकेश पात्र)
सहायक निदेशक

बोधार्थ :

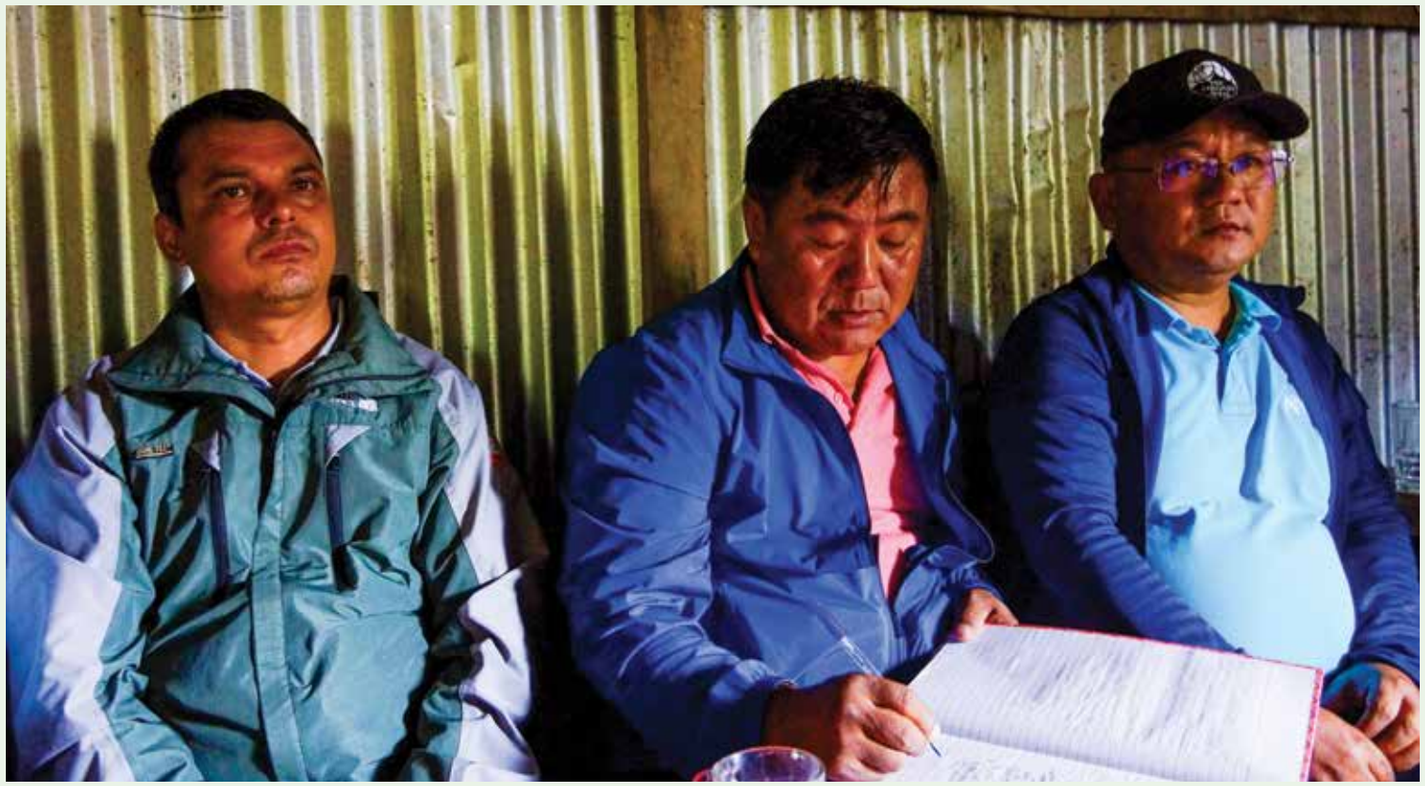
१. श्री प्रधानमन्त्री तथा मन्त्रिपरिषद् कार्यालय (महिला,बालबालिका,जेष्ठ नागरिक,अपाङ्ग तथा सामाजिक सरक्षा शाखा), सिंहदरबार,काठमाण्डौं ।
२. श्री महिला,बालबालिका तथा ज्येष्ठ नागरिक मन्त्रालय, सिंहदरबार,काठमाण्डौं ।
३. श्रीमान् सदस्य सचिवज्यू स. क. प. , तीनकुनेघर, ललितपुर ।
४. श्री जिल्ला प्रशासन कार्यालय, सोलुखुम्बु ।
५. श्री जिल्ला समन्वय समिति, सोलुखुम्बु ।
६. श्री समन्वय शाखा स. क. प., भृकुटीमण्डप,काठमाण्डौं ।
७. श्री अनुगमन तथा मूल्याङ्कन विभाग, स. क. प.- आवश्यक कार्यार्थ ।

पोष्ट बक्स नं. : ९४४८, काठमाडौं, फ्याक्स नं. : +९७७-०१-५५५५०७८
टेलिफोन नं. : ०१-५५५५४८५, ५५५५४४८, ५५५५४४७, इमेल : info@swc.org.np, Website: www.swc.org.np

DISCUSSION FOR **PROJECT START-UP**

A preparatory meeting was held with representatives from Nechasalyan Rural Municipality, the Jhajhare Seti Devi Community Forest Users Group (CFUG), and key stakeholders to align on project objectives, define roles and responsibilities, and finalize the implementation framework. Participants reviewed the technical design, confirmed resource contributions—including labor, materials, and funding—and agreed on a shared timeline and reporting protocols.

As a result, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was drafted to formalize commitments. The MoU outlines each party's obligations: municipal policy support and logistical facilitation, CFUG oversight of community labor, and The Partners Nepal's provision of technical expertise and financial management. It also establishes governance mechanisms for decision-making, dispute resolution, and progress monitoring. Once signed, the MoU will serve as the official authorization to mobilize field teams and initiate construction activities.



RURAL MUNICIPALITY **COMMITMENT**

Under the visionary leadership of Chairman Dhanjan Rai and Vice-Chairman Bina Rai, The Partners Nepal and Nechasalyan Rural Municipality have established a partnership that is genuinely collaborative. The community pond restoration initiative was formally endorsed by both officials, who also pledged matching funds, thereby doubling the impact of each donation.

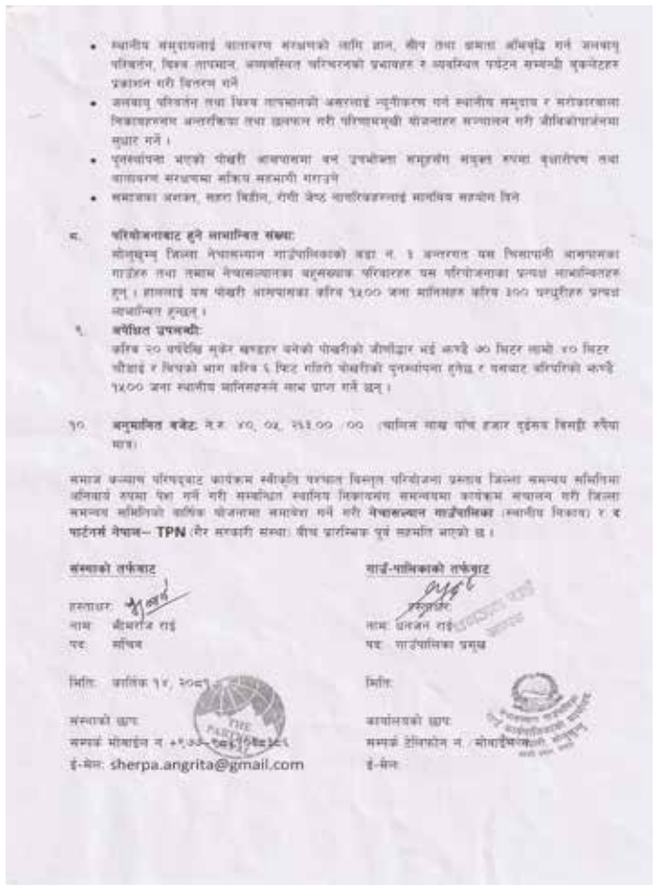
The Nechasalyan Rural Municipality has issued a commitment letter for NPR 500,000 in cash and will be responsible for the supervision of soil excavation and site-clearance works. Their proactive support emphasizes a shared commitment to the long-term well-being of Nechasalyan's environment and population, as well as to climate resilience and water security.

