

Program Name: Welcome to my yard stepping stones tailoring project

Name of the Donor Agency: SAVE UK/BWT

Delivery dates: 2017-2020

Objective of the project:

- Increased knowledge of basic tailoring concepts and skills.
- Increased knowledge of advanced tailoring concepts and skills in advance pattern design and more commercial clothing designs.
- Learn skills that can be implemented as cost saving measures at home (such as being able to make and mend their own clothes)
- Provide pathways onwards to future jobs, at home ventures or skills that will support their independence
- To provide individual and group services that promote wellbeing's, resilience and practical knowledge.
- To provide work experience and saving schemes through social enterprise.
- Provide practical work experience.
- Career and life advice for young person through work experience programme.

Project Background:

Welcome to My Yard has been running this vocational tailoring training from past 2018 to present with SAVE UK. There has been a huge impact on communities as well as in personal livelihood sector of each individuals who were participated in this program. During this three years partnership with SAVE UK, WTMY was able to run an effective tailoring program which include Basic, Advance and special tailoring courses. The project intervention will cover specific areas of province 3 in Nepal in Kathmandu & Bhaktapur such as Tilganga, Baneshwor, Kapan, Pashupati areas, Shifal, Boudha and Manohara.

Addressing the major Problem:

Sustained and systemic neglect, abuse and trauma means many children and young people (CYP) in Kathmandu are forced into street-life or are at risk from severe poverty. A range of complex and intersecting inequities including poverty, family violence & rejection, poor education, political instability and humanitarian disasters all contribute. Compounding this, street-life brings with it an increased risk of further exploitation through human trafficking, sexual abuse and child labor. Lifelong inequality consigns these communities to an intergenerational cycle of disadvantage. Despite their resilience and without support, individuals can feel trapped and powerless to overcome these barriers and take control of their future. There is no magic bullet - the issues faced by these communities require equally complex approaches to overcome them. Our activity will deliver a holistic and person-centered approach that promotes sustainable education, health and practical skills that are critical to improving livelihoods and lifting living standards.

Compounding this, street life marginalizes and creates further inequity for these individuals, exposing them to greater risk of exploitation, including:

- **Increased vulnerability** to violence, human trafficking such as child labour, domestic servitude, sexual and physical abuse, organ trafficking, beating and torture by authorities. It is estimated 75% of street boys in Kathmandu are victims of sexual abuse at the hands of foreigners, locals and their peers.

- **Bullying and exploitation** from gangs and their peers. Introduction to substance abuse and pressure to partake in criminal activities to survive.
- **Lack of opportunity** to access education as a result of homelessness and lack of resources.
- **Lack of access to healthcare** leading to poor and chronic health conditions. Young people are also more vulnerable to HIV infection and unsafe sexual relationships.

Our primary beneficiaries:

Children, young people & families aged 15-25 years' old who are primary, secondary & tertiary homeless or at risk of homelessness and their families. Priority is given to meet needs of members in Welcome to my yard's surrounding communities, next priority is given to anyone in the Kathmandu Valley.

Our definitions of homelessness

- Primary homelessness (those who sleep rough)
- Secondary homelessness (street working, those who move around from shelter to shelter)
- Tertiary homelessness (those with inadequate accommodation and living standards which include many intergenerational street families)
- Those who are at risk of becoming Homeless/ Street based

Our **Stepping Stones program** is a holistic intervention program combining individual psychosocial supports, tailored education courses, material aid and vocational training for street connected and at-risk youth in Kathmandu. This activity provides the time and support required to empower young people to develop the confidence, knowledge and tools for a safe and brighter future by **Increasing physical and psychological safety**, building educational knowledge, social skills and positive experiences by offering decision making and leadership, small achievable change, & by offering practical education and life skill courses, vocational training, work experience, saving schemes. The main beneficiaries were from Kathmandu location. The Participants who were enrolled in this program were age from 15 to 26 years. And they are from street connected and vulnerable females from the communities of the Kathmandu valley, Nepal

Project Impact:

The duration of each training course was 36 days. 2 hours per session in a day. During this 3 years duration, we were able to complete 3 basic training, four advance training and two special tailoring courses. In each course, there were 10 participants. Till now, 90 Participants were enrolled and out of 90, total 70 participants have been graduated from the training and still 20 females are yet to graduate from the training. The average age of the participants who were enrolled in the training was 22.8 years old. The participants who were enrolled in the training were able to gain tailoring and stitching skills. Which is directly helpful for them to engage in some garments, working at tailor or to start small tailoring business by their own. Out of 70 graduated participants, 28 participants are working from their home and they are taking the garment orders from the neighborhood and also from garment factory and Four participants have started their own tailoring business in their own locality and even one of the participant have started her own small tailoring business in her village.

