

"Equal Opportunities for All"

KUMBESHWAR TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Patan, Kathmandu Valley, Nepal



Annual Report 2022 - 2023

Presented by Rtd. Lt. Gen. S. K. Malla
Chairman

KTS is a non-profit, Guaranteed Fair Trade Organization



KTS Banana fibre yarn carpet was awarded MIDA Award at WFTO, Berlin, Germany

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Gynaecologist doctors team with KTS staffs



Free medicine distribution

Dr. Sushila Shrestha at the Health camp



Vision check-up at the camp

DIRECTOR'S LETTER



KTS has completed 40 years since it was established with the aim of socio-economic upliftment for one of the most disadvantaged isolated community and poor people in the Kumbeshwar, Lalitpur, Nepal. During this long journey we have faced many challenges, but with support of friends from Nepal and around world, we've made it this far.

We have been providing academic and vocational training classes to fulfill our organization's aim and objectives. Our dedication is to empower our target group through various programs like child care, adult literacy class, health awareness, sanitation education, human rights, primary school education and vocational training as well as income generating programme. Additionally, we had provided support to differently abled individuals and women prisoners by offering hand knitting and carpet weaving training.

Thousands of children have graduated from primary school and hundreds of women and differently abled individuals have received free vocational training. Most of our graduates found job opportunities and living comfortably. More than 2000 women, differently abled individuals are producing hand knitwear at home. 99.9% of our knitwear and carpets are sold in International market, mostly through fair trade buyers. All the income including buyers support was used in our social activities. Our sales started declining since 2015 after the earthquake, affecting our order deliveries. Until 2018-2019, more than 80% of our expenses were covered by the sales of the products made in our income generating project. The impact of Covid-19 dealt a significant blow to our sales, and current global financial slowdown has greatly affected our sales and are facing a major challenge in sustaining our social and income generating activities incurring substantial losses. Despite these challenges, we remain optimistic and believe that we can increase our sales with the support of our fair trade buyers and new buyers we have acquired in recent years.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Fair Trade buyers, friends and well-wishers especially El Puente Germany, People Tree Japan/UK, Sukha Foundation Netherlands, KASIN UK, Fair Trade Co., Korea for their valuable support. We also highly appreciate the moral and financial support from all buyers, well-wishers and friends during this difficult time. We appeal to our friends and well-wishers to continue supporting us in marketing KTS Knitwear and Carpets.

With the leadership of Chairman Rtd. Lt. Gen. S. K. Malla, we are managing to overcome current challenging situation with the help of buyers, well-wishers and friends. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to our national and international friends, well-wishers and buyers for their continued cooperation and supports.

Thank you all,

Kiran Bahadur Khadgi

Director and Member Secretary

ABOUT KTS

Established in 1983 by former State Council Member, the late Mr. Siddhi Bahadur Khadgi, Kumbeshwar Technical School (KTS) is an educational and vocational training centre supporting the needs of low-income families throughout Nepal. As a non-profit, Fair Trade NGO, KTS believes that "equal opportunities for all" is a fundamental human right.

KTS was initially established to assist the local Pode community of street sweepers because, as a caste of untouchables, these people had been denied education and employment opportunities. The rest of society shunned them and it was virtually impossible to break free from the traditional caste occupations of street sweepers, butchers and small farmers. In 1983 a childcare project for street cleaning workers was established, followed by adult literacy classes and health clinic, including an immunisation programme.

KTS officially opened the primary school in 1987 where a carpet weaving training programme for adults was already in place and a production unit was established to fund the School. The KTS organisation today encompasses a free nursery and primary school for poor children and offers welfare and education for up to 20 orphan/semi-orphan children in the KTS orphanage. KTS provides vocational training for teenagers in carpet weaving, hand knitting and carpentry.

As a founder member of Fair Trade Group Nepal and a Guaranteed member of WFTO (World Fair Trade Organization) and WFTO Asia, KTS strongly believes in Fair Trade practices and is committed to working with its producers to create Fair Trade products. KTS has installed Fair Trade income-generating programmes to support producers and artisans, through the sale of high-quality Fair Trade carpets, knitwear and furniture. All the income from this used for KTS activities. KTS also runs a day-care centre for the children of trainees, producers and staff, free of charge.

KTS is managed by a seven-member Executive Committee, which makes all the policy decisions relating to the organisation. The Member Secretary & Director of KTS has overall responsibility for policy implementation. The KTS administrative team manages the organisation's day-to-day running. The KTS primary school teachers' committee bears responsibility for the Nursery and Primary School. The administration staff and a vocational teachers' committee oversee the Vocational School.

WHAT WE DO

KTS offers key opportunities to create a secure future. Local children from low-income families learn vital literacy skills and receive a broad and high quality education in the KTS Nursery and Primary School. Vocational training in carpet weaving, hand knitting and carpentry provides access to a wide range of employment opportunities. KTS assists in the creation of income-generating programmes that directly benefit low-income groups and, in particular, women and the physically challenged. Orphans and destitute women are offered a home, education and training. KTS also works to empower the local community and the wider population to take responsibility for themselves and their future. As a founder member of Fair Trade Group Nepal and a Guaranteed member of WFTO Global and WFTO Asia, as well as a member of Good weave Nepal. KTS strongly believes in Fair Trade practices and is committed to working with its producers to create Fair Trade products.

KTS VISION

Equal opportunities for all

KTS MISSION

- Provide free nursery and primary education to local community children from low-income families
- Improve the standard of literacy and general education of the pupils
- Provide technical education and vocational training to disadvantaged women and young men from low-income families to broaden their access to a wider range of employment opportunities
- Create and support income-generating programmes that directly benefit low-income groups, especially women, through the sale of KTS Fair Trade products
- Provide free education, welfare and training to underprivileged children, orphans and destitute women also adults.
- Empower the local under privileged community and other marginalised beneficiaries to take greater responsibility for themselves and their future



Pre-Nursery children in the class



Children having snacks in Nursery class



Hand knitting training



Carpet weaving



Carpentry Training

SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS

This year, all activities in the primary school, vocational training, and income-generating programs are running smoothly. With the decline of COVID-19, the KTS management successfully resumed activities in line with our objectives, thanks to the support of friends, well-wishers, and Fair Trade buyers



Play group students at classroom



Children are happy in physical class



Children in the classroom



Children in the classroom



Students in the classroom



Students in the classroom

Recognizing the importance of children's healthcare, KTS management organised "Lymphatic Filariasis Elimination Program" by the Nepal Government. This program is crucial as the mosquito-borne parasitic disease is prevalent in impoverished communities, according to the government report. As part of this initiative, blood tests were conducted on 30 students from grades 1 and 2.



Taking blood sample



Taking blood sample

Student aged 5 to 12, from Nursery to Grade 5, received their first dose of the COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine at the Lalitpur Metropolitan City's Ward No. 11 office. This vaccination program was conducted as part of the Nepal Government's initiative and took place on August 16, 2022.



KTS students registering of 1st dose Covid-19 vaccine.



KTS teacher's helping student receiving vaccine



KTS studentreceiving vaccine

60 students aged 5 to 12 years from Nursery to grade 5 received their second dose of COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine at Ward no. 11 office of Lalitpur Metropolitan City. The vaccination programme was conducted as part of Nepal Government's initiative.



KTS student taking 2nd dose Pfizer vaccine



KTS student taking 2nd dose Pfizer vaccine

The primary school celebrated various events, including Teachers' Day, Education Day, Children's Day, International Child Rights Day, School Day, and Nepalese New Year Day, as part of their extracurricular activities. The students actively participated in these programs.



Celebrating teachers day



Celebrating teachers day



Drawing competition on education day

Children's day celebrated with Education tour in Patan Museum.



Education tour



Students observing scriptures



Students observing Queen's spring water tap



Teacher describing the scriptures



Students and teachers at Patan Museum



Computer Class

This year, we marked the 40th anniversary of our organization's establishment and the 36th KTS Annual Day with the KTS family. During the celebration, Principal Ms. Karuna Khadgi awarded prizes to the top-performing students in each class of the primary school. During the event primary school students performed a cultural program.



Principal Ms. Karuna giving prize to top student in the class



Students performing welcome song

Traditional Newari dance



Modern dance



Traditional dance



Traditional dance

Primary school students celebrated International Child Right Day with a handwriting competition. On this occasion, prizes were awarded to the winners by RUNVAN, and they also distributed exercise books and pencils to the students.



Students taking part in hand writing competition

All the students enthusiastically participated in the sports week, which was organized after a gap of 2 years. The children were very excited and actively engaged in the sports activities.





Students actively participate in annual spelling contest as scheduled. Principal Ms. Karuna gave prizes to the winners.



Students in spelling contest.

Students receiving prizes from Principal Ms. Karuna

Students were excited to participate in the annual quiz contest. Mr. Deepak Khadgi, Chairman of the primary school management committee and Executive Member of KTS, presented prizes to the winners.