PROJECT **AGREEMENT**

A comprehensive Memorandum of Understanding was developed and signed between The Partners Nepal and the Nechasalyan Rural Municipality to formalize our collaboration on the Chisapani community pond restoration project. Endorsed following approvals from Nepal Hilfe-Tirol, ENGAGE NEPAL, and the Nechasalyan Rural Municipality, the MoU:

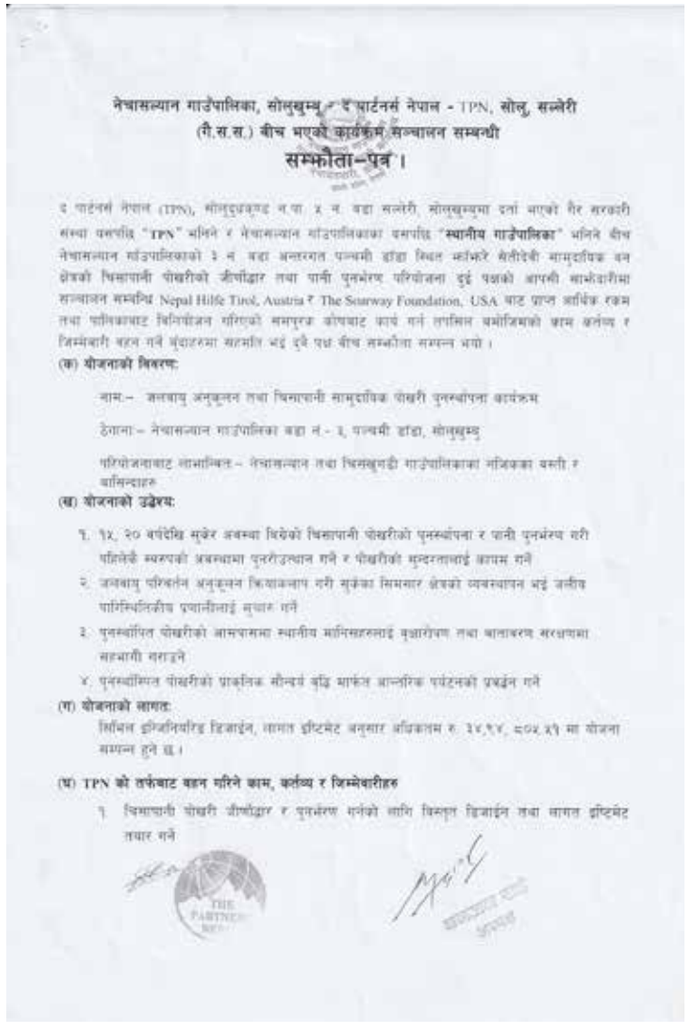
- Clearly delineates each party's roles and responsibilities, from technical design, procurement, and community engagement led by The Partners Nepal to land access, local coordination, and in-kind support provided by the Rural Municipality.
- Specifies the total financial commitment—detailing contributions from Nepal Hilfe-Tirol, ENGAGE NEPAL, and matching funds from Nechasalyan Rural Municipality—and establishes an agreed schedule and method for disbursement of grants.
- Outlines payment procedures, invoicing requirements, and approval authorities to ensure timely, transparent fund flows.
- Codifies terms and conditions for project governance, including performance benchmarks, reporting intervals, monitoring protocols, dispute-resolution mechanisms, and provisions for amendments as the project evolves.

By articulating these shared commitments and accountability measures, the MoU provides a solid, transparent framework for joint stewardship and paves the way for the successful, sustainable implementation of our community pond restoration efforts.



MoU SIGNED WITH **NECHASALYAN RURAL MUNICIPALITY**

The Nechasalyan Rural Municipality will be responsible for site preparation, permitting, and administrative support, including soil excavation and embankment works, in accordance with the MoU.The Partners Nepal will provide technical designs, procure equipment and materials, and conduct community training on sustainable pond management. In order to guarantee transparent implementation and enduring success, all three signatories will distribute monitoring responsibilities, including financial audits, regular progress reports, and a dispute-resolution mechanism.



नेचासल्यान गाउँपालिका, सोलुखुम्बु र द पार्टनर्स नेपाल - TPN, सोलु, सल्लेरी
(दी.स.स.) बीच भएको कार्यक्रम सञ्चालन सम्बन्धी
सम्झौता–पत्र ।

द पार्टनर्स नेपाल (TPN), सोलुदुधकुण्ड न.पा. ४ न. वडा सल्लेरी, सोलुखुम्बुमा रहेको गैर सरकारी संस्था यसपछि "**TPN**" भनिने र नेचासल्यान गाउँपालिकाको यसपछि "**स्थानीय गाउँपालिका**" भनिने बीच नेचासल्यान गाउँपालिकाको ३ न. वडा अन्तरगत पञ्चमी डाँडा स्थित कर्मभरे सेतीदेवी सामुदायिक वन क्षेत्रको चिसापानी पोखरीको जीर्णोद्धार तथा पानी पुनर्भरण परियोजना दुई पक्षको आपसी सामेलदारीमा सञ्चालन सम्बन्धि Nepal Hilfe Tirol, Austria र The Sunway Foundation, USA बाट प्राप्त आर्थिक रकम तथा पालिकाबाट विनियोजन गरिएको समपुरक कोषबाट कार्य गर्न तपसिल बमोजिमको काम कर्तव्य र जिम्मेवारी वहन गर्ने बुँदाहरुमा सहमति भई दुवै पक्ष बीच सम्झौता सम्पन्न भयो ।

(क) योजनाको विवरण:

नाम:– जलवायु अनुकूलन तथा चिसापानी सामुदायिक पोखरी पुनर्स्थापना कार्यक्रम

ठेगाना – नेचासल्यान गाउँपालिका वडा नं - ३, पञ्चमी डाँडा, सोलुखुम्बु

परियोजनाबाट लाभान्वित:– नेचासल्यान तथा चिसखुगडी गाउँपालिकाका सञ्जिकका बस्ती र बासिन्दाहरु

(ख) योजनाको उद्देश्य:

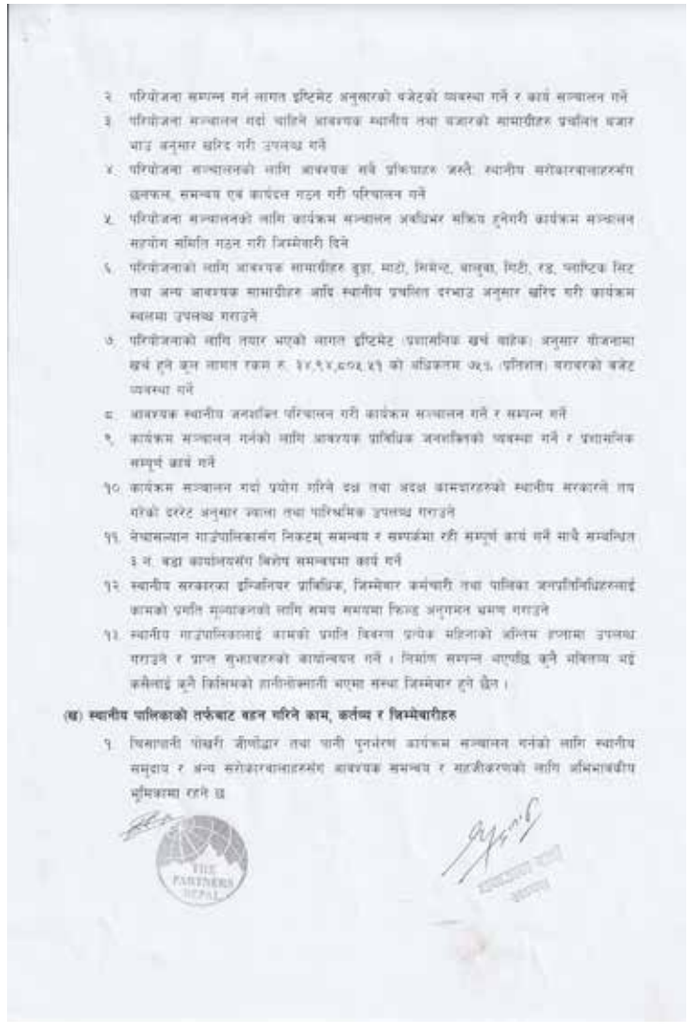
१. १५, २० वर्षदेखि सुकेर अवस्था विरेको चिसापानी पोखरीको पुनर्स्थापना र पानी पुनर्भरण गरी पहिलेकै स्वरुपको अवस्थामा पुनरोत्थान गर्ने र पोखरीको सुन्दरतालाई कायम गर्ने
२. जलवायु परिवर्तन अनुकूलन क्रियाकलाप गरी सुकेका सिमसार क्षेत्रको व्यवस्थापन भई जलीय पारिस्थितिकीय प्रणालीलाई सुधार गर्ने
३. पुनर्स्थापित पोखरीको आसपासमा स्थानीय मानिसहरुलाई वृक्षारोपण तथा वातावरण संरक्षणमा सहभागी गराउने
४. पुनर्स्थापित पोखरीको प्राकृतिक सौन्दर्य वृद्धि मार्फत आन्तरिक पर्यटनको प्रवर्द्धन गर्ने

(ग) योजनाको लागत:

सिभिल इन्जिनियरिङ डिजाईन, लागत इष्टिमेट अनुसार अधिकतम रु. ३४,९४,८०४.४९ मा योजना सम्पन्न हुने छ ।

(घ) TPN को तर्फबाट वहन गरिने काम, कर्तव्य र जिम्मेवारीहरु

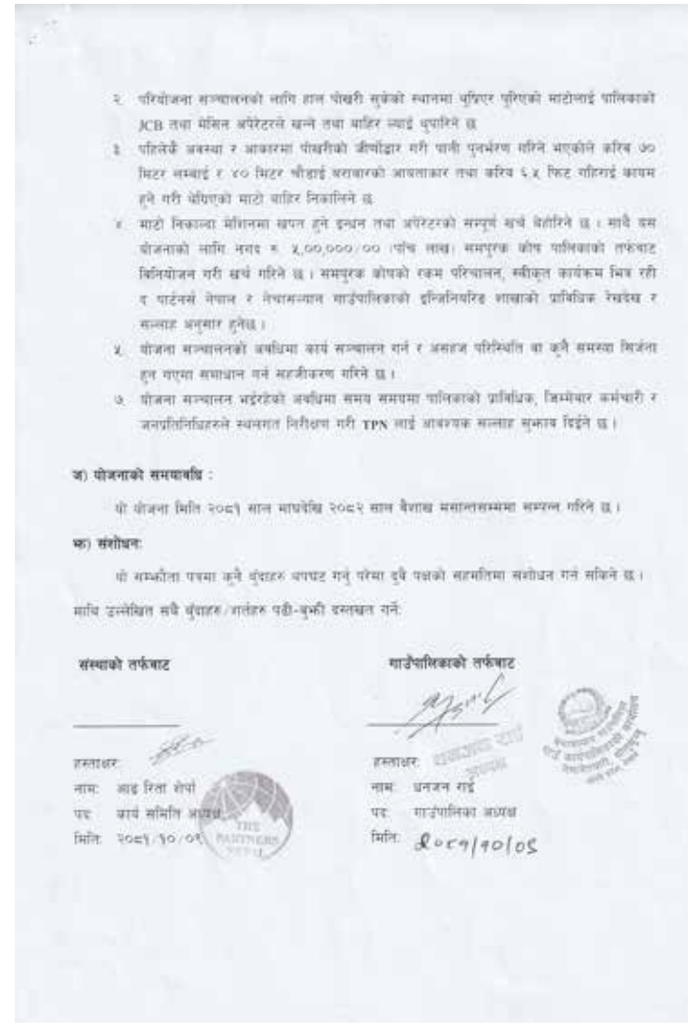
१. चिसापानी पोखरी जीर्णोद्धार र पुनर्भरण गर्नको लागि विस्तृत डिजाईन तथा लागत इष्टिमेट तयार गर्ने



