



PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Partner Information	
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Project Information	
Program Area:	Education
Project Title:	School Meal Programme (SMP) in a Mitra Sikshya Secondary School - a Government School
Project Start date:	May 15, 2017
Project Completion date:	April 30 th 2018
Brief Description of Project and Proposed Activities	
<p>Tripartite Agreement between Rangjung Yeshe Shenpen, the government school, Mitra Sikshya Secondary School (Tusal, Boudhanath), and the daily meal provider.</p> <p>This project arose when we were visiting a government school in Boudhanath - Chabahil. The students frequenting this school are from very poor families, mostly construction workers and other low workers children. In some cases, parents send the children just because they can go to work while the child is at school. Many families do not have enough money to adequately feed their children twice a day and for them, sending <i>tiffin</i> (snacks) at school is impossible. This means that these children have, most of the time, empty stomach while being in class. If we provide food to these disadvantaged children it can be a source of motivation to go to school as well as a powerful tool to better educate them.</p> <p>The principle and the teachers identified poverty of some families, and by extension the lack of snack by some students as a major barrier to their learning process. The principle as well as the teachers seem committed to their students and aren't afraid of taking more responsibilities if it could help students getting help.</p> <p>At the beginning, the school team has identified 57 needy students on a total of 175 admitted students (Option 1).</p> <p>During a subsequent visit, the school team proposed us to include in our Daily School Meal</p>	

Program the 15 children attending the kindergarten in its school (Option 2). Including them in the program would increase the number of beneficiaries to 72 students.

The project consists in distributing a daily meal to these 57 disadvantaged students (Option 2: 72). Every school day, the meal provider will offer them a nutritious meal (*see Annex B - School Meals Possibilities*).

Shenpen will pay for the meal that will have been eaten only. This means that we won't pay for the day that the school is closed due, as example, strikes (bandh).

On Mitra Sykshya Secondary School

We visited several governmental schools around Boudhanath and we found that **Mitra Sykshya Secondary School** was much more in need than others. The school offers classes from Nursery to Grade 8 and welcomes 175 students. The reasonable size of the school which is much smaller than others, can fit our budget if we select the most needy child.

Moreover, we found that the children were poorer in that school in comparison to others.

Finally, the teachers are mobilized and willing to help their children suffering from hunger, which wasn't the case in the other visited schools. Teachers wish to help their students being more concentrated in class as they say that the hungry students seem 'lazy and sleepy in class'. They wish to offer them better and are willing to get involved in the project.

Cost

Option 1: 57 students (from June 2017 to April 2018) = Nrs 360,000

Option 2: + 15 kindergarten children = Nrs 350,000 + Nrs 48,000

Monitoring

1. Ticket system

Shenpen will give every two weeks the amount of ticket corresponding to the amount of school meals that will be distribute in the fortnight. Shenpen will recuperate the used tickets and will be able to count how many meals will have been distributed.

2. Daily fingerprint/signature

Every day, every child will have to sign a register at the meal provider's restaurant in order to get their meal. Shenpen will get a copy of the register. By double crossing the ticket and the fingerprint, we should have a more accurate knowledge of the amount of meals that will have been distributed.

The school will be asked to provide us the list of children having missed school during the month as well. This list will be another mean to make sure that the numbers of charged meals is accurate.

3. Unplanned/Unannounced monitoring visits

Twice a month, an unplanned or unannounced monitoring will be organized.

Rationale

1. Contributing to Zero Hunger

- **Energy, nutrient and micronutrient intake** were significantly higher among children participating in a SMP in Ghana. Anemia prevalence can be **10% lower** (Abizari et al., 2014).
- Has significant positive impacts on the **height, weight and health** of Indian children participating in SMP, (Singh et al 2014).

2. Contributing to Education

- **School meals facilitate access to school, increase enrolment and attendance rates and improve the nutritional status, health and cognitive development of children** (WFP, 2017).
- Meta-analysis in 52 low- and middle-income countries (3IE, 2016) found that SMP are one of the few education interventions that show **positive impact in both school participation and learning** (scores on cognitive, language and mathematics tests).
- Meta-analysis of SMP around the world revealed that children receiving a school meal during the entire school year **attend school 4-7 days more** than children who do not receive school meals (Kristjansson et al. 2016 in WFP, 2017).
- Children from vulnerable families are often pulled out of school when more work is needed at home. A daily school meal is a strong incentive for families to consistently send their children to school (WFP, 2015).

3. Contributing to Gender Equality

- **Girls struggle more than boys for access to education; 1/10 girls in the world is out of school**, while with boys = 1/12 (UNESCO, 2015).
- **Women and girls are also more exposed to hunger and malnutrition** than boys; **they represent 60% of all undernourished people in the world** (FAO, 2010).
- When **adolescent girls are out of school**, they are **more vulnerable to forced marriage, early pregnancy, violence** and even **human trafficking**.
- Higher levels of education correlate with **lower levels of child mortality** (Gakidou and al. 2010).
- Strong correlation between higher levels of education and a **reduction in child marriages**. Over 60% of child brides in developing countries have no formal education (UNESCO 2014 in WFP, 2017).
- "For girls, a single year of secondary education equates to a 25% increase in wages later in life" (WFP, 2016).

4. Helping to reduce poverty – Contributing to the Economy and Helping to reduce inequality

- **Contribute to wider processes such as the reduction of poverty and inequality and**

economic growth.

- Economic modelling by WFP shows that **every US\$1 invested in SMP brings a US\$3-10 economic return** from improved health, education and productivity (WFP, 2013b).
- **SMP can also create employment opportunities** and improve the livelihoods of the communities near the schools, especially when the food for the school meals is sourced or cooked locally (WFP, 2017).

References: FAO, 2010; WFP, 2017; WFP, 2016; WFP, 2015

Beneficiaries
 (include number of beneficiaries, type of beneficiary, and names of beneficiaries if scholarships are awarded)

1. 57 direct beneficiaries - 57 students from poor and disadvantaged families (see in *Annex B - list of the 57 beneficiaries*)*
 - a. Help them to get concentrate during school
 - b. Retain in school students at risk to drop out (to better understand the impacts of daily school meals programmes, please see *Annex C - Why Rangjung Yeshe Shenpen should invests in school meals*)
2. Families will have financial relief has they won't have to provide school daily meal to their child
3. School's community - by helping poor children and making their learning process easier
4. Community member - as the fund will be invested into the local community

* Option 2, which include 15 kindergarten students, would benefit 72 students.

Finances	
Total Amount Needed (in Nrs)	Option 1: +- 360,000 Option 2: +- 408,000
Exact name to write check to	to the School meal provider - once a month
Proposed Sponsor	Remaining funds from CHANCE for Nepal (UK) from the tiffin program in Dhola: NRs 180,000 To be funded: Option 1: NRs 180,000 Option 2: NRs 228,000
Submitted by	
Program Area Head Name	Claudia Roth
Completed by (if different from PAH)	Anamika Aryal and Mélanie Létourneau
Date:	May 15, 2017

Additional information:

With the participation of the school, we will monitor the project in order to measure its impacts as much as possible. For example, the school will be asked to count the number of school days the students attempt and we will compare with their previous numbers.

Interviews will be organized with beneficiaries, their parents, the school teachers, and the meal provider.

If we were to feed the entire school, this program would more or less cost 1,046,500 Nrs (more or less \$10,000)

Annex A - School meals possibilities

Sunday: Seel roti and Tarkari

Monday: Beaten rice and curry

Tuesday: Chapati and curry

Wednesday: Chowmein

Thursday: Channa and Egg

Friday: Rice Pudding with fresh fruit