Teachers organized class-wise parent meetings to motivate and encourage parents to dedicate time to their children's studies. The majority of parents actively participated in these meetings, contributing to an improved study environment for the children.



Teachers Parents meeting

Teachers explain technique to guide the child.

Teachers explain technique

KTS celebrated Nepali New year 2080 with friends, well-wishers, parents and guests. Students, teachers and KTS family were pleased to welcome distinguished guests in the programme which took place after a gap of 3 years. Due to the unavoidable case of the COVID 19 pandemic this programme was celebrated unofficially. Despite the informal nature of the event, primary school students were encouraged by guests and very happy to showcase their talents and performances.



As the impact of Covid-19 lessened and daily life returned to normal, people resumed their regular activities. KTS's income-generating initiatives also began to pick up, focusing on reorganizing home-based producers who were scattered due to challenges in collecting and delivering goods, along with restrictions in the valley. Despite these difficulties, with the moral and financial support, as well as the full cooperation of buyers, the management successfully organized the production process and managed to dispatch most orders on time, with some shipments extending beyond the original date.



Group leader with her home based producers completing their job



Differently abled challenged knitwear producers are happy to continue their work.



Quality control staff



Final QC & packing



Sample production.



Yarn dyeing Staff at work



Matching colour



Yarn winding

Member Secretary Kiran Khadgi handed over Training Certificate to Hand knitting Graduate. Senior accountant Ms. Sandhya Khadgi handed over certificates to carpenters and a set of hand tools which were used by trainees during training period.



Hand knit training certificate given to Graduate



Ms. Sandhya giving Certificate to carpentry graduate



Ms. Sandhya giving set of hand tools to carpentry graduate

KTS helped to organized 15 days Basic hand knitting training to make woollen cap, socks and sweater in Banepa district cooperation with Banepa Municipality at the end of the fiscal year.



The World Fair Trade Day 2023 was celebrated with several programmes spread over 2 weeks that showcased the essence and significance of Fair Trade. For the solidarity of Fair Trade movement 30 Staffs and producers from KTS participated in the Deep Prajyolan (Oil Lightening) Program held in Kathmandu Durbar Square in the evening of May 13, 2023 on the auspicious occasion of World Fair Trade Day 2023.



FTG
Celebrating
WFTD 2023
with Deep
Prajwalan(oil
lamps)

KTS staff and producers at Deep Prajwalan(oil
lamplighting)programme of Fair Trade group Nepal

FTG Celebrate WFTD 2023

Mr. Chandra Prasad Kachhipati, an esteemed figure in the Fair Trade movement, shared his three-decade-long experience during the Design Competition and Interaction Programme. He discussed the core principles of Fair Trade and addressed the challenges faced by the Fair Trade organizations of Nepal in today's global market.

A total of 86 entries were received from 63 staff and producers for the design competition. These vibrant swatches were expertly stitched together to create a magnificent giant hat. The hat will be sent to People Tree in Japan for judgment, adding an exciting international dimension to the competition. During the event, Mr. Chandra Prasad Kachhipati distributed certificates and cash prizes to the winners of the design competition. This included three producers who won the first, second, and third prizes in the year 2019, as well as two producers who secured the first and second prizes in the year 2022.



Making Giant cap swatches of
design competition 2023.

Mr. Kachhipati commenting on
the product

Showing giant cap by swatches of
design competition



Mr. Kachhipati, sharing his experience of Fair Trade



Taking part in Interaction programme



Mr. Kachhipati distributed certificate

KTS organized “Free Women’s Health, Eye check-up and Free Cataract Surgery Camp” as well as “Menopause awareness camp on 20 May 2023 at KTS premises. The health camp was conducted with support of Nepal Eye Hospital and Senior Gynaecologist Dr. Sushila Shrestha. Eighty-seven women were provided the opportunity to undergo their gynecological examinations, and among them, 67 women were recommended for a free PAP test. It was a fulfilling day for many of our staff, producers, and local community members who took advantage of the camp.

Senior Gynaecologist Dr. Sushila Shrestha, Dr. Biloni Shrestha (Baidya), Dr. Manjita Niraula and Dr. Shova Maharjan were supported by a team of compassionate healthcare professional, including Senior Staff Nurse Ms. Sharmila Maharjan, Ms. Rupa Bhandari, Ms. Ambika Khadka, Ms. Sonu Chaudhary, Ms. Basanta Panthi, Ms. Gita Dotel, and Lab Technician Mr. Laxmi Prasad Bhandari.



Women health checked by doctor



Women's health checked by doctor



Health checked by doctor's team



Exercises learning for side effects caused by Menopause.



Medicines distributing



Staff nurse taking case history of visitors in the Free Women's Health camp

In collaboration with Nepal Eye Hospital, we organized a comprehensive free Eye check-up and Treatment along with Cataract Surgery camp.

This year, 309 people benefited from the free Eye check-up and Treatment Camp. Among them 87 people were prescribed glasses. Further investigation and the cataract surgeries had been

performed at Nepal Eye Hospital by a team of skilled professionals. 10 people were diagnosed with eye cataract and 7 of them need urgent treatment. People who were diagnosed with eye cataract received free surgery at Nepal Eye Hospital, Tripureshwor. KTS distributed prescription glasses free of cost with support of KTC.

The Optometrist team from Nepal Eye Hospital, led by Optometrist Dr. Indu Prasad Dhungel along with Ophthalmic Coordinator Mr. Kalyan Dhungana, Optometrists Ms. Rita Karki and Ashish Neupane, Ophthalmic assistant Rajendra Prasad Joshi, Rohit Shaha, Ms. Sajal Shrestha and Ms. Ranjana Gurung, conducted the eye camp.



Eye check-up by Dr. Dhungel



Eye check-up by doctor



Eye check-up in the camp



The Ophthalmic Doctors team with KTS staffs in the camp.

The camp was organized with support from Nepal Eye Hospital and Senior Gynaecologist Dr. Sushila Shrestha. All the medicines and logistics required for the camp were covered by Kumbeshwar Trading Centre.

KTS Executive Member Mr. Deepak Kumar Khadgi, Mr. Satyendra Khadgi, KTS teachers and staff volunteered their time and efforts to ensure the success of the camp. Mr. Vikram Khadgi captured the camp through his camera. A total of 396 students, staff, parents, producers, and local residents from Lalitpur, Kathmandu, and Bhaktapur benefited from the health camp.

CORONA VIRUS PANDEMIC

The corona virus pandemic greatly affected social and economic activities of KTS. Some of KTS executives, staffs, students and producers were infected by COVID-19. Luckily all of them recovered. Also all the hostel children were safe. KTS management faced many challenges to continue all activities.

WELFARE OF STAFF AND PRODUCERS

This year 38 staff benefited from the medical facility of the Social Security Fund and 4 producers benefited from the medical facility of the school fund.

21 staff and 4 producers benefited from the KTS saving credit programme. Most of them used the money to renovate houses, land purchases, children's education or to extend family businesses.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CHILDREN

KTS provided scholarships to producers' children Pramik Man Shrestha, Ranjit Tamang, Sagun Shakya and Salina Shakya. Among them Salina Shakya is studying BIT (Bachelor of Information Technology) in final year.

Kumbeshwar Technical School proudly wishes to mention that Atelier Sukha / Sukha Foundation, The Netherlands provided scholarships for the programme. Similarly KTS continued the sponsorship of earthquake victim local girls Nishowna Shakya, Praneesha Shakya and Samir Shakya through the sister concern Export Company with support from El Puente, Germany.

TRAINING and WORKSHOPS

Mr. Hem Ratna Khadgi and Neema Khadgi participated in the 3 days Dyeing Workshop organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal. Ms. Sandhya Khadgi and Mr. Abishek Deula participated workshop on "Private sector as the lead actor in shaping the VET and employment creation" in CTEVT. Mr. Ratna Lal Deula and Ms. Rojina Khadgi participated in programme "2078 Act for Alternative care of children at orphanage" at Lalitpur Metropolitan City office organized by National Children Rights Commission. Principal Ms. Karuna, Ms. Deepika, Ms. Bijayata Deula and grade 5 students participated at book release of "Sadak Shikkhya Surakkhya" (Road safety education) published by Lalitpur Metropolitan City. Mr. Kiran Bahadur Khadgi and Mr. Satyendra Khadgi participated "Team Building workshop" organized by FTG Nepal. Ms. Binju Khadgi attended 3 days training of "Time Management" organized by Kumbeshwor Community Learning Center".



Dyeing workshop



Dyeing workshop in practical



Dyeing workshop reviewing



Team Building workshop

Hem Ratna Khadgi participated in interaction programme of Nepal Trade Information Portal - organized by Trade and Export Promotion Centre at FHAN.

Hem Ratna Khadgi participated Social Entrepreneurship meeting and Interaction, organized by NEDI, CATALYST 2030, NGO Federation of Nepal and National Social Entrepreneurship Forum Nepal. Kiran Khadgi and Satyendra Khadgi and Senior Account Officer Ms. Sandhya participated workshop on "Tax & VAT: Concern and Remedy"organized by Fair Trade Group Nepal.



