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**Project Title: “A LIFE AMONGST THE STONES” - A project to uplift the living conditions of stonebreakers of Nepal**

Reporting organization	Apeiron
Starting date of the project	April 2012
Ending date of the project	March 2015
Reporting period	from 01/04/2014 to 30/09/2014

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**Context:**

“A life amongst the stones” project has being implemented in Thankre 3 Mahadevbesi Agarakhola Dhading from April 2012 as per the agreement between Social Welfare Council (SWC) and APEIRON, an Italian organization. The project aims to improve livelihood of highly marginalized women and children in stone quarry through empowerment, education, health services and income generation in Agarakhola Dhading. Pig farming, education support, health awareness and emergency health support are the main activities under the project. Youth Campaign for Social Progress (YOUCASP) Nepal, the co-implementing agency coordinates with different development stakeholders, and implement, monitor and supervise the project activities regularly.

Pig farming is a major activity for income generation under the project. The project has provided pig farming training and piglets to the working women. This time 17 working women have got this opportunity. Total 58 working family have already got piglets and/or goats. But 4 families migrated from the area; 5 families have sold the pigs for the health treatment; 1 family has owned buffalo and 1 family have reared goat instead of pigs. Most of the families have earned good money by selling pigs and other sources.

Total 27 workers have got emergency health support in this period. 29 workers have got special health check-up facility. Volunteer doctor Italy had checked-up the health of patients having chronic disease and serious health problem.

Total 76 children (30 children of the first, 13 of the second, 13 of the third and 20 of the fourth batch children) have been currently attending school regularly.

Out of 61, 3 children have dropped-out. Now there are 58 children in the class. Teachers/parents interaction programme also organized in this period. Additional educational materials and sports items were provided to the children. The fourth batch children were provided school dress including sweater, bag and stationary and the third batch children were provided stationary and sweater during this period.

## **Activities:**

### **1) Education support**

#### **1.1) School support**

In total 76 children are going to school regularly in this reporting period. Amongst the 82 children enrolled at the beginning of this third year, 6 children have dropped out

Batch no.	Girls	Boys	Total	Remarks
First (old children)	20	10	30	
Second (2012)	8	5	13	
Third (2013)	9	4	13	
Fourth (20 new children) - 2014	11	9	20	
<b>Total</b>			<b>76</b>	

The namelist of the children attending the school regularly is given in Annex-1

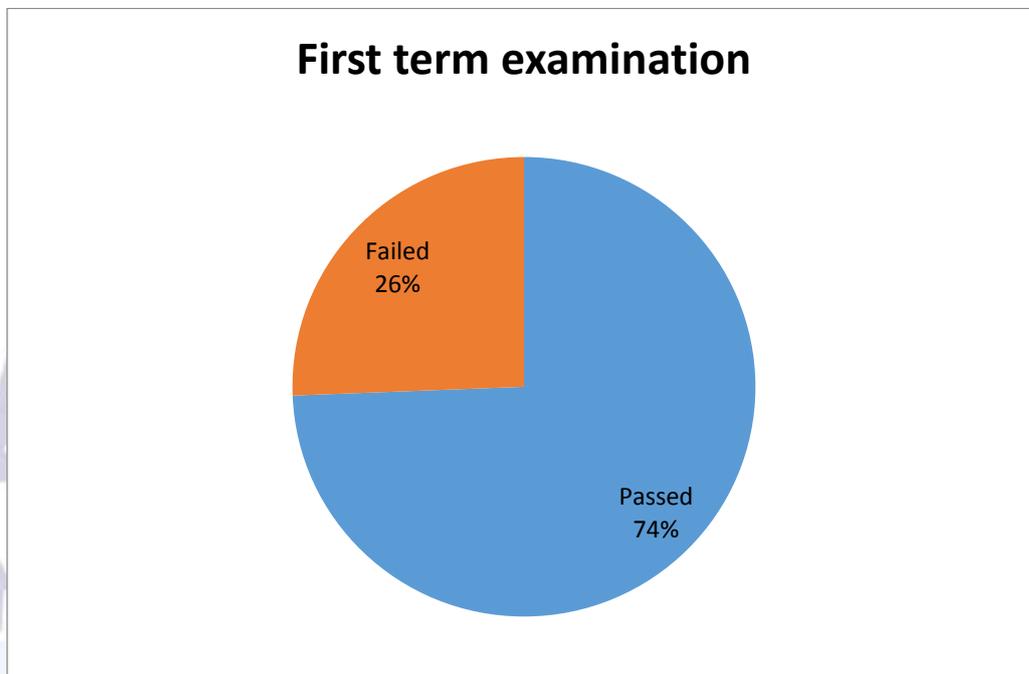
Amongst the 6, except Devendra Subedi, all children have migrated to different places from the river. Devendra Subedi is not interested to study further.

