

CQN 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



President's Report

Spring 2022 is here already! It's a pleasure to bring you up to date on what's been happening with CQN this past year.

I would like to begin with the two NGOs that we work with in Nepal. The first, SPSWO, is in the process of reorganizing itself. They will soon hold their AGM, which will probably result in a change in its board members, with younger people playing a bigger role in running the NGO.

The second NGO, GRACE Nepal, works in a more remote region of Kavre district. Its members, all in their early thirties, are very motivated to get more involved in helping their communities. Each member has agreed to personally finance the studies of a disadvantaged student. In the past year, CQN and GRACE Nepal carried out an agriculture project that will have a sequel in the coming year. We are also finishing a potable water project and are in the



A manual chaff cutter improves the productivity of a herd

process of developing a school project. I am very much looking forward to meeting them next time I go to Nepal.

I am always impressed when I cross paths with Nepalis living in Nepal or elsewhere in the world who want to help in one way or another. None of them



Agricultural Livelihood Enhancement Project participant

are experts in project development, but all of them know that there is a great deal to be done. And often, a little bit of help can go a long way!

Important elections will be held in Nepal in May, at the local or municipal level, and municipal group level. Municipality heads are people with whom we must work to plan and carry out projects. Sometimes CQN and the municipalities jointly finance

a project, at other times we don't, but working together is always a winning formula. The elected officials are on-site and can follow up on projects on a daily basis, if need be. It therefore doesn't matter who wins the elections - we will contact them as soon as possible and work with their team to make sure the projects are carried out properly.

CQN has also started holding in-person meetings again, and it's much better this way. However, attending meetings virtually remains a viable option for those who cannot attend in person. A big *Thank you* to all of CQN's board members and to all our donors, thanks to whom we can continue our work in Nepal. CQN's board has decided to continue working in Kavre district, concentrating on doing projects in the most disadvantaged villages. Since it is essential to do on-site follow-ups, it's best to avoid spreading ourselves out too thinly. We are better off focussing our efforts within a smaller area of Nepal.

Have a great summer! ✨



*Michèle Legault
President*

Project Committee 2021-2022 Report

In Nepal, as elsewhere in the world, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continued to disrupt everyday life. Once again, the pandemic greatly slowed down our initiatives and our projects. Let's hope that things will improve in 2022-2023!

CQN did, however, start working with a new NGO, GRACE Nepal, based in the district of Kavre, the area where CQN has always worked. GRACE Nepal (**G**lobal **R**esource **A**ction or **C**ommunity **E**mpowerment) was registered in August 2021 and is run by a group of trustworthy people with whom we have been working for the past several years. We carried out a **Livelihood enhancement** project with them.



Many participants at the agricultural training workshops received a manual chaff machine

The objective of this project was to improve the livelihood of marginalized rural families by means of a livestock development program. The project will help provide families with a sustained income, which will lead to better nutrition and food security through the integration of production with marketing channels.

Capacity building of local farmers was done through a rigorous one-week training on livestock management given by the *Bhumestan Milk Collection and Khuwa Production Center*. This training combined theoretical concepts and practical



Construction of the Masrangi school reservoir tank

exercises. Capacity building activities addressed issues such as improved breeds and shelter, sanitation and hygiene, forage, pasture and fodder management and disease control.

There was a great deal of interest for this project and 63 people participated, instead of the 30 planned for initially. At the end of the training, each of the 30 participants, several of whom are women, were given manual chaff machines (straw cutters) to increase livestock productivity. The 33 people who took the training but did not receive chaff machines were put on a waiting list. The additional machines will be purchased during the 2022-2023 fiscal year.



63 people attended theoretical and practical agricultural training sessions

Comité des Projets: Continued from page 2



Reservoir tank for the village of Masrangi

Although a Nepalese member of CQN's board went to Nepal in January 2022 and met with the board members of the NGOs with which we work (SPSWO and GRACE Nepal) in Kathmandu, he did not have time to go the villages. We therefore asked Madhukar Bakhunchhe, a person exterior to the projects, to travel to the villages and evaluate our projects there. We have already worked with him on a project in the villages so he had our full confidence. He provided us with a report and photos.

As well as evaluating the Livelihood project we did with GRACE Nepal, Mr. Bakhunchhe also evaluated our water project for Masrangi village and school that was supposed to be finished in 2021. It was, in fact, not quite finished.

In addition to the problems brought on by the pandemic, the project was initially planned only for the village of Masrangi. They decided to include a neighbouring village and provide water to 100 houses instead of 26. They therefore were short of funds to finish. The extension to this project is planned for 2022-2023 and should be finished in the next year. *

Anna Van Ermengen



Treasurer's Report 2021-2022

Collaboration Québec Népal ended its 2021-2022 fiscal year with \$8,496.49 in revenues and \$7500.67 in expenses, resulting in a net gain of \$995.82.

The share of the budget dedicated to projects remained the largest expense, at 97.7% of all expenses.

CQN ended its year with a balance of \$995.82.

Private donors were generous, as always, with \$8,451 donated. *



*Anna Van Ermengen
Treasurer*

Collaboration Québec Népal wishes to thank all its members, individuals, foundations, sponsors and organisations who, through their generosity, help us carry out our mission.

THE MISSION OF COLLABORATION QUÉBEC-NÉPAL

To work in collaboration with Nepalese communities to improve the quality of their lives via various projects and initiatives in areas of infrastructure, education, health, agriculture and the environment.



2021 Governance Report

Registered in 2021, GRACE Nepal (Global Resource Action for Community Empowerment) is a Nepalese NGO working in remote rural areas in the field of integrated community development. It focuses on vulnerable and socially excluded families, deprived of development opportunities.



GRACE-Nepal Board of Directors

GRACE Nepal's **mission** is to create a self-reliant and equitable society through integrated development programs based on local resource management and mobilization, and implemented through a right-based and participatory development process.

Its board is made up of professionals with diverse backgrounds. *

CQN 2021-22 Board of Directors



CQN 2021-2022 Board of Directors: (left to right):
 1st row: Michèle Legault (President), Anna Van Ermengen (Treasurer), Achut Parajuli (Administrator)
 2nd row: Binod Bastola (Administrator), Uttam Shrestha (Vice-president), Madan Khanal (Administrator), Sameer Mani Pokhrel (Administrator)
 Inserts: Lyse Ferland (Administrator), Renée Champagne (Administrator), Caroline Boucher (Secretary) *

Members of CQN Committees

Finance-administration Committee

Lyse Ferland, Michèle Legault, Anna Van Ermengen

Fundraising Committee

Lyse Ferland, Renée Champagne, Michèle Legault, Caroline Boucher

Education Committee

Michèle Legault, Lucie Legault

Project Committee

Michèle Legault, Anna Van Ermengen, Binod Bastola, Madan Khanal

Communications-Promotion Committee

Patricia Stewart, Anna Van Ermengen, Jean- Louis Pâquet, Caroline Boucher *

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