Hem at Orientation programme



Hem at Social Entrepreneurship meeting and Interaction

PARTICIPATION

Fair Trade Group Nepal celebrated 25th anniversary of the organization. On the occasion of Silver Jubilee Ceremony Fair Trade Group Nepal felicitated all the past chairpersons of the organization as well as founder organization of FTG Nepal.



FTG Nepal Silver Jubilee programme



Felicitated by FTG Nepal

Member secretary and Director Kiran Bahadur Khadgi and Satyendra Khadgi participated in 26th Annual General Meeting of FTG Nepal.

KTS actively participated Fair Trade Xmas Bazar annual event of Fair Trade Group Nepal. The Fair was conducted after 3 years gap due to pandemic. KTS organised live DEMO of Carpet weaving in the Fair.



FTG Nepal AGM



KTS Carpet weaving live demo



KTS Booth at Fair Trade Christmas Bazar



Fair trade Christmas Bazar 2022 at Lalitpur

Member secretary and Director Kiran Bahadur Khadgi and Satyendra Khadgi participated in the WFTO Global Conference and farewell programme of Martin More in El Puente, Germany with friends FTG Nepal.



Martin More on the KTS banana rug



Nepali delegates with Martine at El Puente office

Member secretary and Director Kiran Bahadur Khadgi and Satyendra Khadgi participated in the WFTO Global Summit Berlin. KTS won the MIDA design awards at the WFTO Global Summit in Berlin for its outstanding new innovative, modern design, and eco-friendly product crafted from locally sourced banana fiber. During the event Satyendra Khadgi shared his insights on the "Future of Fashion". Both of them attended PaCo partnership meeting during the summit. On the Summit KTS showcased our new products at the Fair Trade market place and held meetings with existing buyers.



Satyendra sharing



Gunila & Bodil Swedish buyer at KTS booth



Quick meeting with Serena Sato rep. of SERRV USA during the break time of conference



Layla from El Puente, Germany at KTS stall



James at KTS stall



Meeting Ms. Gesa Peterson, El Puente

Satyendra Khadgi, Marketing Director, represented KTS as part of Nepal's Finest Collective at the Ambient 2023 Trade Fair held at Messe Frankfurt, Germany. The stand space was provided by Trade and Export Promotion Centre, Nepal for FTG Nepal. KTS showcased its newly developed Hand Knitted woolen home textile products from 2nd to 9th February 2023 with design and marketing guidance from Mr. Kees Bronk. The organisations in Nepal's Finest collective are Association of Craft Producers, KTS, Mahaguthi, Manushi and Sana Hastakala led by Satyendra Khadgi.



KTS knitted home decor in the Ambient 2023 Trade fair



Nepal's Finest joint product at Ambient 2023 Trade fair



Team members of Nepal's Finest at the fair

FAIR TRADE EXPERIENCE TOUR

As the impact of the international pandemic lessened, the Fair Trade Experience Tourists began to visit our country and our office. The first visitor was the Italian celebrity Mr. Matteo Paolillo, followed by Francesco and Claudia as the second visitors. The third group, led by Mr. Renzo Garroni, included 9 tourists from RAM Viaggi Travel Company Italia, who visited KTS. Additionally, a group of Italian tourists was brought by tour guide Mr. Prajwal Shrestha.



Matteo Paolillo Celebrity of Italia



Ms.Nora from Italia



Fair Trade tourist group from Italia

VISITORS

This year, we were fortunate to have several buyers and well-wishers visits. Michael Scutt came with a friend from New Zealand, Ms. Anna Suoheimo from Finland, Jurgen Herold from Germany, Eleonore from Luna Leena, The Netherlands, Claire from Paper High, UK, Gai Berry from Global Conduct in Australia visited with her family, and Richard and Suzanne from Purnaa visited at KTS. Satyendra provided updates on KTS activities to them.



Micheal Scutt with friends at KTS



Anna Suoheimo from Finland



Jurgen Herold from Germany



Eleonore de Bruine from Luna
Leena



Richard Faber & Suzanne Allibone
from Purnaa



Gai Berry with family at KTS

A group of people came for exposure visit from Himalayan Bal Samrachhen Manch. Hem Ratna shared KTS Social and income generating activities with them. Visitors paid keen interest on KTS vocational training and activities.



Visitor from Bal S. M.



Visitors observing carpet trimming skill.



Visitors Group in showroom



RUNVAN executive at KTS



RUNVAN team distributing prizes to students

WORLDWIDE FRIENDS OF KUMBESHWAR KIDS

The members of the Worldwide Friends of Kumbeshwar Kids have provided sympathetic words, feedback, and inspiration that have motivated us to persist in our social and economic activities, even during challenging times such as global recessions and the pandemic. We believe that these difficult times will not last for an extended period, and with the moral and economic support of all our friends, we can overcome them. Our friends and well-wishers serve as the strength of KTS. Their direct and indirect support has enabled us to sustain our social activities, meet our aims and objectives, and provide free primary education to children from disadvantaged and marginalized backgrounds, facilitating their development.

The visits from members, friends, well-wishers, and visitors play a crucial role in providing feedback and comments on KTS products, aiding us in improving the quality of our marketable products. Furthermore, the small purchases of KTS products contribute to generating funds that sustain the continuous social activities of the organization. This support allows us to provide regular job opportunities to over two thousand underprivileged grassroots women artisans in Nepal.

We deeply appreciate your help and support and eagerly anticipate continuing these meaningful connections with all our friends in the future.



Children are in Nursery class



Children are in classroom

Member of Worldwide Friends of Kumbeshwar Kids and well-wishers extending support to KTS from the following countries:-

United Kingdom, USA, Netherlands, Japan, Nepal, Denmark, Spain, Australia, New Zealand, Germany, UAE, Canada, Singapore and Italy.

Ms. Jane Southward, Co-ordinator for Kids of Kumbeshwar, UK generously co-ordinates the membership programme. Ms. Maggie Adams Langley is generously cooperating with Ms. Jane.

Jane's address is 7, Shire Close, Springfield, Chelmsford CM1 6FW email: kofkuk@gmail.com

Ms. Jan Hopkins, Ambassador of KTS is contributing generously to KTS, helping management and has coordinating since last 37 years.

Jan Hopkins' address: 15, Fitzmaurice Place, Junction Road, Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire, BA151EL email: nanajan15@gmail.com

Ms. Nola Ainsworth is generously and continuously supporting Worldwide Friends of Kumbeshwar Kids. Nola's address is Five Dock. Sydney, Australia. Tel: 0407259059. Email: nola.a@bigpond.net.au

KUMBESHWAR KIDS WORLDWIDE MEMBERS

S.No	Name	Country
1	Gael Robertson	UK
2	Phoebe Ravenhall	UK
3	Juliet Hardiker	UK
4	Eric Coull	UK
5	Ms. Jan Hopkins	UK
6	Mary Patricia Stewart	UK
7	David Potter	UK
8	Ms. Natasha George	UK
9	Jean Kirkley	UK
10	Betty Pryce	UK
11	Bryan Pryce	UK
12	Brenda Moss	UK
13	Timothy J.B. George &Mrs. Richinda George	UK
14	Jane Southward	UK
15	Mr.&Mrs. M. Stephenson	UK
16	Mrs. J.E. Williamson	UK
17	Ms. Sarah Harvey	UK
18	Nicholas P. Armstrong	UK
19	Maggie Hudson	UK
20	Maurice Smith	UK
21	Sonja Antell	UK
22	Marita Sanders	UK
23	James Brodhurst	UK
24	Dr. David A. Easton &Dr. Jane A. Lockyer	UK
25	Margaret Smart	UK
26	Mr. David Williams	UK
27	Delena Davison	UK
28	Audrey Heywood	UK
29	Andrew Wall	UK
30	Ms Jane Griffith	UK
31	Mrs A Burgess Watson	UK
32	Mrs. Maggie Adams Langley	UK
33	Mr. and Mrs. RF Southward	UK
34	Mr. Mike Pedler	UK
35	Ms.LeelaGourdeau	UK
36	Joan Adams	UK
37	Betty Woodsend	USA
38	Mr. Edwards Hays	USA
39	EngbertVerkoren	Netherland
40	Pieter Jan Visser	Netherland
41	Paul and ClaarKwakkenbos	Netherland
42	Claudia Brunello	
43	Els Van Mourik	Netherland
44	Mr &Mrs. Jan Meijer	Netherland
45	Mr & Mrs G.J.B. Hodes	Netherland