२. परियोजना सम्पन्न गर्न लागत इष्टिमेट अनुसारको बजेटको व्यवस्था गर्ने र कार्य सञ्चालन गर्ने
३. परियोजना सञ्चालन गर्दा चाहिने आवश्यक स्थानीय तथा बजारको सामाग्रीहरु उपलब्ध बजार भाउ अनुसार खरिद गरी उपलब्ध गर्ने
४. परियोजना सञ्चालनको लागि आवश्यक सबै प्रकियाहरु जस्तै: स्थानीय सरोकारवालाहरुसंग छलफल, समन्वय एवं कार्यदल गठन गरी परिचालन गर्ने
५. परियोजना सञ्चालनको लागि कार्यक्रम सञ्चालन अवधिभर सक्रिय हुनेगरी कार्यक्रम सञ्चालन सहयोग समिति गठन गरी जिम्मेवारी दिने
६. परियोजनाको लागि आवश्यक सामाग्रीहरु ढुङ्गा, माटो, सिमेन्ट, बालुवा, गिट्टी, रड, प्लाष्टिक सिट तथा अन्य आवश्यक सामाग्रीहरु आदि स्थानीय प्रचलित दरभाउ अनुसार खरिद गरी कार्यक्रम स्थलमा उपलब्ध गराउने
७. परियोजनाको लागि तयार भएको लागत इष्टिमेट (प्रशासनिक खर्च बाहेक) अनुसार योजनामा खर्च हुने कुल लागत रकम रु. ३४,९४,८०४.४९ को अधिकतम ७५% (पचहत्तर) बराबरको बजेट व्यवस्था गर्ने
८. आवश्यक स्थानीय जनशक्ति परिचालन गरी कार्यक्रम सञ्चालन गर्ने र सम्पन्न गर्ने
९. कार्यक्रम सञ्चालन गर्नको लागि आवश्यक प्राविधिक जनशक्तिको व्यवस्था गर्ने र प्रशासनिक सम्पूर्ण कार्य गर्ने
१०. कार्यक्रम सञ्चालन गर्दा प्रयोग गरिने दक्ष तथा अदक्ष कामदारहरुको स्थानीय सरकारले तय गरेको दररेट अनुसार ज्यालामा तथा पारिश्रमिक उपलब्ध गराउने
११. नेचासल्यान गाउँपालिकासँग निकटम् समन्वय र सम्पर्कमा रही सम्पूर्ण कार्य गर्ने साथै सम्बन्धित ३ न. वडा कार्यालयसंग विशेष समन्वयमा कार्य गर्ने
१२. स्थानीय सरकारका इन्जिनियर प्राविधिक, जिम्मेवार कर्मचारी तथा पालिका जनप्रतिनिधिहरुलाई कामको प्रगति मूल्याङ्कनको लागि समय समयमा फिल्ड अनुगमन भ्रमण गराउने
१३. स्थानीय गाउँपालिकालाई कामको प्रगति विवरण प्रत्येक महिनाको अन्तिम हप्तामा उपलब्ध गराउने र प्राप्त सुझावहरुको कार्यान्वयन गर्ने । निर्माण सम्पन्न भएपछि कुनै भविष्यमा भई क्षतिलाई कुनै किसिमको हानीनोक्सानी भएमा संस्था जिम्मेवार हुने छैन ।

(ङ) स्थानीय पालिकाको तर्फबाट वहन गरिने काम, कर्तव्य र जिम्मेवारीहरु

१. चिसापानी पोखरी जीर्णोद्धार तथा पानी पुनर्भरण कार्यक्रम सञ्चालन गर्नको लागि स्थानीय समुदाय र अन्य सरोकारवालाहरुसंग आवश्यक समन्वय र सहजीकरणको लागि अभिभावकीय भूमिकामा रहने छ



२. परियोजना सञ्चालनको लागि हाल पोखरी सुकेको स्थानमा पुग्दिएर परिएको माटोलाई पालिकाको JCB तथा मेसिन अपेरेटरसं खन्ने तथा बाहिर ल्याई थुपारिने छ
३. पहिलेकै अवस्था र आकारमा पोखरीको जीर्णोद्धार गरी पानी पुनर्भरण गरिने भएकोले करिब ७० मिटर लम्बाई र ४० मिटर चौडाई बराबरको आयताकार तथा करिब ६.५ फिट गहिराई कायम हुने गरी खेर्पिएको माटो बाहिर निकालिने छ
४. माटो निकाल्ने मेशिनमा खपत हुने इन्धन तथा अपेरेटरको सम्पूर्ण खर्च बेहोरिने छ । साथै यस योजनाको लागि नगद रु. ५,००,०००/०० (पाँच लाख) समपूरक कोष पालिकाको तर्फबाट विनियोजन गरी खर्च गरिने छ । समपूरक कोषको रकम परिचालन, स्वीकृत कार्यक्रम भित्र रही द पार्टनर्स नेपाल र नेचासल्यान गाउँपालिकाको इन्जिनियरिङ शाखाको प्राविधिक रेखदेख र सल्लाह अनुसार हुनेछ ।
५. योजना सञ्चालनको अवधिमा कार्य सञ्चालन गर्ने र असहज परिस्थिति वा कुनै समस्या सिर्जना हुन गएमा समाधान गर्ने सहजीकरण गरिने छ ।
७. योजना सञ्चालन अवधिमा समय समयमा पालिकाको प्राविधिक, जिम्मेवार कर्मचारी र जनप्रतिनिधिहरुले स्थलगत निरीक्षण गरी **TPN** लाई आवश्यक सल्लाह सुझाव दिईने छ ।

(ज) योजनाको समयावधि :

यो योजना मिति २०८१ साल माघदेखि २०८२ साल वैशाख मसान्तसम्ममा सम्पन्न गरिने छ ।

(झ) संशोधन:

यो सम्झौता पत्रमा कुनै बुँदाहरु अपष्ट गर्नु परेमा दुवै पक्षको सहमतिमा संशोधन गर्न सकिने छ ।

माथि उल्लेखित सबै बुँदाहरु मन्जुर गरी पक्ष-बुझी दस्तखत गर्ने:

