

SNS Earthquake Relief Fund – Support of “SUK-Project Marmat”

Following the General Assembly in Basel on 13 June 2015, the SNS board has decided to donate SFr. 10'000 of the SNS Earthquake Relief Fund for repairing two school buildings in the frame of the “SUK-Project Marmat” (marmat meaning “repair”).

Who is behind the “SUK-Project Marmat”?

“SUK-Project Marmat” is carried out by SUK (Sindhu Utthan Kendra), a Nepalese self-governed, non-profit, non-political and non-governmental organization (www.suknepal.org). SUK was founded by SNS-member and project manager of “EduCore Swiss-Nepal” Peter Christian Langendorf and a group of Nepalese youth in 2011.

SUK is active in the Sindhupalchowk district and is dedicated to social work such as helping children from poor families to attend school. SUK is the partner organization of the Swiss NGO “EduCore Swiss-Nepal”. The donations from the SNS Earthquake Relief Fund will be transferred to “EduCore Swiss-Nepal” that guarantees the proper use of funds.

What are the problems and challenges?

The Sindhupalchowk district was severely affected by the big earthquake. The majority of school buildings are no more in a usable condition. It takes a lot of funds and time for the complete reconstruction of the damaged educational infrastructure. Meanwhile closing the schools until new buildings are built disturbs the entire academic year and harms the education of local students. Thus there is an urgent need for repairing usable buildings and making them safer.

What is the aim of the project?

The “SUK-Project Marmat” repairs and maintains usable school buildings so that classes can resume at the soonest. The buildings will be repaired and maintained according to the suggestions of experienced engineers to make them safer and stronger. Classes will be conducted in different shifts until the demolished buildings are rebuilt. Also, educational materials will be distributed to the school children. Psychological counseling is given to the students to manage the disaster stress and help them engage in school activities without fear.

Budget and Funding

Donations from the SNS Earthquake Relief Fund will be used for the reparation of two public schools, the Rajeshwori Higher Secondary School and the Sri Chandeshwori Higher Secondary School. SUK helps socially disadvantaged children to attend these two schools. Altogether, 1400 students will benefit from the project.

The cost estimation for construction material, transportation, and labor wages is as follows:

- Rajeshwori Higher Secondary School: NPR 890'000
- Sri Chandeshwori Higher Secondary School: NPR 780'000

Thus, SUK needs in total NPR 1'670'000 (ca SFr. 15'550) to repair the two school buildings. The SNS Earthquake Relief Fund contributes SFr. 10'000 to this project.

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Markus Ruckstuhl, President SNS

Demolished school buildings in the Sindhupalchowk district:

