

united world schools

Impact Report UWS X Dubai College

DECEMBER 2022



### **UWS Jaisithok School**

Towards the end of August, UWS Jaisithok School returned to teaching after the Monsoon Vacation which ran from the end of June. UWS Schools across Nepal closed throughout October for the students and community to celebrate the festivals of Dashain and Tihar.

Many exciting and innovative initiatives have been taking place this past term. As part of the UWS Dropout Prevention Programme, Girls' Clubs have been formed at 44 schools across Nepal. We have established these clubs to support girls on relevant issues and also to serve as support mechanisms for the girls at-risk of early school dropout. The clubs aim to increase girls' resilience, as well as awareness and knowledge of how to exercise their rights.



84 students (37 girls) currently enrolled.

In the Girls' Clubs, sessions will cover a number of topics including, menstrual hygiene management, gender equality and leadership. One of the first sessions to be held with both Girls' Clubs and the Mothers' Groups at each school, was a pad-making training, teaching girls and their mothers how to make reusable sanitary pads at home, more information on this can be found later in the report.

We also recently published the second edition of Indreni, our student magazine in Nepal. Indreni, which translates as Rainbow, features drawings, poems, short stories and articles from UWS students across Nepal. The magazine is a platform for students to develop their talents and celebrate each others creativity.

Although the Monsoon Vacation ended in August, the monsoon season in Nepal has extended well into September. The impacts of this prolonged period of heavy rain has made the journey to school difficult for a number of our students, as the mountainous terrain becomes slippery, the risk of landslide increases, and rivers run high.

Lastly, we are pleased to share that good progress has been made to secure the transition of 10 UWS Nepal Schools into community and government ownership by the end of 2022. In July, 4 UWS schools successfully transitioned and arrangements are in place to transition 6 more schools this year. Transition is a critical part of ensuring the sustainability of our model, reducing dependency on international aid, while securing the future of each UWS school to serve its community for generations to come,





### **UWS Jaisithok Pictures**



Students smiling in class!



Students meditating with their teacher



Kindergarten students in class with their teacher

## Dashain Festival at UWS Of schools Jaisithok School









## Our Global Schools



Cambodia: UWS schools in Cambodia have entered into the final term before the academic vear end at the end of November. Alonaside the curriculum, a number of initiatives have taken place. As part of our Dropout Prevention Programme, we delivered catch-up evening classes in 89 participating schools to provide students with low attendance access to supplementary education opportunities, allowing them to catch up on learning and prevent their falling behind at school. We are also pleased to share that 20 UWS schools in Cambodia will transition at the end of the academic year in December 2022 due to our confidence in the capacity of the community bodies and school staff to effectively govern and sustain the schools after UWS exits.

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**Madagascar:** As children around the world went back to school this term, thousands of children across Madagascar started school for the very first time! We're delighted that our 5 new schools have been inaugurated and opened. In preparation of schools opening, throughout August, UWS teachers received pre-service teaching training in line with inclusive and child-centred teaching methodologies. The training included active learning, creating a positive learning environment, positive behaviour management, child protection and lesson planning. We are also pleased to share that the preparation and construction work for the next 5 UWS schools in Madagascar has already begun.





Myanmar: In June 2022, after two long years of distance learning, our schools reopened for the new academic year. Our students were delighted to be back inside their classrooms. Over 4,100 students are currently enrolled in a UWS school in Myanmar - there are more students enrolled today, then there were back in February 2020, prior to Covid-19. We are incredibly encouraged by these numbers, especially when, nationwide, the political situation has exacerbated levels of poverty and access to education, particularly for the most vulnerable. The thousands of children who continue to learn and be supported by UWS staff, is testimony to the strength and excellent work of the UWS Myanmar Team and Community Teachers across the country.



I am very happy to join the STEAM Club because I am learning new things everyday. I think I would be very sad if I didn't get the chance to go to school. **Asha, Age 9, Nepal** 



## Meet Asha

Asha\* is one of the brightest students at UWS Hedangnagadhi School. She loves attending her school's STEAM Club and dreams of becoming a doctor to provide quality health care in her rural community.

Nine-year-old Asha lives in Hedangnagadhi community, Nepal, with her parents, an elder sister and younger brother. The community is very remote, situated in the Himalayas where the majority of people in the community belong to the Rai ethno-linguistic group. Her father is a construction labourer and her mother works in the home. Both parents were determined that their children should receive a good education, and so Asha and her siblings had all been enrolled in boarding school. Unfortunately, all three siblings were forced to dropout of school because the family couldn't afford to continue paying the fees.





"Sometimes we didn't even have the money to buy stationery for the children, there was no way we could afford the expensive fees", shares Asha's mother.

Asha and her siblings became three of the millions of children who dropout of school before completing primary school. In fact, one-third of the world's 59 million out-of-school primary-aged children have previously attended school and dropped out (<u>UIS, 2019</u>). Poverty, gender, discrimination and location (especially rurality) are some of the most common factors linked to school dropout.