संस्थाको तर्फबाट

हस्ताक्षर:
नाम: आइ रिता शेर्पा
पद: कार्य समिति अध्यक्ष
मिति: २०८१/१०/०९

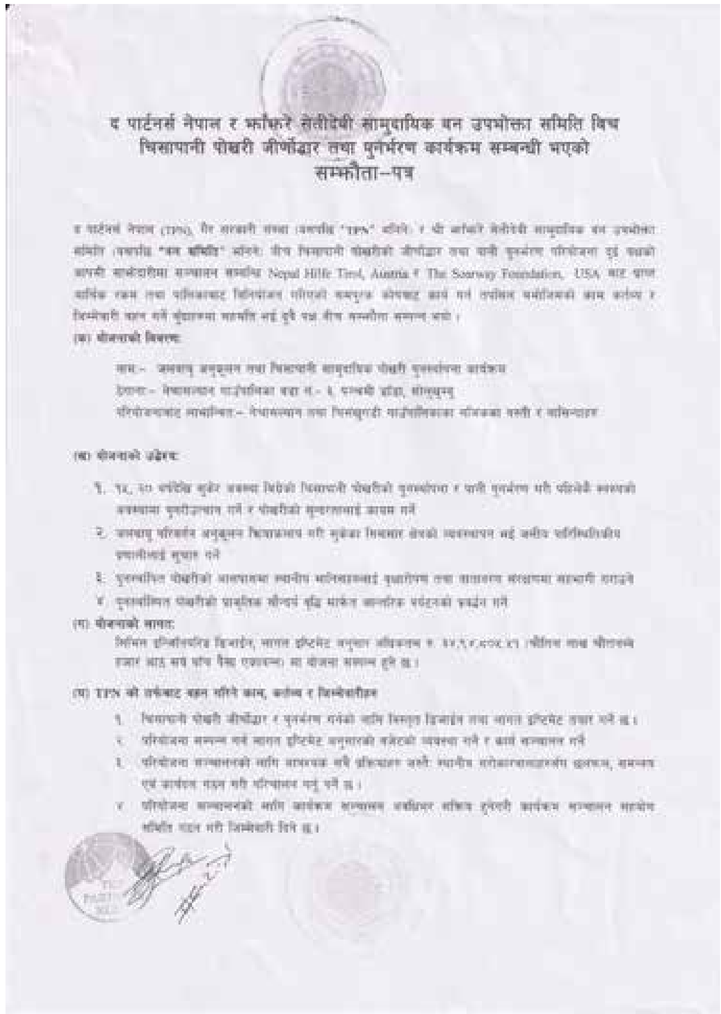
गाउँपालिकाको तर्फबाट

हस्ताक्षर:
नाम: धनजन राई
पद: गाउँपालिका अध्यक्ष
मिति: २०८१/१०/०९

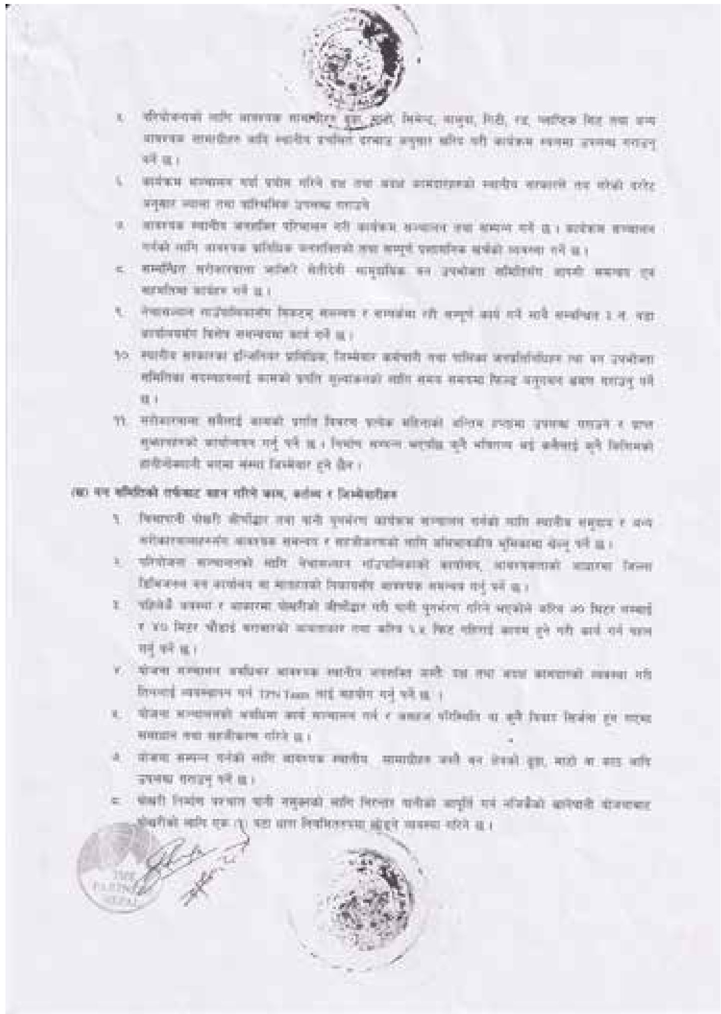
MoU SIGNED WITH **JHAJHARE SETIDEVI (CFUG)**

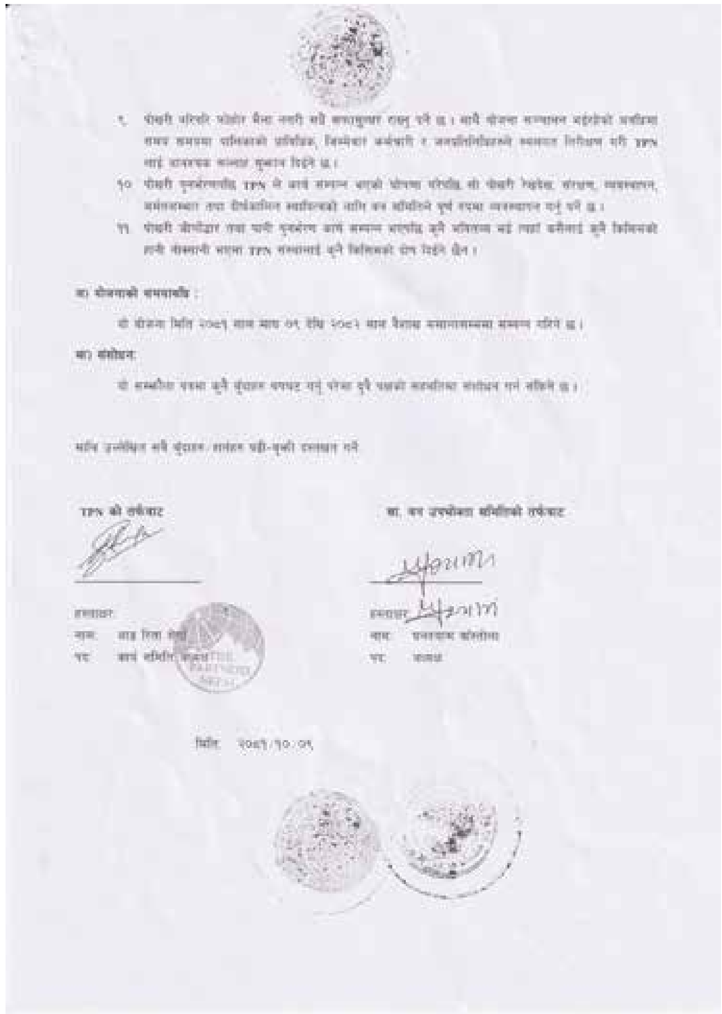
A formal Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between The Partners Nepal and the Jhajhare Setidevi Community Forest Users Group to oversee the entirety of the Chisapani pond renovation. The Community Forest Users Group is tasked with the following responsibilities under this agreement: monitoring daily on-site activities, mobilizing local labor, and supplying indigenous materials (stone and timber).

The Partners Nepal will provide technical designs, procure specialized equipment and materials, and organize community-training workshops on sustainable pond management and maintenance. In order to guarantee the project's long-term success and ensure transparent implementation, the signatories have collectively agreed to establish a joint monitoring framework that includes regular progress reports, financial audits, and a dispute-resolution mechanism.



द पार्टनर्स नेपाल र झाँझरे सेतीदेवी सामुदायिक वन उपभोक्ता समिति बिच चिसापानी पोखरी जीर्णोद्धार तथा पुनर्भरण कार्यक्रम सम्बन्धी भएको सम्झौता–पत्र





TERMS OF REFERENCE **DEVELOPED**

Terms of Reference (ToR) for "Climate Change Adaptation and Restoration of Chisapani Community Pond"

1. Background & Partnership
This initiative is led jointly by Nechasalyan Rural Municipality and the Jhajhare Setidevi Community Forest User Group, with financial support from Nepal Hilfe Tirol, ENGAGE NEPAL, and the Rural Municipality.

2. Objectives
- Ensure technically sound restoration of the Chisapani pond to enhance climate resilience and water security.
- Integrate community and schoolbased activities to maximize social and educational benefits.

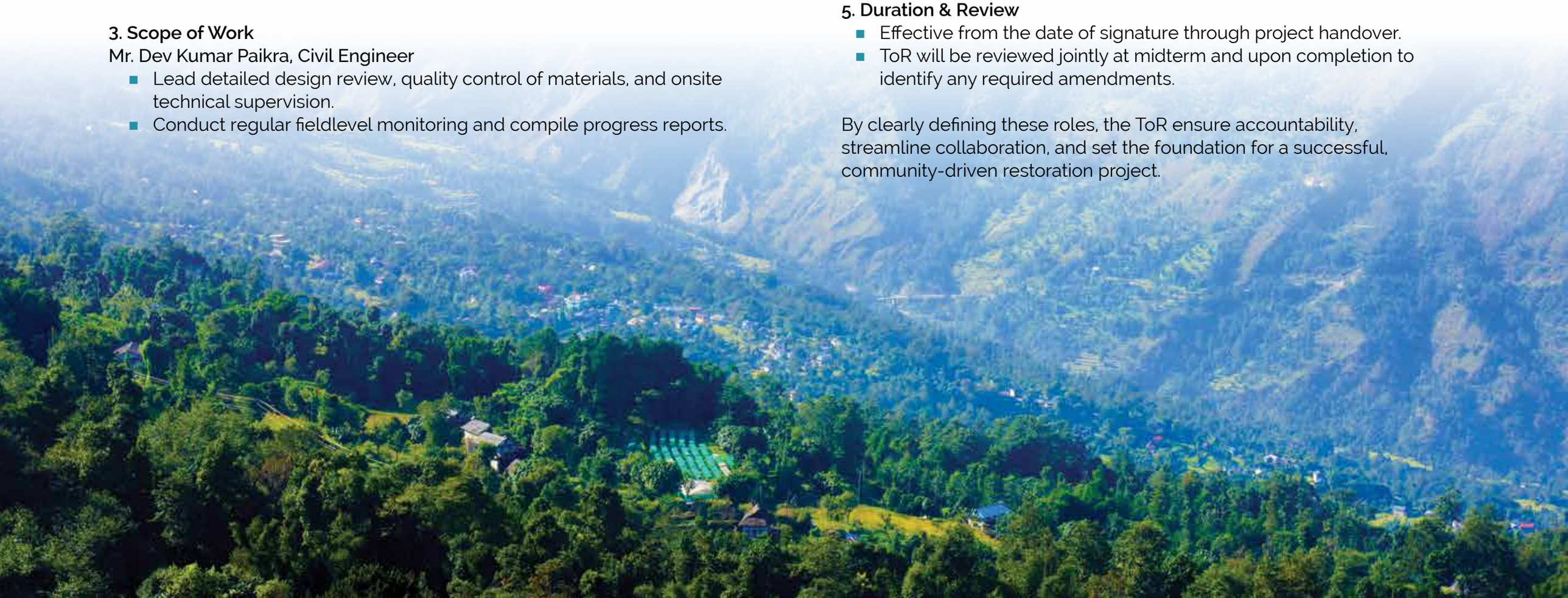
3. Scope of Work
Mr. Dev Kumar Paikra, Civil Engineer
- Lead detailed design review, quality control of materials, and onsite technical supervision.
- Conduct regular fieldlevel monitoring and compile progress reports.