S.No	Name	Country
46	Ms. Elisabeth De Jong	Netherland
47	Ms. Sylvia Evers	Netherland
48	H. Heynen	Netherland
49	MasstschapPraktijk Meijer c.s. Praxis for Physiotheapie	Netherland
50	Ms. H. Van EE	Netherland
51	Mr & Ms L. Koerts	Netherland
52	Mr.&Ms.A.H.Wolters	Netherland
53	Mr. H.D. Melchers	Netherland
54	Mr.&Ms. P. Brandsma	Netherland
55	Mr. W. S. Molenaar	Netherland
56	Ms. A. Spoel-Melchers	Netherland
57	Mr.&MsBerenpas	Netherland
58	Mr.&Ms. Krabben	Netherland
59	StichtingKateker	Netherland
60	Mr.JaapLangius	Netherland
61	Ms.&Mr. G. Bosman	Netherland
62	Ms.&Mr. G. Kemperink	Netherland
63	Henk and Julia Dijkstra	Netherland
64	Van Beek family	Netherland
65	Dr.ShozoTateishi	Japan
66	AEA	Japan
67	Prof. Hideki YAMAMOTO	Japan
68	Pro. Ishizaka	Japan
69	Shanta Kumar Malla	Nepal
70	Jiban Bahadur Malla	Nepal
71	Mr.ManjuRatnaShakya	Nepal
72	Bachchan Man Dongol	Nepal
73	Agrawal Pawan Kumar	Nepal
74	Mr.BijayRijal	Nepal
75	Mr.BirajRijal	Nepal
76	Peter Wilhjelm	Denmark
77	Susi Baur	Denmark
78	Ms.Barta Carranza	Spain
79	Nola + Tim Ainsworth	Australia
80	Mette& Marvin Heaston	Australia
81	Tony Andersen	Australia
82	Mary and aBobAustic	Australia
83	Terry Hines +	Australia
84	Tracey Cooke	Australia
85	Ms. Diane Byrne	Australia
86	Mrs Narelle Phipps	Australia
87	Gail Barton	Australia
88	Yvonne Byrne	Australia
89	Tyson Family	Australia
90	Amanda Ramsay	Australia

S.No	Name	Country
91	McGuiness Motors	Australia
92	Nonie Lawrence	Australia
93	Amie Long	Australia
94	Maureen & Hugh Knox	Australia
95	WAKELEY Marianne & David	Australia
96	Gai and Zoe	Australia
97	Mr. Michael & Carol Scutt	New Zealand
98	Colleen & Bill Buckley	New Zealand
99	Mr. Herman Roodt	New Zealand
100	Mr. Glem Brooke Anderson	New Zealand
101	Ms. Ross Walker	New Zealand
102	Fidelity life - caryveenhof	New Zealand
103	Collen Buckley	New Zealand

S.No	Name	Country
104	Coirnfield&Marivate rest homes	New Zealand
105	Rotary Club of Whangarie	New Zealand
106	Tony Bestel	New Zealand
107	Jill Jones & Carol Burdon	New Zealand
108	Blomer Eva	Germany
109	Mr. Klaus Blomer	Germany
110	Thomas M. Ruprecht	Germany
111	Cadet Frederic	France
112	Kathleen K. Bruker	UAE
113	Anne French	Canada
114	Ashvinkumar s/o Kantilal&TikakoIno	Singapore
115	Claudia Brunello	Italia

KTS COOKBOOK EDITION 2

The KTS Cookbook, featuring delicious Nepalese recipes, is a delightful addition for those interested in trying authentic flavours at home. Authored by Gita Kumari Lama Khadgi, the wife of KTS Director Kiran, the book offers a wonderful opportunity to savour the true taste of Nepali dishes in your own kitchen. Importantly, the sales revenue generated from the cookbook contributes to funding KTS social activities, making each purchase a meaningful way to support the organization's initiatives.

Masala KauliTarkari (Mixed Spices Cauliflower) Serves 8

Ingredients	Method
1kg Cauliflower 2 onions chopped 4 tomatoes chopped Enough oil for deep frying 1/3 teaspoon turmeric powder 2 teaspoons meat masala (mixed spices) 1/3 teaspoon cumin powder 1 teaspoon chilli powder 1 teaspoon ginger garlic paste 240ml. water Salt to taste	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Separate the cauliflower into small floral pieces. Heat the oil in a large pan for deep frying. Deep fry the cauliflower in small quantities until transparent but do not allow to turn brown. Drain well and keep aside. Again heat 3 tablespoons of oil in a pan. Fry onion, add ginger garlic paste and continue to fry gently for a few seconds. Season with turmeric powder, meat masala, cumin powder, red chilli powder, salt and add tomatoes. Stir them until tomatoes are tender. Add water and bring it to the boil then add fried cauliflower and stir gently. Cook for about 10 minutes. The vegetable is ready to serve.



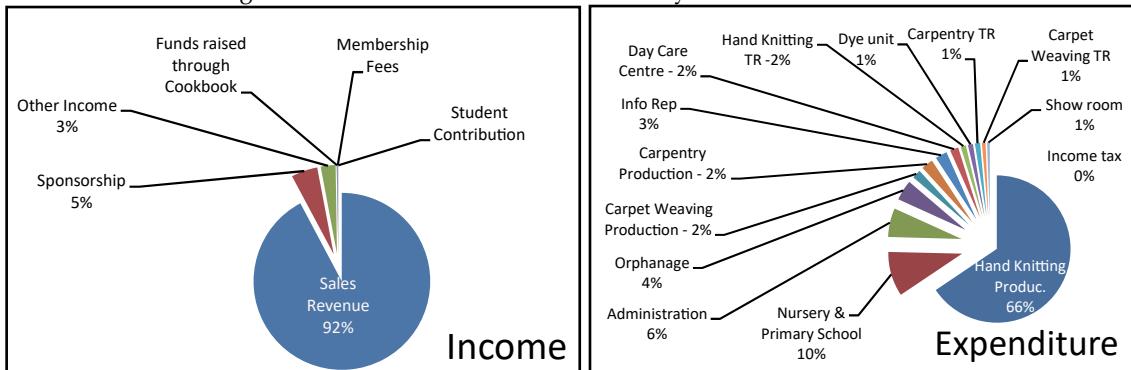
FINANCIAL REPORT

16 July -2022 to – 15 July 2023

DEPARTMENT	EXPENDITURE	INCOME	SPONSOR	BALANCE
Administration	3,018,174	-	-	-3,018,174
Publicity and Marketing	1,228,890	-	-	-1,228,890
Orphanage	2,140,217	-	970,220	-1,169,997
Nursery & Primary School	4,668,513	-	2,139,667	-2,528,846
Day Care Centre	885,138	-	404,873	-480,265
Hand Knitting TR	554,572	-	1,850	-552,722
Carpet Weaving TR	385,013	-	---	-385,013
Carpentry TR.	529,074	-	--	-529,074
SUB-TOTAL	13,409,591		3,516,610	-9,892,981
Hand Knitting PR	31,267,675	39,330,390	-	8,062,781
Carpet PR	936,835	906,742	-	-30,093
Carpentry PR	1,216,983	1,475,625	-	258,642
Dye unit	517,927	-	-	-517,927
Show room	306,145	-	-	-306,145
Sub Total	34,245,565	41,712,757	-	7,467,192
Grand Total	47,655,156	41,712,757	3,516,610	-2,425,789

KEY POINTS

- All figures are expressed in Nepali Rupees.
- The report reflects the KTS operational status, excluding assets.
- TR = Training
- PR = Production Unit (income-generating programme)
- The positive balance in the Hand Knitting PR is a result of utilizing stock raw materials and products from previous years.
- The Dye Unit shows expenses for knitwear and carpet production. These costs are covered by knitwear and carpet sales.
- Administration, Publicity and Marketing accounted for 8.91% of total expenditure.
- Of the total income, 76.29% was generated by sales from income generating activities, 23.71% was raised through sales of the cook book, bank interest and support from Worldwide Friends of Kumbeshwar Kids.
- Due to recession, the total knitwear sales decreased by 5.67% compared to last year, and 21.44% sales were below the estimated budget. The decline was primarily attributed to the adverse effects of Russia-Ukraine war and global recessions on most of our main buyers.



ORPHANAGE

EXPENDITURE	INCOME	SPONSOR	BALANCE
NPR2,140,217	-	970,220	- 1,169,997

KTS orphanage was established to provide support and rescue vulnerable children from deprived communities, as well as destitute women and physically challenged boys and girls throughout the country. Over three decades, a total of 60 children were rescued and supported to become self-reliant. Among the individuals who were part of the orphanage program, two girls are working as teachers in KTS primary school, one is employed as an assistant matron in KTS Orphanage, two girls and one differently abled boy are working at KTS income-generating programs, three individuals are working in Australia, one is working in the USA, one individual is employed in France and one person is working in the UK. Most of the grown-up boys and girls are employed in various fields and are self-sustained. Additionally, two widows and one destitute woman have retired.

The orphanage provides care and support, including clothing, course books, stationery, school fees, four daily meals, healthcare, indoor games, and a conducive study environment. The organization endeavored to create a homely atmosphere for the children. However, due to a continuous decline in income from sales and support, along with the impact of global recession and the COVID-19 pandemic, the management faces significant challenges in raising funds.