S.No.	Name	Class	Batch	Reason
1	Sushil pun Magar	One	Third	Migrated to Pokhara with his parents
2	Ranjan Thapa	Three	First	Back to their home place with their parents.
3	Rejina Thapa	Four	First	
4	Yashodha Singh	Seven	First	She was living with her grand mother in Mahadevbesi. Now her father took her to own village.

S.No.	Name	Class	Batch	Reason
5	Pramila Bista	Seven	First	Went to her maternal uncle's house. Her parents are still here.
6	Devendra Subedi	Eight	First	Not interested in study.

### Results of First Term Examination

The results of first term examination was published in this period. Amongst the 82 children, 61 children passed the examination whereas 21 failed in this term.



The results of the first term examination of 82 children (including the 6 who dropped out in second quarter) is attached in Annex-2

### ***1.2 Distribution of School dress, Stationary and Bags***

34 children (14 children of the 2nd batch + 20 children added later on) received the school dresses, stationary and bags during this period. The namelist of the 34 children is attached in Annex-3.

### ***1.3 Interaction program with teacher/parents***

An interaction programme was held on 2071/1/3 (16 April, 2014) to talk with the parents about the new admission of the children.

Another interaction programme between teachers and parents were held on 19 September, 2014 in Janajagriti Higher Secondary School, Mahadevbesi. In this program, parents were informed about the progress status of their children. Many children were found weak in Math, Science and English. Some children were reported as lazy pupils. Some were found poor in personal hygiene. Some children are neglected by their parents. Parents of the children, who are not neat and clean, say that they send their children in well dress but the children especially young children make it dirty on the way as they have to walk either in muddy or in dusty road. Parents of the children, who don't do homework or poor in study, say that being illiterate they can't teach them in the house. They fill the exercise book but we can't say what they wrote.

The interaction programme has made easier it to follow up on them. The project staffs visited the children and their parents door-to-door. They are requested to take necessary action for improvement. List of participants and the details of individual student has been given in annex 4.

#### ***1.4 Tuition class***

Tuition class has been running for class one to five from the beginning of the project. There were 61 children in tuition class in the beginning of this academic session. A boy of class one, a boy of class three and a girl of class four drop-out. Now, 58 children are in the tuition classes regularly.

#### ***1.5 Child friendly educational materials***

The project has provided child friendly educational materials e.g. chart, puzzles and sports item like skipping, volley balls, ludoes. Usually children play these things in the evening. Tuition teachers are there to facilitate them.

#### ***1.6 Life skill training***

Two days life skill training was organized on 6-7 September, 2014 in Mahadevbesi. The guardians of the new children participated in the training. Total 16 (male 2 and female

14) workers were participated in the training. Following topics were discussed in the training session.

1. Self awareness
2. Ability to cope with emotion
3. Ability to cope with tension
4. Effective communication
5. Empathy
6. Sympathy
7. Critical thinking
8. Creative thinking
9. Decision making
10. Problem solving

## **2. Income Generation Activity**

### **2.1 Pig farming training:**

17 beneficiaries who received the piglets in this year were provided with the pig farming training. The training was conducted on August 5-6, 2014. The training covered the following issues;

- Construction of cage;
- Feeding;
- Immunization;
- Internal and external parasites;
- Diseases and treatment of pig etc.

The namelist of the participants in the pig farming training can be found in Annex-5.

## ***2.2 Passing on the gift of pigs***

The project adopted a new strategy of “passing on the gift of pigs” from the beneficiaries this year. The 17 beneficiaries who received the piglets from the project will have to pass one offspring (after a year) to another needy person in the river. This strategy will enhance the ‘communal’ relationship between the people and the community will be self sustained. All 17 beneficiaries have agreed to the strategy.

## ***2.3 Support in cage making***

With a different strategy of regifting, this year the support for cage making was also doubled. This time all the beneficiaries received cement and GI-sheet as per their need to build pig cage while the old beneficiaries were made to contribute in these materials as well.

## ***2.4 Vaccination/medicine support***

Vaccination was done in 23rd and 27th September for the new 34 piglets which had been distributed to the new group. The pigs were vaccinated against Pneumonia, Foot to Mouth Disease and Scabies. They were also given the deworming medicines.

## **3. Saving program**

Saving in cooperative and/or group is not regular these days. Instead of saving in cooperative, they have lent money to other people @ 24% interest rate. The saving details is given in Annex-6.

## **4. Health support**

### ***4.1 Emergency health support***

Emergency health support is one of the major activities of the project. The beneficiaries receive health support in case of medical emergencies.

In the first quarter of the third year of the project, 30 workers received the service. In the second quarter, 27 workers received this service. The project has provided health support 4 times to Dil Maya Rai in this reporting. She has to visit Bir hospital every month.