Mr. Som Prasad Katel
- Oversee daytoday pond renovation tasks, mobilize local labor, and ensure safety standards.
- Manage the affiliated school support program—coordinating equipment delivery, student engagement sessions, and teacher feedback.

4. Deliverables & Reporting
- Biweekly site visit reports (technical and activity logs).
- Monthly summary of progress against work plan and budget.
- Final completion dossier, including "lessons learned" and recommendations for future pond maintenance.

5. Duration & Review
- Effective from the date of signature through project handover.
- ToR will be reviewed jointly at midterm and upon completion to identify any required amendments.

By clearly defining these roles, the ToR ensure accountability, streamline collaboration, and set the foundation for a successful, community-driven restoration project.



LAID DOWN THE FOUNDATION OF **CHISAPANI COMMUNITY POND**

The foundation stone for the Chisapani Community Pond restoration and water-recharge program was ceremonially laid by Chairman Mr. Dhanjan Rai and Vice-Chairman Ms. Bina Rai at Panchami Dada on 22 January 2025 (Magh 9, 2081 BS). The event, which was organized by the Jhajhare Setidevi Community Forest Users Committee with the financial and technical support of The Partners Nepal, was attended by Sitaram Bhattarai (Ward No. 3 Chairman), ward members, the Community Forest Consumers Committee, Mr. Bheem Raj Rai of The Partners Nepal and numerous local residents. The gathering reaffirmed its shared commitment to the revival of this essential water source as shovels collided with the earth under the bright January skies. The project is expected to be completed within the next three months.

SOIL EXCAVATION BEGINS

The local government, with the consent of Nechasalyan Rural Municipality, deployed a JCB backhoe to remove years of sediment from the pond basin following the inauguration and on the recommendation of Civil Engineer Dev Kumar Paikra. The excavated soil was removed by tractor-mounted trailers for adjacent embankment reinforcement, while the machine deepened key areas by over a meter as it worked from the perimeter inward.

ORGANISATION OF **CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS**

Materials—including crushed aggregate, sand, steel reinforcement bars, cement, and tools—were procured from vetted suppliers and tagged against the bill of materials at a central staging area near Chisapani, where quality checks confirmed specifications. Loads were then trucked to the village edge and carried by porters up the final slope; on-site, tarped stockpiles were arranged by phase (bedding materials first, followed by reinforcement steel, then cement and accessories) to ensure seamless construction.

SHEAR WALL COMPLETED

A 20 meter-long, 8 feet-high, and 60 to 20 cm-thick RCC barrier, two 110 mm overflow pipelines on the eastern flank of the pond, and an upslope gabion wall of stone-filled mesh baskets comprise the reinforced shear wall, which was designed by TPN's civil engineer and co-funded by Nechasalyan Rural Municipality.

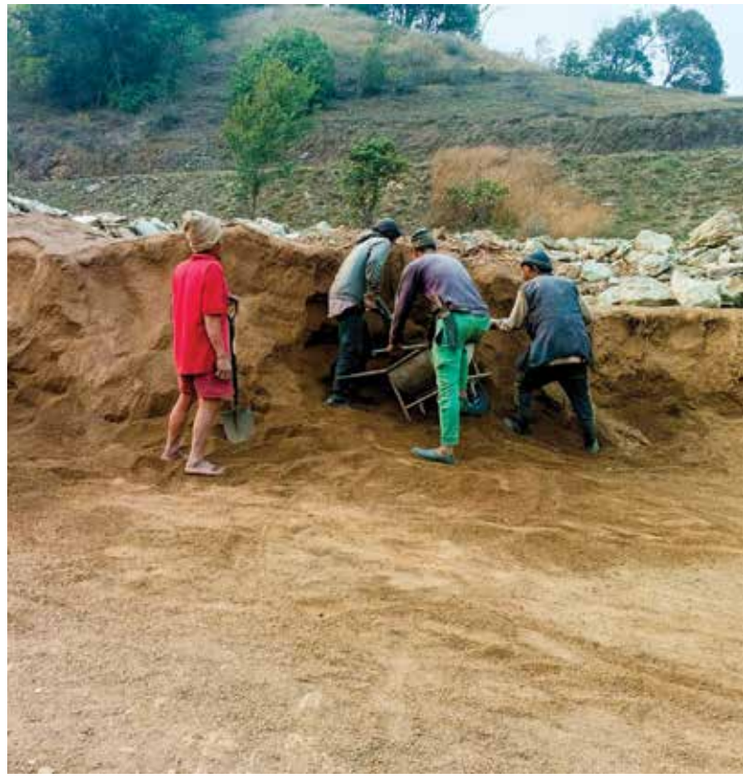
This hybrid design, which is implemented through a robust government partnership and community engagement, ensures structural stability, regulates seepage, increases local biodiversity, and supports sustainable livelihoods in this earthquake-prone hill region.

BASE LAYER PREPARATION

Base Layer preparation is the process of passing excavated or collected soil through a mesh (sieve) to eliminate stones, roots, clumps, and other detritus, resulting in a fine, uniform soil. This consistent, clean material is then more easily distributed, compacted, or mixed (e.g., in planting beds or under a pond liner) and contributes to improved water retention and root growth.

The excavated material was initially subjected to a series of wire-mesh sieves, which were positioned around the perimeter of the pond. These sieves ranged from coarse screens to fine hand-held sieves. Teams first shoveled soil onto the highest mesh to eliminate large stones, roots, and detritus. They then proceeded to work the soil through finer sieves until only smooth, uniform soil survived.

Subsequently, this cleaned soil was applied in a continuous 8-inch layer across the complete pond floor. By delicately compacting it with tamping boards, we formed a seamless, damage-resistant cushion for the plastic tarpaulin. This ensured a reliable, leak-free lining and prevented punctures from buried gravel or organic matter.



PLASTIC TARPAULIN PROCURED

Tarpaulin liner with a high density (250 GSM) It was expressly manufactured in Biratnagar and transported to the Chisapani Community Pond site, where it is renowned for its exceptional tensile strength, chemical inertness, and puncture resistance. This high-performance liner creates an impermeable seal that:

- Prevents seepage through stony, uneven soil and protects the liner from damage caused by jagged stones and roots.
- Withstands extreme temperature fluctuations and ultraviolet degradation
- It is the foundation of the pond's function in irrigation, livestock support, and local biodiversity conservation by ensuring reliable water retention year-round, despite monsoon downpours and dry spells.

Bheem Raj Rai and Bhala Kaji Kulung, executives of TPN, purchased a high-quality tarp from Itary, which is situated near Dharan Municipality, to guarantee the seal's integrity.

PLASTIC LINING

The 250 gsm high-density polyethylene tarpaulin was meticulously unrolled over the smoothed, compacted soil, ensuring that the basin was entirely covered with a minimum of a 30 cm overlap at all seams. In order to prevent creases, each panel was aligned and subsequently heat-welded along the overlaps to establish a continuous, impermeable membrane. The liner's margins were tucked into shallow trenches around the perimeter and backfilled with fine soil to secure it against uplift and slippage. This durable installment secures the pond's long-term performance and significantly enhances its water-holding capacity by preventing seepage through uneven soils and sharp debris.

PUTTING RING INSIDE THE POND

Two continuous collars around the perimeter of the pond were formed by casting two concentric rings of plain cement concrete (PCC)—each 3 inches thick and 8 inches wide—directly atop the submerged edge of the tarpaulin. Formwork was established to the specified dimensions after the liner was correctly seated in its trench. A C25 PCC mix was poured and finished to produce smooth, uniform bands. The formwork was removed and backfilled to ensure that the rings were securely affixed to the adjacent soil after the concrete had cured. The rigid bulk of these PCC collars resists lateral soil pressures during high-water events, while they also function as mechanical anchors and stabilizing bearings. They prevent uplift and inward creep of the bedding soil by clamping the liner's edge.

The pond's integrity is preserved and long-term resistance to soil movement is guaranteed by the dual-ring configuration, which distributes tensile stresses uniformly and reinforces the liner perimeter.

RAIN DISTURBED

The newly laid soil blanket was washed away in sections by the torrential sheets of an unforeseen downpour that swept through Chisapani. This exposed the tarp beneath and created uneven pockets along the pond's banks.

Rather than allowing the storm to undermine our efforts, the team promptly acted: we meticulously removed displaced soil, repaired any liner creases or strains, and re-compacted a new 4–6-inch earthen layer before the ground could dry. In order to prevent future deluges, we implemented temporary sandbag checks and gradual berms along the perimeter, which directed runoff into settling swales. These immediate actions not only restored the pond's protective sediment cover but also strengthened its resilience, transforming a weather-related setback into an opportunity to fortify Chisapani's community water resource.

STONE BREAKING

Stone breaking is a critical component of the Chisapani community pond revival project. The pond, located on a steep hillside, requires reinforced embankments and drainage structures to prevent erosion and withstand seasonal monsoon runoff. Locally sourced stone must be manually broken into usable sizes for lining the pond's inner walls, constructing protective gabion walls, and stabilizing overflow channels. This labor-intensive process ensures both structural durability and cost-effectiveness while promoting community involvement through local labor. Without proper stone materials, the revived pond would remain vulnerable to collapse and sedimentation, undermining its long-term functionality as a water source for irrigation, livestock, and ecosystem restoration.