Regrettably, due to these challenges, the organization has made the tough decision to temporarily suspend the orphanage program from July 16, 2023. Five children have been relocated to another orphanage in coordination with the National Child Rights Council, Nepal, and four children have been reunited with their relatives, with sponsorship promised until they complete their undergraduate degrees.

In the orphanage, four meals were served daily, including tea at 6:30 am, Nepalese Dal Bhat for breakfast at 8:30 am, snacks with tea at 4 pm, and Nepalese Dal Bhat for dinner at 7 pm. The monthly cost per child at the centre averages NPR 19,817.00.

The generous sponsorship from KASIN UK has been instrumental together with membership subscriptions and sponsorships from friends and individual well-wishers covered 45.33% of the orphanage expenses. The remaining 54.67% of the expenses were covered by the reserve fund of KTS.



Study time for Orphan children



Orphan children at Play time

One of the boy who grew up at the orphanage, Gopal Khatri, successfully completed a Bachelor's degree in Electronics and Communication Engineering with the support of KTS and Sukha Foundation. He is continuing his studies by going to Melbourne, Australia, to pursue a Master's Degree in Telecommunication. KTS takes great pride in sharing his success story.

Success Story

As I remember it was a very hard time for Success story I am writing in appreciation of your generous contribution to me. I am Gopal Bahadur Khatri. I lived in KTS from 2008 to 2016.

I have studied in Shree Shanti Vidyashram secondary school from grade six when I lived in KTS. I completed the SLC examination from Shree Shanti Vidyashram School and then joined the diploma in Electronics and Communication Engineering at Acme Engineering College. After that, I joined a bachelor in Electronics and communication engineering at Everest Engineering College with full sponsorship of KTS. While doing my bachelors, I worked in KTS (carpet department). I completed my bachelors studies in 2020 and then started to do internship at National Innovation Centre for almost one year. At National Innovation Centre I have learned many things like researching related fields(Electronics and communication) and involving in different projects (like PCB designing, robotics, telecommunication). After that, I started

working at Huawei Technology Nepal as a NOC Engineer. While working at Huawei Technology I have learned the overall telecommunication system of Ncell Axiata LTD. Nepal.



Then, I started doing research for abroad studies and after that, I applied for a Master of Engineering (Telecommunication) at the Melbourne Institute of Technology of Australia. Luckily I got a visa for the July intake of 2023. I would like to thank Mr. Kiran Bahadur Khadgi and the whole KTS team for managing this opportunity for me. I am glad and there is no word to express my gratitude towards you. KTS helped me and guided me during a difficult time and your help means a lot to me. All my success and hard work is just because of the KTS support. Once again, thank you to KTS for your support and help.

Sincerely,
Gopal Bahadur Khatri, 9843163830



Children in bedroom



Study time



Play time



Hostel kids and maids

NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL

EXPENDITURE	INCOME	SPONSOR	BALANCE
NPR 4,668,513	-	2,139,667	-2,528,846

The new session of primary school started in accordance with schedules set by the local government. KTS is following government curriculum and supplements it with additional books to ensure quality education. With start of new session government changes the course book necessitating us update the course books. However, there are challenges in changing to new books due to the current book market system whereby whole set of books needed to be changed instead of only one subject which proves costly for the organisation during present financial crisis. Despite these challenges all the programmes are running smoothly as per operation calendar.

In our effort to provide best possible education we have incorporate audio visual classes. Basic computer literacy classes. Additional, there are library classes to enhance knowledge and encourage reading habits among students, with collection of international children's books. This supports children's development and motivate them to study and cultivate reading habits.

The annual teachers' workshop was conducted, where all the teachers share their experiences and develop lesson plan collaboratively. This year the classes and all the extra curriculum's activities have been carried out smoothly.

KTS is committed to children's health recognising that many young students suffer from malnutrition due to their parents' poverty. Therefore KTS provides daily free snacks to playgroup to Kindergarten children. 47 children enjoy snacks twice a day, while 18 children in kindergarten classes and enjoy one snack daily. Since KTS's establishment, around 6,000 children from deprived and marginalized families have received care. It is heartening to mention that six graduates of our primary school have returned to KTS as teachers and contributing to the ongoing education of new generations.

This year, teachers organized education tour in Patan Museum for students in grade 2 to 5. Three senior high school students from USA volunteered at KTS for few weeks. They shared their experiences with KTS students. It was wonderful and exciting experience for both the US students, who learned about life of Nepalese children from marginalized families, and KTS students, who gained insight into American student life and culture.

In the academic year 2022 / 2023, 136 (74 boys and 62 girls) children enrolled from playgroup to grade 5. Out of these 134 children (73 boys and 61 girls, including 2 boys and 2 girls from the local street sweeper community and rest from local and migrated poor families) completed and appeared in the final sent-up evaluation.

Contributions from valued buyers, friends, well-wishers and the Friends of Kumbeshwar Kids membership programme plus bank interest from fixed deposit funds have helped to run the Nursery and Primary School.



Students in class



Students in class

DAY-CARE CENTRE

EXPENDITURE	INCOME	SPONSOR	BALANCE
NPR 885,138	-	404,873	- 480,265

Children in the Day Care Centre thoroughly enjoy their time there. The teachers and caretakers provide careful attention based on the children's age, catering to those as young as 45 days old up to 10 years. The staff follows a daily schedule, including playtime, naptime, and snack breaks. There is no time restriction for breastfeeding, offering considerable relief to staff, trainees, and producers who can keep their children close.

The center operates for 8 hours a day (9 am to 5 pm) and provides snacks twice a day from Sunday to Thursday, with one snack on Fridays.

On average, 14 children stay the entire day, with 5 more arriving around 2 p.m. An additional 7 children join during school holidays, making an average of 26 children attending each day. The children are taken care of by one teacher and two caretakers. The monthly cost for the center averages NPR 2,837.00, and parents contribute NPR 25 per month for each child.

This year, 45.74% of the expenses were covered by the support from valued buyers, friends, well-wishers, and Friends of Kumbeshwar Kids members, while 54.26% was covered by bank interest from fixed deposits and the reserved fund.



Snacks feeding to the children



Play time



Baby in Day care



Baby in Day care

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

KTS remains committed to offering free vocational training in Hand knitting, Carpet weaving, and Carpentry (Furniture making) to underprivileged individuals, particularly women and differently abled, who are above 15 years old. The carpet and carpentry training comes with a tea allowance and a job guarantee, contributing to the sustainability of their lives. KTS emphasizes practical knowledge, facilitating graduates in finding employment more easily.

In the fiscal year 2022/2023, there was significant interest in vocational training, but only a few individuals were able to join due to uncertain pandemic-related situations. KTS adapted its training schedule based on demand rather than following the annual operation calendar, considering the uncertainties and unfavourable conditions faced by marginalized communities due to both international and national pandemics. KTS management collaborated with local governments in Lalitpur district, requesting recommendations for needy young individuals to participate in the training. Banepa Municipality expressed interest in conducting short-term hand knitting training in the area.

This year, KTS continued a demand-oriented short-term hand knitting with sewing training, focusing on Doll making, and offered job opportunities for interested women. During the training, participants received NPR 50 per hour.

KTS has provided skills training to more than 2127 women, 366 men, 121 differently abled women, 17 differently abled men, and 95 women prisoners. In total, 2,726 individuals have completed hand knitting training through the program. The school continues to offer all existing vocational training programs free of charge.

Number of Graduates from KTS

Programme	Men-1 Year	Men-2 Year	Women short term	Women-2 Year	Total
Carpentry	231 + 4	120	-	-	355
Carpet	10	1	283+ 11	16	321
Hand knitting			1780 + 20	-	1800
Hand Knitting Train at Banepa (outside KTS)			17		17
Total	245	121	2063 +48	16	2493

Programme	Men.	Women	Total
Carpet weaving training for visionless	7	2	9
Hand knitting training for visionless people	2	1	3
Carpentry training for physically challenged people	2		2
Hand knitting training for women prisoners in the Kathmandu Central Prison		40	40
Hand knitting training for women prisoners in the Kathmandu Central Prison with PA Nepal		55	55
Hand knitting training for physically challenged people at KTS	6	98	104
Hand knitting training for physically challenged people at Centre		20	20
	17	216	233



Doll making skill training



Hand knitting training



Carpet weaving



Carpentry practical training

HAND KNITTING TRAINING

EXPENDITURE	INCOME	SPONSOR	BALANCE
NPR 554,572	-	- 1,850	-552,722

Doll making training was continued with tea allowances. 12 trainees joined in 1st batch and 5 in the 2nd batch among them 10 trainees completed the training and 7 dropped out. In the regular hand knitting training we had only one batch with 3 trainees out of which 2 of them completed it.

The Banepa Municipality requested us to organise a short term basic hand knitting training for women of Banepa. KTS appointed group leader Ms. Binda Manandhar, from Banepa to conduct the training. She was provided her with KTS knitwear training curriculum and orientation on conducting the training. Seventeen women participated in the training, and KTS sponsored 4 of them. After completing the training, they joined the Banepa knitting group and are now receiving knitting work from KTS.