However, Asha's parents were determined that their children continued their studies, and so, they began looking for an alternative. UWS Hedangnagadhi School offered Asha's family a solution. According to her parents, it was Asha who insisted on going to the school, where all siblings currently attend.

"After knowing that UWS has been providing quality education similar to that of the boarding school, and supported families from a poor economic background, we decided to enrol our children", says Asha's mother.



Asha loves going to school, learning new things and playing with friends. Her favourite subject is Nepali and she loves reading stories and essays.

She is also involved in the recently introduced STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths) Club at her school. The club is an initiative to create a learning space that gives children the opportunity to connect ideas with practice.

"I am very happy to join the STEAM Club because I am learning new things everyday", says Asha.

When she is not at school, Asha loves to dance, play with her siblings and read. She also helps her parents around the house, cleaning and doing the dishes.

"My mother works a lot at home, so I try to help her as much as I can during my free time", says Asha.

Asha is thankful to UWS Nepal for establishing UWS Hedangnagadhi School near to her house and according to her teachers she is doing well in her studies.

"I think I would be very sad if I didn't get the chance to go to school and study. Seeing the other children, including my friends going to school would further make me sad", shares Asha.

Asha's parents are very proud of her and are pleased that she is enjoying her school life and studying hard. In the future, Asha dreams of becoming a doctor and providing health facilities to the people in her remote community.

Together, we give girls like Asha the tools and opportunities to build a brighter future for themselves and their families.









### What else is happening?

#### **Annual Report:**

This month, we're excited to announce the release of our 2021/2022 annual report! With the help of our wonderful supporters, we've achieved a lot over the past year. Thank you!

Against the backdrop of a wide range of challenges, including climate, political instability and the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the global United World Schools team have continued to fight for children's right to education in the world's most remote and marginalised communities.

Learn more about our impact and see what we've been up to, by clicking the link below.

#### Click here to read our annual report

#### **Pad Making Sessions:**

Our Girls' Clubs in Nepal recently held pad-making training sessions, teaching girls and their mothers how to make reusable sanitary pads at home.

At the clubs, girls learnt about the reproductive system, periods, and puberty. The sessions also aimed to empower girls to challenge the social norms and stigma associated with menstruation and support them to know and exercise their rights, including their right to education.

Girls' Clubs in Cambodia will hold these sessions over the next few months. Girls' Clubs have been established at 127 UWS schools across Cambodia and Nepal, as part of our Dropout Prevention Programme in partnership with Educate A Child, a global programme of the Education Above All Foundation.

#### Click here to read about UWS Girls' Clubs.

#### **Run 4 Education:**

### We'd like to say a big thank you to all students who took part in the first ever Run4Education on 7th October.

Run4Education was the first united CAS-Activity for all 11th grade students from Berlin International School, Berlin Metropolitan School, Berlin Cosmopolitan School, Berlin-Brandenburg International School, and Berlin British School.

Initiated and led by a young pioneer- team with the support of Concultures Germany, the students had 45 minutes to run as many laps as possible of the former airfield HANGAR1 of Berlin Tempelhof. Around 250 students ran together in support of equality and education for all.









## UWS in Numbers

### 49,362 CHILDREN

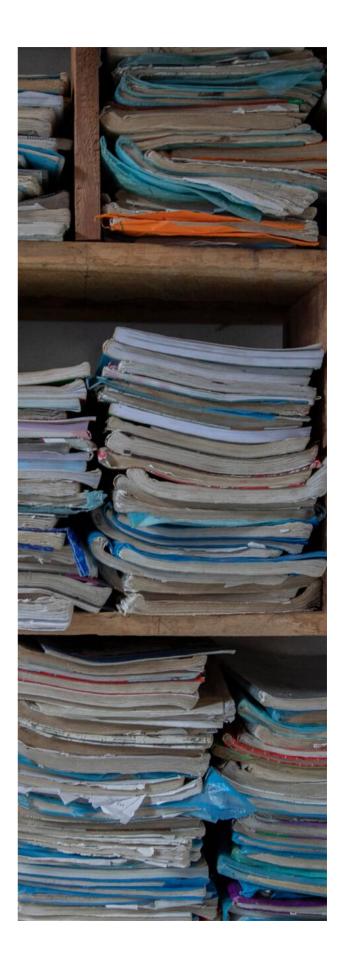
have enrolled into a UWS School since 2009

# **1,400** TEACHERS

Community and Government teachers are employed across UWS Schools



have been developed in remote communities across Cambodia, Madagascar, Myanmar and Nepal



## Thank you for your ongoing support of our programmes

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United World Schools Unit 138 China Works, Black Prince Road, Lambeth, SE1 7SJ Registered UK Charity: 1187721 www.unitedworldschools.org Info@unitedworldschools.org



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Level 1 Certification 2021