TOP SOIL LAYERING

In an effort to protect the plastic liner from erosion, UV exposure, and punctures, as well as to establish a foundation for future vegetation, a uniform, 4-inch (10 centimeters) layer of finely sieved topsoil was uniformly applied to the entire pond basin. This soil blanket:

- The liner is protected from sharp pebbles and debris by the cushion.
- Protects it from the harsh effects of direct sunlight and extreme temperatures
- Protects the surface from erosion caused by wind and water
- Offers a nutrient-rich environment for the establishment of roots by plants
- Collectively, these advantages guarantee that the liner remains undamaged and that the pond ecosystem can regenerate organically over time.

DRY STONE WALL CONSTRUCTION

A three-tiered dry-stone retaining wall was constructed directly on the excavated slope of the pond's inner circumference. Each course is uniformly 45 cm in height, with widths increasing from the bottom to the summit in the following manner:

- A base course (80 cm wide × 45 cm high) is a broad foundation that is designed to withstand outward soil pressure and resolve uneven loads.
- Middle course (60 cm wide × 45 cm high): Decreases hydrostatic forces by dividing the water's weight into smaller, more manageable sections.
- Upper course (45 centimeters wide x 45 cm high): Serves as the final barrier against surface runoff and livestock trampling.
- Bank stabilization: The soil is stabilized by the stepped design, which prevents it from collapsing or drooping in response to fluctuations in water levels.
- Erosion control: Terracing reduces scouring at the pond's margin by dissipating wave action and surface flow.
- Self-draining strength: The wall is relieved of pressure behind it by the seepage of superfluous water through the gaps between the stones, which eliminates the need for mortar.
- Habitat improvement: The masonry's crevices provide niche spaces for pondside plants and small fauna, thereby expediting the natural recovery process.
- Collectively, these attributes guarantee a structure that is both low-maintenance and enduring, thereby securing the perimeter of the pond and facilitating its ecological restoration.

GABION WALL SUPPORT

A gabion wall is a structure composed of wire-mesh baskets that are filled with locally sourced stones. Its interlocked, permeable design allows water to drain through the stone fill while effectively absorbing and dissipating hydraulic and lateral stresses. Gabions mitigate pore water pressure behind the pond lining and prevent soil erosion at the base of the shear wall by filtering seepage and conforming to ground movements.

The foundation is stabilized by placing a gabion wall against the outer face of the shear (retaining) wall during the revitalization of the Chisapani community pond. This protects the reinforced concrete ring beam from undercutting and ensures the long-term integrity of the pond basin by counteracting the pressures of water and earth. The earthen foundation is not compromised by the durable, low-maintenance barrier that simultaneously retains the pond's lining and safely channels surplus water, which is created by the combined system of shear wall and gabion support.

PLAIN CEMENT CONCRETE (PCC) LAYOUT

Plain Cement Concrete (PCC) is applied over the dry-stone wall surrounding the Chisapani community pond to create a seamless, rigid band that protects the underlying liner from harm and secures the stones. The PCC cap prevents soil and water from eroding the dry wall, evenly distributes loads from the pond's water pressure, and serves as a stable foundation for any protective finishes or walkways by creating a continuous, hard surface.

The pond lining is also anchored at its perimeter by this straightforward, reinforcement-free concrete layer, which guarantees a long-lasting, watertight closure and resists uplift and undercutting. PCC is the optimal choice to protect the structural integrity of the revived pond and reinforce the dry wall, as it is both cost-effective and low-maintenance.

CLEANING THE SURROUNDING **COMMUITY POND**

It is imperative to complete the cleaning process after the community pond at Chisapani has been revived to guarantee the safety, functionality, and aesthetic allure of the pond and its surroundings. Stones, soil, and other detritus accumulate in the vicinity of the excavation and construction site. These materials have the potential to impede drainage, cause erosion, impede community access, and reduce the pond's ecological function and overall aesthetics if left unattended.

The area is rendered clean, secure for people and livestock, and prepared for the regrowth of natural vegetation by the removal of leftover stones, scattered soil, and debris. The community's ownership and pride in the project are also reflected in the well-maintained surrounding, which promotes the long-term care and sustainability of the revived pond.


JCB

OVERFLOW **PIPE INSTALLATION**

Two parallel 110 mm high-density polyethylene (HDPE) pipelines were embedded through the east-side share wall to function as a controlled overflow conduit during peak monsoon inflows. By safely redirecting surplus water:

- **Regulation of water levels:** Prevents the reservoir from overflowing and causing damage to embankments
- **Structural protection:** Reduces the likelihood of fractures by alleviating hydraulic pressure on the wall.
- **Erosion control:** Minimizes downstream scouring by directing runoff along a predetermined pat
- **System dependability:** The long-term efficacy of HDPE is guaranteed by its corrosion resistance and flexibility.

This installation is both straightforward and robust, ensuring the integrity of the pond and the surrounding terrain during periods of heavy rainfall.


JCB

SAFETY **MEASURES**

Galvanized mesh baskets loaded with locally sourced stones were employed to construct a robust gabion-wire barrier along the eastern perimeter of the pond.

The reason this is significant:

- **Safety for children:** Deters unsupervised access and inadvertent falls by establishing a visible, climb-resistant barrier.
- **Durability:** The galvanized wire and stone infill are resistant to livestock grazing, flood forces, and corrosion.
- **Low-maintenance:** The permeable structure facilitates water drainage, which prevents pressure accumulation and reduces the need for upkeep.
- **Landscape integration:** The restored pond is protected by the natural stone appearance that integrates with the terrain.

COMPLETION OF REVIVING **COMMUNITY POND AT CHISAPANI**

The Chisapani Community Pond, which is 68 meters in length and 34 meters in width, has undergone a complete rehabilitation. The basin has been re-excavated, the interior banks have been reinforced with stepped dry-stone masonry and concrete capping, and a high-performance liner has been protected by a 10 cm soil blanket. A twin-HDPE overflow conduit now regulates monsoon surges, while gabion-wire fencing protects residents, particularly children, from inadvertent falls.

- We have successfully restored the pond's capacity by integrating engineering precision with locally directed labor and materials.
- Year-round storage and regulation of up to three meters of water
- Encourage the irrigation of terrace fields located downstream.
- Supply livestock with water for imbibing and bathing.
- Reestablish habitats for waterfowl, amphibians, and pond-edge vegetation.

Through this collaborative endeavor—led by The Partners Nepal, Nechasalyan Rural Municipality, community forest users, and our donor partners—the Chisapani pond has been revitalized as a multifunctional, resilient asset. Its stabilized banks and replenished waters now serve as the foundation for both ecological renewal and local livelihoods, ensuring the well-being of the community and the security of water for future generations.

CONCLUSION

We are proud to have transformed a long-neglected reservoir into a resilient water source that now defends local livelihoods, supports agriculture, and restores critical habitat as the climate change adaptation project at Chisapani nears its conclusion. For years to come, the pond will serve as a buffer against monsoon extremes, drought pressures, and ecosystem stress as a result of meticulous engineering, community stewardship, and sustainable design—a testament to the potential of collective vision and action in the context of a changing climate.

- This accomplishment would not have been feasible without the unwavering commitment and generous support of Professor Wolfgang Nairz of Nepal Hilfe-Tirol, whose prompt funding and guidance initiated this initiative.
- Scott DeLisi, the former U.S. Ambassador to Nepal and the champion of Engage Nepal, for his strategic advocacy and resource mobilization.
- Nechasalyan Rural Municipality, for logistical coordination, administrative leadership, and matching support
- The Jhajhare Setidevi Community Forest Users Group, ward members, local leaders, and the broader community have contributed labor, materials, and local knowledge.
- The technical designs of our civil engineer, Mr. Dev Kumar Paikra, served as the foundation for all structural solutions.
- Mr. Som Prasad Kattel, the Project Coordinator, for his unwavering commitment to stakeholder engagement and field oversight.

Each member of The Partners Nepal, whose professionalism and passion transformed plans into actuality We are eager to continue our shared voyage toward resilient, climate-smart communities and to build on this accomplishment, with gratitude to all partners and participants.

MR. DEV KUMAR PAIKRA

Mr. Dev Kumar Paikra is the Coordinator of the Department of Civil Engineering at Shree Kedar Secondary School in Nechasalyan Rural Municipality-4, Solukhumbu. He has over ten years of practical experience in the design and supervision of rural infrastructure projects in Nepal's high-mountain districts, having graduated from Tribhuvan University with a degree in Civil Engineering with a concentration in water-resource management.