The doll making trainees were provided with tea allowance in order to enable them to dedicate time for learning new skill to improve their income. After training trainees who showed real aptitude joined income generating programme as independent artisans at KTS.

The hand knitting training is two hours a day, five days a week for three months with knitting homework. It is scheduled from 11:30am to 13.30pm for convenience to household women. Doll making training is three hours a day.

Since the inception of our vocational training program, 2039 people (1,817 women, 119 differently abled women, 6 men, 2 differently abled men and 95 women prisoners in the Central Women's Prison, Kathmandu) have benefited from hand-knitting training.



Hand knitting training to differently abled women



Doll making training

CARPET WEAVING TRAINING

EXPENDITURE	INCOME	SPONSOR	BALANCE
NPR 385,013	-	-	- 385,013

There is a high demand for carpet weavers in the country, especially as the carpet industry is gradually recovering. With carpet weavers being scattered in the past due to the slowdown in the carpet business and the pandemic, the resurgence of the industry has led to an increased demand for skilled carpet weavers. Carpet weaving training is particularly relevant and beneficial for marginalized individuals, especially women and those with disabilities, who may not have formal education. The training allows individuals to acquire skills within a few months, making it easier for them to secure employment and become independent, particularly for those who have migrated from hill areas of the country. Recognizing this, KTS continues to focus on carpet weaving training for disadvantaged individuals.

To reach the target community, KTS actively promotes the training through local government channels, community engagement, and social media. The carpet weaving short-term training program lasts for 4 months (34 hours a week, totalling 390 hours of training) following the curriculum set by the Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT). Additionally, there is an 8-week on-the-job training component. During the training period, KTS provides a tea allowance of NPR 150 per day.

In the current year, the carpet weaving short-term training started with 4 participants in the first batch, followed by two in the second batch and two in the third batch. After completing the training, graduates have the opportunity to work at KTS's income-generating program until they find jobs in other carpet industries of their choice.

Since the inception of the vocational training program, 330 individuals (including 310 women, 11 men, 2 differently-abled women, and 7 differently-abled men) have benefited from the carpet weaving training program.



Carpet weaving Training

CARPENTRY TRAINING

EXPENDITURE	INCOME	SPONSOR	BALANCE
NPR 529,074	-	-	- 529,074

In the country, there is a significant demand for carpenters. Many skilled and semi-skilled carpenters come to work from other countries. Unfortunately, due to a lack of knowledge and proper guidance, young teenagers often prioritize jobs in Gulf countries without having the necessary skills and work experience. This leads to exploitation and abuse in their workplaces.

Low-educated and marginalized individuals often lack the patience to undergo skill training before seeking employment abroad. KTS is working to advocate for these people, emphasizing the importance of acquiring skills to secure good jobs and achieve independence. The aim is to raise awareness about the value of skills, encouraging individuals to prioritize training for a better future and a more independent life.

This year, we admitted 5 trainees to the carpentry training programme. Out of them, 3 boys completed the training and 2 finished their on-the-job training at different times. One boy doing on-the-job training will continue next year due to the flexible enrollment schedule.

KTS is continuing its short term training programme primarily focusing on teenagers. The course follows the CTEVT (Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training) curriculum, a 390 hours course and KTS provides further 9 months on-the-job training in the income generating unit. After completion of training, the trainees become skilled enough to sit on the level II skill test exam, the minimum qualification for a job in Nepal.

The Carpentry graduates can obtain work immediately after training either locally or in Gulf countries, but young people are less attracted on the training due to lack of information about the market, patience, high expectations as well as the allure of the Gulf countries. However considering the usefulness and importance of the skill and its high potential, KTS is continuing training programme.

Since the inception of our vocational training programme, 357 people (355 boys and 2 differently abled boys) benefited by carpentry training programme.

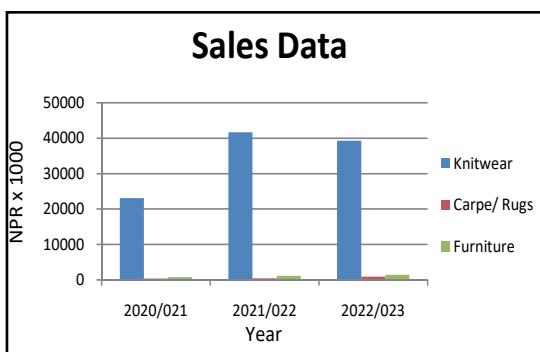
Currently, KTS providing NPR 200 per day to trainees to partial support for their living costs. This allowance is helpful in supporting them while they are in training. KTS provides a set of hand tools used by each student on the completion of the training.

Minimum qualification required for trainees is grade five and the programme is open to anyone older than 15 years.



Carpentry trainees at practical classes

INCOME GENERATING PROGRAMME



To ensure the sustainability of our organization, KTS has established income-generating programs that provide job opportunities for our graduates and support the financial needs of our organization. The income generated from these programs is utilized in our social activities. Despite facing challenges such as the 2015 earthquakes, we have continuously developed with the support of Fair Trade buyers.

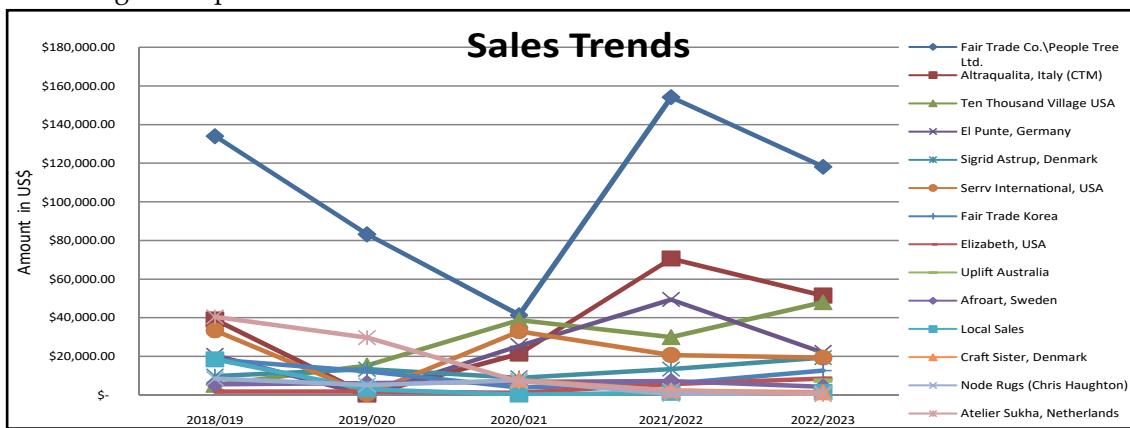
However, the devastating earthquake disrupted our production flow, impacting our efficiency and production capacity. Subsequently, our income-generating programs have faced additional challenges.

challenges, including the Covid-19 pandemic, Dengue endemic, global economic recessions, and the Russia-Ukraine war. These challenges have affected the sales of our hand-knitwear and carpet products, leading to financial difficulties.

Despite the diligent efforts of our buyers to promote our products in the international market, the ongoing uncertainty of the global market due to the Russia-Ukraine war is a growing concern. We are anxious about the impact of these challenges on our ability to cover the expenses of our activities, particularly our initiatives such as free child education and free vocational training.

As a certified Fair Trade, non-profit organization, KTS follows the ten Fair Trade Standards set by the World Fair Trade Organization in all our operations. Our team consists of 76 staff members, and we collaborate with over 2,000 home-based hand-knitwear producers, 25 carpet producers, and approximately 15 supporting producers. Directly, we provide benefits to about 2,040 producers, and indirectly, we impact over 10,000 individuals, including their families, through KTS's income-generating programs.

The income-generating programs at KTS offer fair wages based on a piecework basis. In addition to fair compensation, we provide various benefits to our producers, including medical insurance, health awareness programs, and saving credit facilities. Furthermore, we offer sponsorship for the children of our producers who may face challenges in affording the costs of education. This holistic approach aims to support the well-being and future prospects of our community members, ensuring a more sustainable and inclusive impact on their lives. Our commitment to Fair Trade principles ensures that our operations contribute positively to the livelihoods and well-being of our producers and their communities.



HAND KNITTING INCOME GENERATING PROG.

EXPENDITURE	INCOME	BALANCE
NPR 31,267,675	39,330,390	806,2781

In our hand knitting income generation program, we focus on producing high-quality hand-knitwear with the aim of reaching the international market and aligning with current trends. We also create new designs for home accessories, staying in line with international trends. Our emphasis is on using natural materials like sheep wool for winter products and cotton for summer items. Additionally, we make efforts to incorporate locally sourced natural fibers such as banana fiber, Allo (Nettle Fiber), and hemp, promoting local materials and reducing our carbon footprint in production.

Approximately 2,000 marginalized women, including 25 differently-abled women and some men, work as home-based knitwear artisans in our program. We provide job opportunities for nine months in a year, with a focus on utilizing local materials and promoting sustainability.