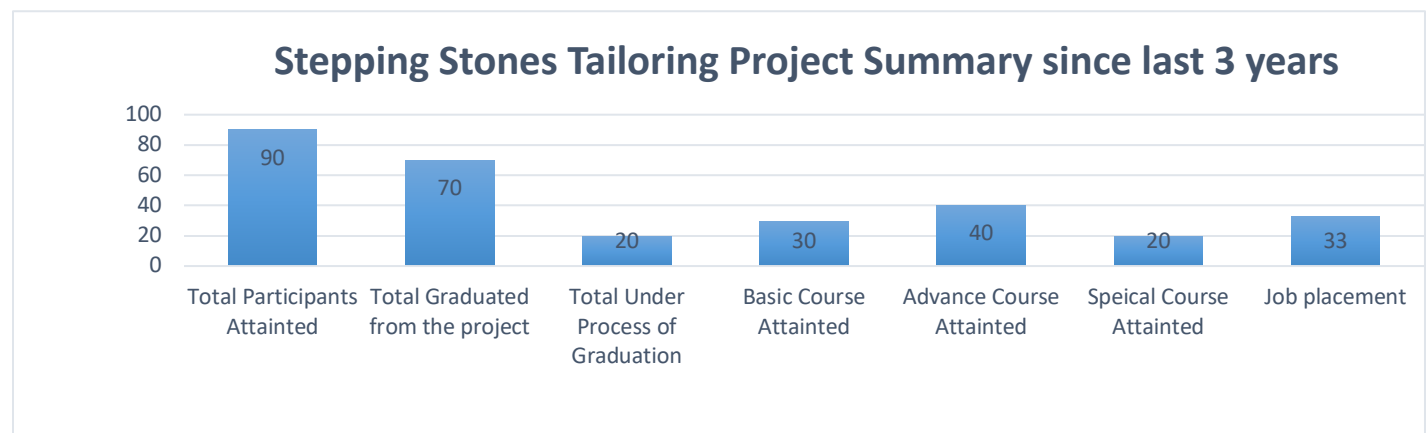
Since, our participants were from street connected and from the vulnerable communities their education on numeracy and literacy skill were very low. WTMY give them training course on bite-size education class. After learning numeracy and literacy skills participants were able to do work on numeric and learn how to measure the cloth and count the money and how to save the money. The class was very helpful

to enhance their numeracy and literacy skills along with the practical life skills that were helpful to them to improve their personal and professional life skills.

Project Impact Details:

Direct impact from project						
Target Group	Basic course completed	Advance course completed	Advance course completed	Total Graduated	Under graduation process	Total Participants
Vulnerable females from the street connected and communities.	30	40	20	70	20	90

Output in bar chart in last 3 years.



Indirect impact were among the neighborhood from their locality where the participants belong to. Participant's client were able to get their business in cheaper price (beside the retail price from the market) with good quality in short time period of time.

In addition, after the training, other important impact are as below

- Self-awareness
- A good bonding relationship between family members and with the community people.
- Increase self-confidence.
- Improving communication skills.
- Better community involvement.
- Improved emotional wellbeing.
- Gain detail knowledge on saving scheme.
- Confidence build up within themselves to create pathway for their future income.
- Participants were also empowered to express themselves in a safe and positive way.
- Gained problem solving skills through the case works support during the training session.
- They also enhanced their positive parenting skills through the Mothers and Babies group program too.

Success stories.

(Note: names changed due to our policy)

1. Success story of Sapana Khadka:

Sapana (Name changed) aged of 26 years old is one of the sixth child of her parents born in Kanchanpur district which is one of the rural area of Nepal. Her family started following Christian religion believing that they would not get suffered from more diseases in their life by following Christianity. Despite her family's harsh economic situation, she was able to complete SLC examination from one of the local government school. But her dream to continue higher education was not fulfilled because of poverty. Instead, she got married with the guy of her own district. And then she came to Sinamangal, Kathmandu with her husband in search of job. Her husband then started to work in a school as a grade teacher. After a year, she also got the job at the same school where her husband used to teach. But unfortunately, they had to leave the job because the post in which they were employed was no more needed for the school.

After leaving the job, she became a housewife and her husband went to Nuwakot district in search of job where he started to work in the field of the land owner as a labour in low wages. The money earned by her husband is not quite enough to run a family as she lives at a rent with her 3 years old daughter. So, she wants to support her husband financially and she got engaged with Welcome to My Yard in the tailoring course.

During the training she was also involved in different educational and social work program which helped her to increase self-confidence and leadership skill. After completing the tailoring course, she started to do work in one of the tailor at Sinamangal and started to earn 3 to 4 thousand per month. But because of her small daughter, she couldn't continue her job as she there were no one to take care of her. Then she bought sewing machine from her saving got from WTMY (Welcome to my Yard) and she started to work from her own house by taking order from community people as well as from the garment. Before she could earn the money, she used to feel uncomfortable to ask money with her husband. But now, she is very happy to become successful to manage her house hold and personal expenses from her own tailoring work. Currently, she is staying in her own village with her family and has opened small tailoring business from there.