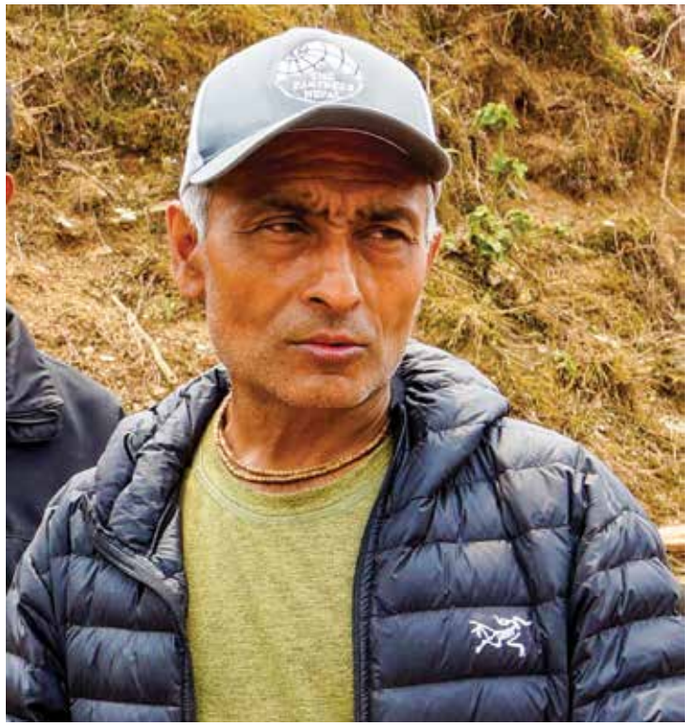
In order to restore the wetland in the Chisapani community, Mr. Paikra:

- Conducted the initial hydrological assessment and site survey, which identified the sources of siltation and leakage.
- Designed and supervised the construction of a reinforced share wall to protect the perimeter of the pond from erosion and runoff.
- Supervised and specified the installation of a 250 GSM PVC liner and the preparation of an 8-inch sieved soil base to ensure impermeability.
- Constructed two concentric PCC ring beams to distribute soil pressures uniformly and anchor the lining.
- Ensured that locally sourced materials met quality standards by coordinating stone crushing and dry-stack masonry construction.
- Mr. Paikra implemented environmental safeguards, including sediment traps and controlled infiltration zones, to protect downstream ecosystems, trained local labor in best-practice techniques, and maintained rigorous quality control throughout the project. The durable, high-capacity water reservoir that will reliably support irrigation, livestock watering, and biodiversity conservation in Chisapani for years to come was made possible by his technical expertise and leadership.

SOM PRASAD KATEL

Field superintendent for the Chisapani Pond reconstruction program is Som Prasad Katel. He commenced his professional career by instructing in both community and institutional contexts. Subsequently, he rendered technical support to community-forest management through the District Forest Office and the Natural Resources Sector Support Program. He most recently became involved in a climate-change initiative that was organized by AEIN Luxembourg, the Association for Rural Development Kavre, and Necha Salyan RM.

He supervised the planting of trees across 125 hectares and produced and distributed more than 200,000 indigenous tree, medicinal, and aromatic seedlings from the local nursery in that capacity. He has spearheaded environmental preservation initiatives in eight schools, provided training to over 585 participants, and provided support for five natural-pond restorations, 18 small plastic-pond constructions, a community seed bank, plastic-tunnel and drip-irrigation programs, and organic-farming projects. He has a Bachelor's degree in Health Education, a Master's degree in Sociology, and a Diploma in Forestry.



GHANA SHYAM BASTOLA

The Jhanjhare Seti Devi Community Forest, which was established in 2062 BS by the users of Necha Batase VDC Ward No. 3 in Okhaldhunga, encountered a legal challenge when 17 households filed a writ against its land.

The appellate court ruled in favor of the Community Forest User Group, and the Supreme Court upheld that decision, in large part due to the initiatives of Ghanshyam Bastola, who was the secretary and is now the chairman. He has remained an indispensable activist for both the community forest and the pond restoration, as he has continued to play a crucial role in the Chisapani Pond project, securing approvals from the Division Forest Office, mobilizing public gatherings, and overseeing the fair distribution of forest produce.


THE PARTNERS NEPAL

ANG TENJI SHERPA

Ang Tenji Sherpa, a founding member of the Jhanjre Setidevi Community Forest User Group and an elected representative of Ward No. 5, Chisankhugadhi Rural Municipality, played a crucial role in the revitalization of the Chisapani Pond. He was the first to establish a wholesale goods and tea shop, coordinate water services for travelers, and promote consensus-based dispute resolution at the local level. He was a critical component of the project's success, as he oversaw the management of materials and laborers, provided the team with food, snacks, and accommodations, and provided ongoing advice and guidance during the reconstruction and refilling of the pond.

KISAN (PROCHA)

Kisan Procha of Necha has been an essential supporter of The Partners Nepal's Chisapani community pond conservation and restoration initiative. He coordinated the JCB operations to break and clear stones for the pond basin, procured all key construction materials—including cement, reinforcing rods, sand, and stone chips—for both the reinforced concrete shear wall and the gabion retaining walls, and organized the transport of the 70 m × 45 m tarpaulin from Itari to Chisapani. In addition to these critical responsibilities, Kisan managed additional logistical arrangements, guaranteeing the timely delivery of supplies and the smooth operation of on-site operations throughout the restoration endeavor.

CURRENT SITUATION OF CHISAPANI, NECHASALYAN

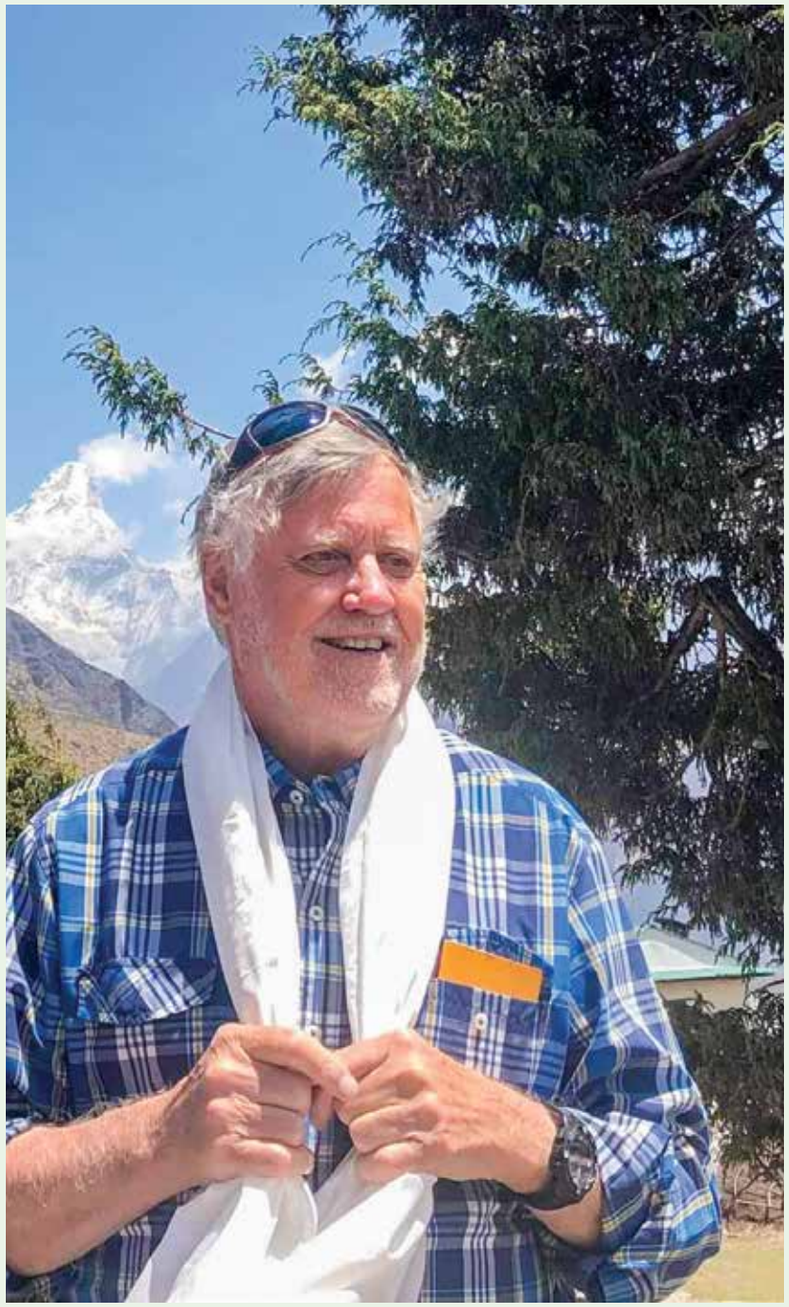
Currently, three Sherpa families reside in Chisapani, a small hilltop settlement in Nechasalyan Ward No. 3. These families have long depended on the neighboring forest and traditional farming practices for their livelihoods. The mountainous terrain is accommodated by the modest stone-built dwellings with tin roofs that each family resides in. In order to augment their income, one of the families maintains a modest tea stall that serves the needs of local travelers, herders, and occasional trekkers who are transiting through the region. Nevertheless, the absence of dependable water sources, particularly as a result of the historic community pond's drying, has exacerbated the strain on their daily lives, affecting the sustainability of the tea stall business, livestock care, and household requirements.

SUPPORTERS FOR **COMMUNITY POND**

NEPALHILFE TIROL, AUSTRIA is a non-profit organization that was founded in Austria by renowned Austrian mountaineer Professor Wolfgang Nairz with the objective of providing support to the mountain communities of Nepal. Ever since 2016, NepalHilfe-Tirol has been an unwavering partner of The Partners Nepal, making significant contributions to our programs:

- The Elderly Care Center in Bung (2016) received seed funding to establish and equip a dedicated day-care facility. This facility will ensure that senior residents receive regular medical clinics, recreational activities, and nutritional support.
- "One Tree, One Day" Reforestation: Continuous assistance with nursery operations, seedling propagation, and community-led planting campaigns in Langtang and Solukhumbu, which has resulted in the planting of more than 4,000 indigenous saplings to stabilize fragile alpine slopes since 2021.
- Grants for Cultural Restoration Projects: Protecting local identity and pilgrimage routes by conserving and restoring heritage locations, including monasteries, chortens, and traditional architecture, in both Solukhumbu and Langtang.
- Climate Change Handbook (2024): Contributed to the second edition of Melting Heights, our Nepali-language guide on the effects of global warming. This guide was disseminated to schools in Solukhumbu and Langtang to enhance the resilience of young people.
- Chisapani Pond Restoration, Nechasalyan (2024–25): The community pond's rehabilitation, which includes excavation, liner, and watershed protection, will be co-funded. This project will restore a critical water source for livestock, irrigation, and wildlife.
- NepalHilfe-Tirol's multi-year investment has not only fortified our conservation and community-development efforts, but has also established enduring local capacity to protect Nepal's mountain landscapes and heritage.