However, challenges arise, particularly in the summer season, as our sales are seasonal, and there are fewer orders during this period. Despite efforts to diversify our product range with home accessories and summer items, it has been challenging to maintain consistent orders throughout the year, especially since 2015. This decline has impacted both our artisans and KTS's ability to carry out its social activities.

This year, we managed to use raw materials from previous years' stock with significant support from our buyers, helping with our cash flow. However, our knitwear sales have decreased by 5.67% compared to last year, and they are 21.44% below our estimates. The challenges are attributed to the effects of the pandemic, the Russia-Ukraine war, and subsequent global recessions. These factors have created hurdles, affecting both our sales and our ability to carry out social initiatives.



Doll making



Wool dyeing for hand knitwear



Wool winding at KTS



Wool dyeing



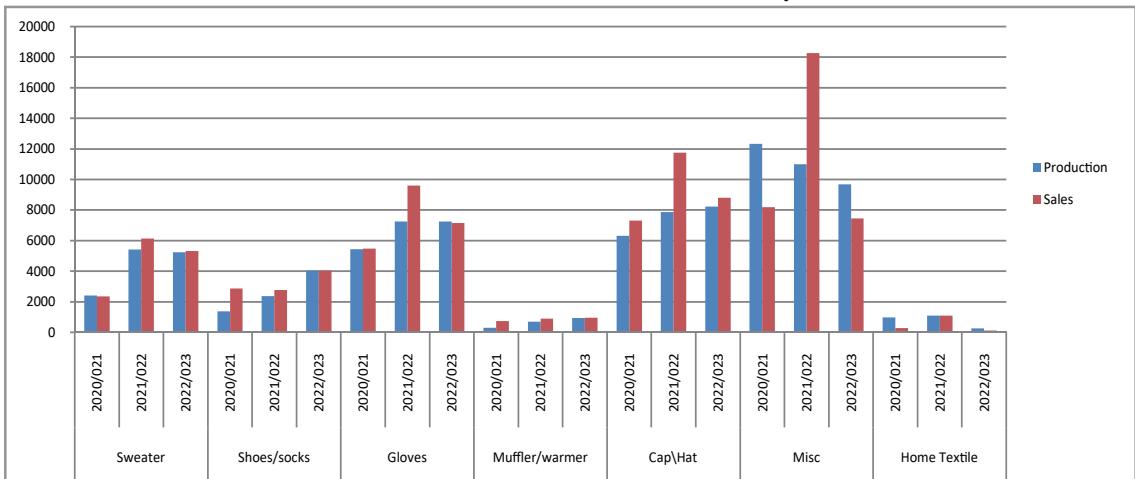
KTS staffs producing samples



Ms. Sani group leader

Ms Rina visiting group leader of producer

Production and sales status of KTS hand knitwear since last three years.



First QC



Cleaning & Label fixing



Kumbeshwar Cardigan



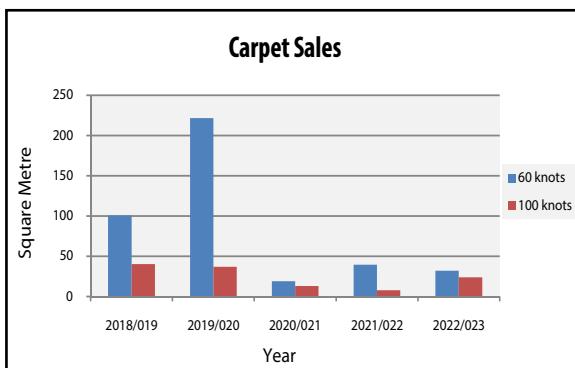
Final QC and packaging



Kumbeshwar Cardigan

CARPET WEAVING INCOME GENERATING PROG.

EXPENDITURE	INCOME	BALANCE
NPR 936,835	906,742	-30,093



In our carpet production unit, we are placing a strong emphasis on creating high-quality custom design carpets with the collaboration and support of interior designers, artists, friends, and well-wishers.

The sales of our carpets have faced significant challenges due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite these challenges, we are actively working to promote carpets made with local materials, particularly those crafted from banana fiber. Our commitment to innovation was recognized when our Banana carpet, featuring a modern abstract design, won the

award for the best innovative home decor product at the Mohammad Islam Design Competition during the World Fair Trade Organization Summit 2022 in Berlin.

As a result of this achievement, the carpet is now listed under the WFTO store on Ebay UK as part of the Ebay for Change initiative. The Secret Project in the UK is supporting us in marketing the carpet on Ebay and in the UK market. Encouraged by this success, we are designing more banana yarn rugs and exploring the use of other locally made materials, such as Sunpat and allo, to create new carpets and products. We hope that people will appreciate our new developments and extend their support to our efforts in promoting sustainable and innovative carpet designs.

Currently, our reliance is entirely on individual customers and buyers, presenting a substantial challenge in maintaining consistent employment for our artisans. Due to a substantial stock of carpets, we are compelled to slow down production and clear the existing inventory until demand picks up. The support of illustrator Mr. Chris Haughton and some individual customers has been crucial in allowing us to sustain our program during this challenging period.

We hope that KTS's well-wishers, friends, and customers will understand the situation and assist us in clearing the existing stock by placing orders for KTS handmade woollen or banana carpets. Your small contribution will be immensely helpful to us financially and will enable us to provide opportunities for our artisans to earn a living.

In the carpet production unit, there are currently 2 wool spinners, 5 carpet weavers, 1 trimmer, and 2 dyers diligently working. Your support will not only help sustain our program but also contribute to the livelihoods of these artisans.



Yarn dying



Custom Design carpet weaving



Banana Yarn Rug

CARPENTRY INCOME GENERATING PROG.

EXPENDITURE	INCOME	BALANCE
NPR 1,216,983	1,475,925	258,642

The carpentry unit regularly receives furniture orders from KTS staff, well-wishers, and partner organizations like Associations for Craft Producers. These orders create job opportunities for On-the-Job Training (OJT) trainees and staff, keeping everyone busy.

The Carpentry Income Generating Programme is beneficial for On-the-Job trainees. They gain hands-on experience in making different types of furniture. Additionally, they learn how to create small, useful, and low-cost furniture using leftover materials. The program also provides lessons on repairing old furniture. Trainees work on customer orders using quality materials like wood, ply, tic, and block board, with direct assistance from a trainer. It's also a great way to learn practical skills like managing production time, handling materials, figuring out costs, and dealing with customers.

The program extends its services to repairing furniture in the KTS primary school and office. This not only helps maintain and improve the furniture in these places but also provides additional practical work opportunities for trainees.

This year the carpentry unit has a surplus, which is very valuable for organization contributing to its finances and sustainability.



Customer commissioned door frame



Customer commissioned cupboard



Customer commissioned furniture.



Customer commissioned furniture.

KTS NEWS

KTS's annual general meeting took place on 4th November 2022 in line with the constitution of the organisation.

Member of KTS Mr. Satyendra Khadgi assigned as Marketing Director. He is looking after marketing including design inputs for new product, custom designed rugs plus quality control etc. He is also communicating with buyers and managing the Fair Trade Guarantee System.

Ms. Ramina Maharjan Primary School Teacher resigned after 19 years work due to personal reason. Similarly Ms. Kanti Awale Primary School Teacher resigned after 26 years work due to personal reason. Ms. Naincy Deula, "Administrative Assistance" resigned after 3 years work due to personal reason. Ms. Jamuna Maharjan Assistant Hand knitting instructor resigned after 16 years work due to personal reason. We extended our best wishes to each of them for a healthy, happy and prosperous life ahead. Their contribution during their years of service are appreciated, and we hope they find fulfillment in their future endeavors.



Farewell to Ramina



Farewell to Jamuna



Farewell to Jamuna

KTS staff, Mr. Ratnalal and Ms. Rina, educate home-based producers about KTS and its Fair Trade activities. During quality checks and knitwear collection, they discuss the 10 Fair Trade principles, emphasizing fair wages, safe working conditions, and sustainability. This helps promote ethical practices among producers.



KTS staffs Mr. Ratnalal and Ms. Rina sharing activities of KTS



Home based producers of KTS extending their suggestions.

KTS monitors its home-based knitting groups ensuring compliance with Fair Trade Standards. During monitoring visits, Ms. Rojina briefs the groups about the monitoring process, updates them on KTS activities and gathers feedback on Group Leader's interactiong with the group members as per Fair Trade norms. Additionally, she seeks feedback from Group Leaders their overall working experience with KTS in accordance with Fair Trade norms. This feedbacks loop help us ensure that KTS maintains a fair and mutually beneficial relationship with its producers.

Before starting a fire drill, Ms. Rojina briefed the assigned fire marshals of their responsibilities during emergency situations.



Ms. Rojina briefing about monitoring to group of knitwear producers at group leader's home.