Details of the emergency health support is given in Annex-7

On 15<sup>th</sup> September, a volunteer doctor from Italy also held a small health camp in the Agrakhola. He mainly targeted on the children and people who were having immediate health issues. Medicines were provided by Apeiron. Thulimaya Tamang was also provided with psycho-social counselling service by Apeiron's counsellor to deal with her abusive husband. Her husband was also counselled at the same time.

#### **4.1 Health awareness training**

One day Health awareness training was conducted two times on 27-29 May 2014 (2071/2/13-15) in coordination with Mahadevbesi Health Post, Thankre Dhading for all beneficiary households. Four different groups participated in the training. One shift training was conducted for each group. Total 141 workers were participated in the training. The participants have got knowledge about the following health issues. The list of participants of the health awareness training has been given below. The content of the training is as follows:

- ✓ Women health problem
- ✓ Uterus problem
- ✓ White water discharge problem
- ✓ Family health planning (copper T, Sangini injection)
- ✓ Diarrhea
- ✓ Skin disease
- ✓ Personal Hlth & hygiene
- ✓ Environmental sanitation
- ✓ Tuberculosis
- ✓ Eye disease

**Table 2: List of participants of the health awareness training**

May 27, 2014 (1st shift)	May 27, 2014 (2nd shift)	28-May-14	29-May-14
Participant's name	Participant's name	Participant's name	Participant's name
Ran Bahadur Subedi	Laxmi Pun Magar	Sita Adhikari	Sita Ghale
Kanchhi Maya Tamang	Man Maya Rai	Anita Pariyar	Rupa Khawas
Bir Bahadur Tamang	Gita Upreti	Kamala Pariyar	Saraswoti Blon
Bishmita Tamang	Maiya Basnt	Sita Thapa	Som Maya Tamang
Maya Magar	Shanti Negi	Beli Thapa Magar	Gita Basnet
Salan Magar	Lila Bista	Nirmala Rai	Ramesh Mijar
Kalpana Tamang	Muna Gurung	Thakur Tamang	Kamala Shrestha
Salina Magar	Sita Shrestha	Subhadra Thapa	Janak Lama
Devi Maya Rai	Devaki Rai	Kumari Tamang	Manju Sunar
Yam Kumari Gurung	Sita Magar	Rupa Khawas	Bhawana Magar
Laxmi Pakhrin	Suraj Magar	Mangal Bahadur Tamang	Shova Mijar
Dil Maya Rai	Muna Khadka	Binda Mijar	Sanjaya Gurung
Suntali Tamang	Ram Kumari Rai	Anita Tamang	Nanda Kumari Subedi
Shanti Negi	Sushmita Rai	Sumitra Magar	Ravi Subedi
Lali Maya Negi	Lal Maya Mijar	Bimala Magar	Devendra Subedi
Sumitra Tamang	Buddha Maya Mijar	Nirmala Magar	Devaki Rai
Sunita Bidari	Pampha Rai	Devchandra Blon	Ghyani Maya Ale
Urmila Rai	Champha Rai	Laxmi Mijar	Saili Maya Tamang
Bishnu Kuwar	Subba Rai	Sun Maya Moktan	Sabina Rai
Mana Maya Dahal	Chitra Kumari Mijar	Shanta Thapa	Bindu Tamang
Thuli Maya Tamang	Gita Mijar	Jhalak Maya Ale	Saila Tamang

May 27, 2014 (1st shift)	May 27, 2014 (2nd shift)	28-May-14	29-May-14
Hira Kumari Tamang	Saroj Mijar	Muna Dahal	Asmita Tamang
Prem Kumari Magar	Karma Singh Tamang	Shrijana Pariyar	Shrijana Tamang
Kaili Maya Tamang	Phul Maya Tamang	Sumnita Bidari	Sushmita Bidari
Rekha Pariyar	Phul Maya Magar	Shanta Rai	
Anita Pariyar	Bimala Mijar	Kaushila Rai	
Abina Rai		Laxmi Rai	
Anjita Tamang		Jasmaya Rai	
Raj Kumar Mahato		Binda Rai	
Mamata Mahato		Ganga Rai	
Ram Kumar Mahato	Kanchhi Maya Tamang	Jasmaya Rai	
Dipendra Rai	Jimba Tamang	Thuli Maya Tamang	
Janak Lama	Dil Bahadur Rai	Gita Basnet	
Sita Tamang	Dil Bahadur Gurung	Devi Shrestha	
Basundhara Upreti	Hari Bidari	Sunita Pariyar	
Shanta Thapa	Bimala Rai	Maiya Shahi	
Sita Ghal	Sunita Subedi	Radhika Tamang	
Laxmi Raj Joshi	Samjhana Tamang		
	Manju Pariyar		
	Saravi Tamang		
	Sarmila Rai		
	Kumari Rai		