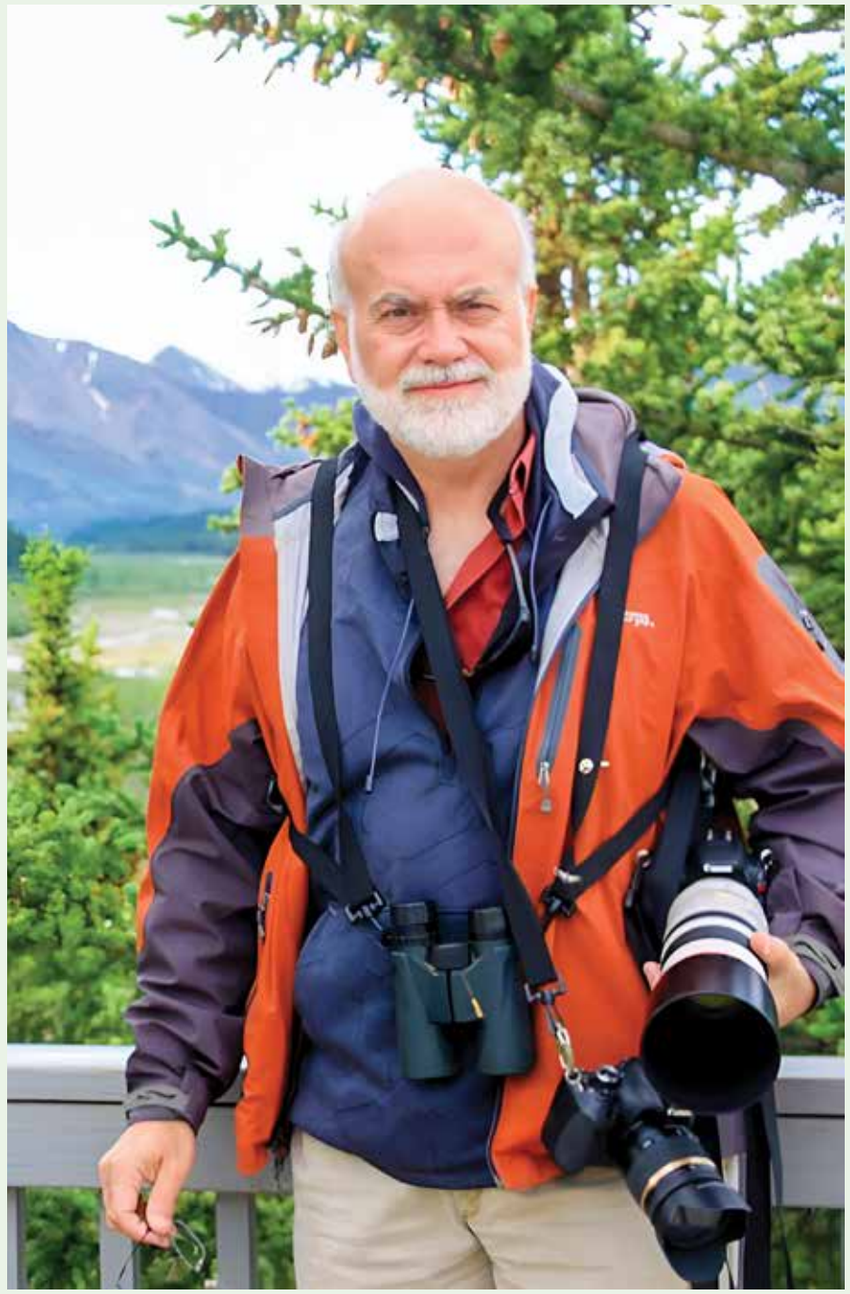
NEPALHILLLIFE-TIROL



SUPPORTERS FOR **COMMUNITY POND**

Engage Nepal, which was established in 2015 by former U.S. Ambassador to Nepal Scott DeLesi, has been a strategic partner of The Partners Nepal since 2018. Their focused fundraising initiatives have permitted us to:

- Supply nursery infrastructure and community-led planting campaigns to expand "One Day One Tree" reforestation in Solukhumbu and Langtang.
- Preserve traditional architecture, chortens, and monasteries in Khunde village and at the Sir Edmund Hillary Memorial Museum by restoring cultural heritage.
- Fund day-care services, medical programs, and recreational activities for senior residents by expanding Bung's Elderly Care Center.
- Underwrite excavation, lining, and watershed protection to secure water for irrigation, livestock, and wildlife, and rehabilitate the Nechasalyan community pond.
- Engage Nepal has strengthened our endeavors to preserve endangered alpine ecosystems, protect local traditions, and enhance community well-being through these initiatives.



GLIMPSES OF **VISITORS AT CHISAPANI COMMUNITY POND**

Under the expert supervision of Bheem Raj Rai and Bhala Kaji Kulung, TPN executive members, a coordinated technical team mobilized both heavy machinery and skilled labor to restore the pond basin. A JCB backhoe operator worked meticulously to remove compacted sediment, working from the perimeter inward to expose the original contours. After excavation, a manual sieving staff applied an 8-inch layer of finely sieved soil to establish a smooth foundation for the 250 GSM tarpaulin liner.

Two concentric PCC ring beams were subsequently constructed around the liner by skilled masons, while dry-stone wall specialists broke and shaped local stones to construct the embankments. Throughout these phases, Mr. Som Prasad Katel was responsible for the coordination of materials transport, the scheduling of schedules, and the assurance of quality control at every stage.

Community leadership and institutional support were the foundations of this endeavor. Nechasalyan Rural Municipality Chairman Dhanjan Rai and Vice-Chairman Bina Rai provided administrative support, conducted regular site inspections, and matched project funding. Mr. Ghanashyam Bastola of the Jhanjhare Setidevi Community Forest Users Committee successfully obtained forest-area permissions and fostered grassroots enthusiasm.

Ang Tenji Sherpa, the local coordinator, facilitated the arrangement of lodging, meals, and logistical support for all personnel, thereby nurturing a sense of camaraderie between volunteer workers and technicians.

The expertise and dedication of this diversified team of engineers, government officials, community leaders, and laborers were successfully combined to revive Chisapani's critical water source.

AN **APPRECIATION**

On behalf of The Partners Nepal, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to Professor Wolfgang Nairz of Nepal Hilfe-Tirol and Ambassador (Ret.) Scott H. DeLisi of Engage Nepal for their generous financial support, which facilitated the restoration of the Chisapani community pond. This initiative has been funded by you, which has contributed to the protection of water resources, the improvement of biodiversity, and the reinforcement of livelihoods in southern Solukhumbu.

Under the leadership of Chairman Mr. Dhanjan Rai, Vice-Chairman Ms. Bina Rai, Chief Administration Officer Mr. Tanka Ghimire, and Planning Officer Mr. Yuba Raj Pokharel, the Nechasalyan Rural Municipality matched our funding, provided invaluable guidance through regular site visits, and ensured that every decision reflected the community's priorities while upholding the highest standards.

Mr. Ghanashyam Bastola of the Jhajhare Setidevi Community Forest Users Committee spearheaded official approvals within the forest area and rallied grassroots support, facilitating the project's seamless progression.

Mr. Dev Kumar Paikra, a civil engineer, provided a meticulous oversight and a robust design on the technical side. Mr. Som Prasad Kattel deftly managed daily operations, personnel, and logistics in challenging field conditions.

We also commend the steadfast dedication of Bheem Raj Rai and Bhala Kaji Kulung, along with dedicated local community whose on-the-ground leadership and meticulous attention to detail ensured that the project remained on course despite all of its setbacks. Your collective commitment has not only restored a critical water source but also illustrated the transformative potential of partnerships in promoting sustainable development in the Himalayas.

THANK YOU

जिल्ला सोलुखुम्बू नेचासल्यान वडा नं. ३, पञ्चमी डाँडा स्थित "चिसापानी पोखरी" को पुन: निर्माण तथा पानी पुनर्भरण योजनाको लागि Nepal Hilfe-Tirol (Austria) र Engage Nepal (USA) बाट प्राप्त आर्थिक सहयोग तथा नेचासल्यान गाउँपालिकाको लागत साझेदारीमा **द पार्टनर्स नेपाल** द्वारा सञ्चालित योजनाको मिति २०८१/१०/०९ गते बुधबारका दिन गाउँपालिका अध्यक्ष श्री **धनजन राई ज्यू** र उपाध्यक्ष **श्री बिना राई ज्यू**बाट संयुक्त रुपमा शिलान्यास भई पोखरी पुनर्भरण कार्य सम्पन्न भएकोले अध्यक्ष **श्री धनजन राई ज्यू**बाट समुद्घाटन सु-सम्पन्न भयो ।

The Partners Nepal (TPN) and **Nechasalyan Rural Municipality** express their heartfelt gratitude to Prof. **Wolfgang Nairz,** Chairman of **Nepal Hilfe-Tirol** (Austria), and retired US Ambassador **Scott H. DeLisi,** Executive Director of Engage Nepal, for their invaluable assistance in restoring the historic Chisapani Community Pond to its former, natural condition.

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