Ms. Rojina briefing to assigned fire marshals before fire drill

Due to a continuous decline in income from sales and support, coupled with challenges in raising funds, the management faced a tough decision. With heavy hearts, they decided to temporarily suspend the orphanage program from July 16, 2023. Consequently, all staff members, including Ms. Namrata Thapa, Ms. Tara Deula, and Ms. Dilmaya Magar, chose to leave KTS. Ms. Tara had been with KTS since 1988, working as a maid. Ms. Namrata Thapa, who grew up in the orphanage, had later joined as an assistant matron after completing her Bachelor's degree. Ms. Dilmaya Magar had recently joined the team. Understanding the situation, all of them submitted their resignations, effective from July 16, 2023.

KTS Primary School Teachers Mr. Sajin Khadgi got married to his fellow teacher Ms. Chandra Jyoti Thapa. On this special occasion, KTS teachers and management presented a wedding gift to the newlyweds. The entire KTS family extended warm wishes for a happy, healthy, prosperous, and successful life together for the bride and groom.



Sajit & Chandrajyoti



Ms. Karuna giving present



Management with Primary teachers

The senior staff at KTS conducted a thorough review of the annual activities, paying special attention to the feedback from buyers regarding quality issues. They also discussed future programs, emphasizing their commitment and responsibilities. In addition to this, the management organized several meetings to ensure the smooth functioning of all social activities, including the income-generating program.

Master Neal Shrestha from Middle School, Texas, USA visited KTS for a week. He shared his educational and cultural experiences with KTS primary students. He taught Maths and computer subject to grade 3 to 5 in the Primary School.

Master Vir Narayan Shrestha and Master Mihir Narayan Shrestha (twins) from New Jersey, USA visited KTS for the fourth time for 2 weeks. Both of them shared their education and cultural experiences with KTS primary students.



Mihir Narayan Shrestha at class room



Vir Narayan Shrestha at class room

THANK YOU TO ALL KTS SUPPORTERS

On behalf of KTS, I extend heartfelt gratitude to all friends, well-wishers, KK members, supporters, individuals, buyers, and organizations for their direct or indirect support.

Special thanks to ACP (Association for Craft Producers) for consistently marketing KTS products, including furniture, carpets, and the KTS Nepalese Cookbook, through their showroom 'Dhukuti.'

We express sincere appreciation to the Chief District Administration Office in Lalitpur, National Child Right Council, Lalitpur Metropolitan City Office, Chairman, and members of Ward no. 11 Committee, SWC (Social Welfare Council), CTEVT, District Education Office, and various governmental, non-governmental, and international organizations.

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We extend our sincere gratitude to KASIN "Kids at School in Nepal" for their valuable sponsorship of our social activities, contributing significantly to the continuation of our programs.

A special thanks to the Executive Committee members and general members of KTS for their valuable time and support, ensuring the smooth operation of the organization during challenging times.

Finally, we would like to thank all the organizations, companies, and buyers who purchased KTS products in 2022-2023. Your contributions have significantly supported our income-generating programs and enabled the continuation of our social activities, including extra-curricular activities for KTS school children and various social and economic initiatives.



Neal Shrestha and Sajin in the class room

KUMBESHWAR KNITWEAR BUYERS

Japan Masako Ueda Fair Trade Company 5-1-16-3F, Okusawa Setagaya-KU, Tokyo 158-0083, Japan TEL: 81-3-5731-6093	Sweden Gunilla/Katarina AFROART Hornsgatan 58 118 21 Stockholm, Sweden Tel: +46 8 642 50 95
Germany Layla Engeln EL PUENTE GmbH Lise-Meitner-Str. 9, D-31171 Nordstemmen, Germany Tel.: +49 5069 348920,	Italia David Cambioli AltraQualita Via Toscanini, 11/A, 44124 Ferrara Italy Tel: +39 0532 978893
UK James Minney People Tree Ltd Studio 312, Netil House 1 Westgate St, Hackney, London E8 3RL, UK Tel.: +447456811177	Imogen Driver Little Cotton Clothes Maylite Unit Q Martley, Worcestershire WR6 6PQ, UK Tel: 447939073039
Pebblechild UK Ltd. Samantha Morshed Unit 6, Malton Enterprise Park 15 Cherry Farm Close Malton YO17 6AR, UK Tel: 07511 945192	Isabel Protopapa Bay & Fay 105 Lakehall, Road Thornton Heath, Surrey CR7 7EJ, U.K Tel: +447791524042
South Korea MI Young Lee Fair Trade Korea Co. Ltd 175-56 ANGUK-DONG, JONGNO-GU Seoul, Korea 110-240 Tel.: 82-2-739-7944-5	USA SERRV International INC 500 Main Street, P.O Box 365 New Windsor, Maryland 21776, USA Tel.: 410 635-8761
The Netherland Atelier Sukha/ Studio Ana Soi B.V. Irene Mertens / Sam Ijsbrandy Haarlemmerstraat 110, 1013 EW Amsterdam The Netherlands Tel: 0031 6 17190207 / 0031 6 14422336	Melissa Hand Ten Thousand Villages 704 Main St, AKRON, PA 17501-1319 USA 717-859-8100
Taiwan Elizabeth Twine Fair Trade Company 2F, NO.213, Section.1 Dihua Street, Datong District Taipei 103, Taiwan TEL: 02-25576780	Elizabeth Roney / LIZ ALIG 3851 Saunders Ave, Nashville, TN 37216, USA TEL: 317-457-6970

Australia Gai Berry Global Conduct 3 Church Street, Lilyfield. NSW. 2040 Australia, Tel: +61 0425225927	Denmark Sigrid Astrup Astrup Imperium Jaegersborggade 45, KLD TH 2200 CopenhagenN Denmark, TEL: 45 25 13 47 55
The Leprosy Mission Australia 26 Dougherty Road Heidelberg West Victoria 3081, Australia TEL: 61 3 98590 0577	Craft Sister Jaegersborggade 53 2200 Copenhagen N Denmark Tel 0045 42451614
Canada Sasha Hamilton Cuddle + Kind, 11 Trewin Lane Bowmanville, Ontario, L1C 4W9, Canada Tel: 647-534-7239	

KUMBESHWAR CARPET BUYERS

Australia Global Conduct/GAI BERRY 3 Church Street, Lilyfield. NSW. 2040 Australia, Tel: +61 0425225927	USA SERRV Self-Help International 2901 International Lane, Suite 200 Madison, WI 53704, USA Tel: 608 255 0440
UK Chris Haughton Madebynoder.com 61 Regent Studios 8 Andrews Road, London E8 4QN UK, 02072 544459, 07981 705233	Germany Daniel Pabst Atisan , Industriestrasse 31 40227 Dusseldorf, Germany Tel: +4917625110013
Julia Brooks 34 Paston rd, Samphire House, Mundesley, Norwich, Norfolk, NR11 8BW ENGLAND, UK Tel: 07434669439.	Nepal DHUKUTI (ACP) Kupandol, Lalitpur Nepal SANAHASTAKALA PVT LTD Jhamsikhel, Lalitpur Nepal



KUMBESHWAR TECHNICAL SCHOOL

HONORARY PATRONS

Mrs. Annmaree O'Keefe
Former Ambassador of Australia

Mr. Les B. Douglas
Former Ambassador of Australia

Mr. Timothy J.B. George
Former Ambassador of GT. Britain

ADVISOR

Mr. Uttam Ratna Dhakhwa

HONORARY MEMBERS

Ms. Phoebe Ravinhall
Former VSO Volunteer

KTS AMBASSADOR

Ms. Jan Hopkins
Former VSO Volunteer

THE KTS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Shanta Kumar Malla
Rtd. Lt. General.

Chairman

Mrs. Sharda Shrestha
Retired Judge of Supreme court

Vice Chairman

Miss Karuna Khadgi
Principal, KTS

Member

Mr. Deepak Kumar Khadgi
Social worker

Member

Mr. Ritu Raj Rai
Architect

Member

Mr. Babu Raja Shakya
Journalist

Treasurer

Mr. Kiran Bahadur Khadgi
Director, KTS

Member Secretary

Invitees:

Mr. Ram Nath Kayasth

Member

Mr. Satyendra Khadgi

Member

Mr. Ratna Lal Deula

Staff Representative

Organization & Internal Structure 2022/2023

KUMBESHWAR TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Sister concern export facilitator company Kumbeshwar Trading Centre.



Students are learning how to grow plants.



Nursery class



KTS students in the class



Students in extra curriculum class



6s & 7s Students participating in Hand writing contest







**KTS
GUARANTEED
FAIR TRADE**

10 Fair Trade Standards

- 1: Creating opportunities for economically disadvantaged producers,
- 2: Transparency and Accountability,
- 3: Fair Trading Practices,
- 4: Payment of a Fair Price,
- 5: Ensuring no Child Labour and Forced Labour,
- 6: Commitment to Non Discrimination, Gender Equity and Freedom of Association,
- 7: Ensuring Good Working Conditions,
- 8: Providing Capacity Building,
- 9: Promoting Fair Trade and
- 10: Respect for the Environment.