She is very thankful to WTMY, for providing her training opportunity which has helped her to be independent. She thinks after joining the course, her confidence level has been increased and she has become an independent woman. Along with learning tailoring course, she also learned importance of team work, importance of friendship and sharing etc. Now she is planning to open the tailor with her friend adding some machines. She is also wishing to do special training course of tailoring in future.

2. Success story of Sarita Sunwar:

Sita, of aged, 24 years, was born in Nuwakot district of Nepal. She was the eldest daughter of her parents. Because of poverty, her dream of becoming doctor and serving poor people was remained unfulfilled as she couldn't continue her education after completing grade eight. During her childhood days, she faced lots of the problem as she never got support from her family. Once she used to have bad habit of smoking and taking alcohol. Hoping for better life, her family shifted in one of the rural place of Dhading from Nuwakot where she had to work as a farmer.

At the age of 14, she got married. But her husband didn't used to take care of her rather he used to beat her almost every day without any reason. He used take drugs and other substances and even didn't get proper care during her pregnancy from her husband. By getting extreme torture from her husband, she left him and got married with another man of aged 45 wishing to have better life. But unfortunately the man was also like her first husband who used to drink alcohol and beat her a lot. He had 2 daughters from her first wife but didn't use to take care of them. Instead he was in relation with another women of her community. So she was completely disappointed from her life and became mentally disturbed.

She wanted to be self-employed so that she could make her daughter's life better. But she was not able to find appropriate job for her. She started to work in a garment in low salary. One day she got information from the outreach worker from WTMY about the tailoring training and became interested in the tailoring training. She got involve in the training at WTMY and successfully completed the tailoring course. She has now became more confident to make her life better becoming self-dependent. With WTMY saving, she has bought a sewing machine and currently she is working from home. Taking the orders from the people and from the garments as well. She is very happy to get enrolled into the training. During the training, she also got involved into one and one emotional support which helped her to overcome her mental stress that she was going through.

Quotation

"The tailoring course was very effective for me. During the training, I got chance to enhance tailoring skills as well as increase my confidence level. I am very thankful to WTMY for giving me chance to enroll into the training". - Muna Gurung

"Before starting the training course, I didn't get any special skill to earn for living and I use to get shy to speak with people. But after completion of the training. I have become more confident and have become able to support my family economically through the tailoring skills. While enrolling in the training, I got chance to improve my communication skills well. Now a days I am doing work from home taking the order from garment. In future I am planning to open my own tailor. Thank you WTMY for providing me such opportunities".-Sita Sunwar

"Involving in the tailoring training has helped me to grow my skills and build confidence level to be independent women. It has also given me opportunities for engaging in education classes, take lead of community leader through young people's panel (YP) and other different".- Mandira Rai

Some Good Picture to remember:



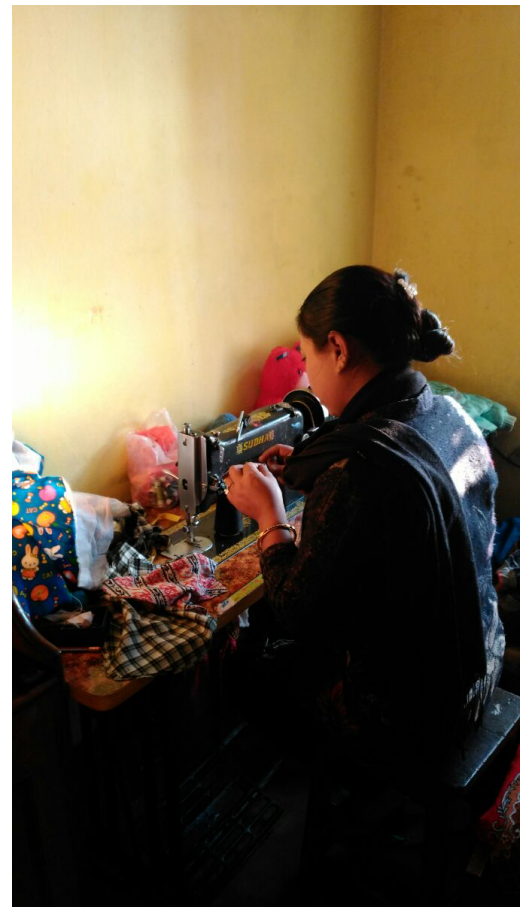
Pic no 1. Participating in advanced tailoring concepts and skills.



Pic no 2. Practicing for commercial clothing design.



Pic No. 3 Working from home.



Pic No. 4 Working from home.



Pic No. 5 Working from home.