



Co-operative Youth Organization Nepal (COYON)

Benighat-8, Dhading, Nepal

Introduction

Recognizing the need for a more pragmatic approach to education that help meet our local demands at the bottom level whilst opening up opportunities and possibilities that can be used in enhancing nation's extremely diverse cultural particularities, in a thoroughly sustained and forward looking manner, Co-operative Youth Organization Nepal (COYON) was established in Benighat VDC of Dhading district, Nepal in the year of 2002. We are a team of well aspirant youths working to introduce such community – based educational and awareness programmes which we consider to be not only essential but very vital for moving towards achieving a confident and self reliant society. Since its establishment and despite the minimum available resources, we think we have done well at least in communicating with the local youths that only an educational modality having a strongly vocational academic and extra curriculum activities can help us meet our national objectives. In the last 3 years since our establishment some 460 students from 5 primary and 1 lower secondary school, of Benighat, Dhading have had already benefited from such small activities we introduced like teaching them how to brush their teeth properly, how to cut their nails, how important it is to keep our locality clean by means of community participation, how to manage the garbage, how to plant trees, how to help each other sincerely in the time of one's need. The results have encouraged us to strengthen this particular form of alternative educational modality which not only enhances individual's overall potentialities but also opens up opportunities whereby he or she can work to contribute to remedy much of the prevalent ills of the society.

In spite of the abundant and varied possibilities, our failures in the right utilization of locally available natural resource seem to have resulted in nation's underdevelopment and poverty. Keeping this in view, "COYON" has been formed with the effort of local enthusiasts, educated and self-motivated youngsters in the hope that we might as well be able to offer our own development perspectives if we work hard and remain honest.

In short COYON, stands for 'Co-operative Youth Organization Nepal' is a social and not-for-profit organization register under HMG Nepal, district level administration office of the Dhading district. A small network of rural youths has formed this organization keeping on view to bring the necessary changes in the Nepalese community that require for the standard living in this 21st century.

Formation

Even in this science and technology era, rural people have to keep themselves away from the normal formation of science & technology in comparison with the people from the urban area in the developing countries. Modern technologies are still beyond their imagination. Rural youths have to live without minimal necessity of living such as shelter, education, health, pure drinking water, electricity etc. Most of the children and youths are being victim

of the starvation in the developing countries like Nepal. A country with well educated people only could have a better constant on its sustainable development. There is no doubt that today's youths are the future of the Nation. In the rural areas education & awareness are much important. As saying demands "don't give them fish, taught them how to catch a fish" if the rural people gets better education that helps to generate the necessity of living, their lifestyle will increase dramatically. They will start to think in a rational way for living and feel themselves as a part of this earth.

Keeping in this mind, COYON's founder members use to think, discuss and have vision of doing and contributing something for those peoples. As a result young people who have similar thought of helping and serving people started a small campaign and keep putting their little effort for helping in these areas. With all the positive thought and vision we form "COYON" and it is on the stage of embryo.

We believe, little things that we do will changes a lot and a small contribution of the global community will helps to provide education, food, health and smile for the unprivileged people.

Aim & Objectives

As COYON consider on "taught them how to catch a fish" education is the main priority of COYON and they are working to raise awareness among the people in the rural area providing them education and vocational training. COYON conducts different educational programs to eradicate the social problems. The major objective of COYON is to provide education to the unprivileged children and helping them to build up their bright future. COYON is also working on the sector of health and environment by providing proper knowledge and awareness among the publics in the rural area. Agriculture is the main income generating and living base of the rural Nepalese, so one of the COYON's ambitions is to provide the agricultural training and run different agricultural programs in the rural Nepal. To get into the goal of aim and objective of the organization COYON will always encourage the people to wisely use locally available resources, which help to develop the economy of the local people and make them sustainable.

"Education for All" Campaign:

It has been already found out by global researchers without education no person is able to do anything, we also rightly agree with this and would like to spread education campaign very strongly. We have formulated and find out the following technique to spread education in our area.

- Consulting the stakeholders
We will have regular consultation, advices and co-ordination with our stakeholders to make the program as effective as possible.
- Field research
We can not at all run this program unless we have detail field research in every place we are targeting to run this program. Our organization along with few experts will make visit to the rural villages and find out the actual need of children. We will also

sort out that what the best way to help them is benefiting at maximum level through out the programmes.

- Data compiling
Detail data about the families, children, their economic status and environment affecting those children in the area from not being able to go to school is important factor to be taken account. So our staffs, volunteers and fascinators will make regular house to house, visit to get the exact information and update data accordingly.
- Community mobilization
We strongly feel that whole community needs to be mobilized in order to make the program successful in their own community making them fully aware of the existing educational needs.
- Community participation
Community participation is an important element in making local people aware about the benefit the project may bring.
- House hold visit
In order to find out the real problems of the children we will visit house to house to encourage the parents to send their children to SOP and OSP.
- Coordination and communication
We will make full coordination with the concern local, regional and national governmental and non-governmental agencies to communicate with them the local needs and problems.
- Monitoring and evaluation
We will monitor program on regular basis and evaluate its finding.
- Assisting facilitators in effective teaching
We will assist the facilitator for effective teaching methodology.
- Provision of extracurricular lesson or activities
We will encourage both the facilitator and children for extra curricular activities.
- Conduction follow-up activities.

Activities undertaken:

COYON has already been involved in the following projects alone and in association with honorary member as well as various interested donors from different countries.

- ❖ COYON built a small school library in Shree Chandradoya Primary School at Benighat - 8, Dhading that is supported by Ludwig and Luci Debuck (our German honorary members) and the primary school in Germany. Likewise COYON honorary members from Belgium and Canada have contributed some books, pen paper and other scholastic materials to the School library. COYON aims to extend its help in

building such kind of school library in more schools in the rural area of Dhading district.

- ❖ There are number of school in the roadside and small children have to cross the busy highway in order to go to school, the innocent children don't know much about traffic and the drives do not seems much alert about children crossing the roads, and number of road accident has been recorded, aware of the fact that the victim could be a school children. Keeping in this mind COYON has put up effort the 'drive slow' signboard in the Prithivi Highway and it is going to install more in near future.
- ❖ Due to the lack of educational materials most of Nepali children cannot attend school, as their parents are very poor. They cannot afford the necessary school expenses such as books, pen, copies and school dress. Seeing this, Hanuman Onlus from Italy has contributed some scholastic materials to the COYON and that has been distributed in the 5 different primary and lower secondary schools in the Benighat VDC of Dhading district. Hanuman Onlus is going to send such scholastic materials and clothes every year to be distributed in as many school and villages as possible in near future.
- ❖ Beside this COYON has undertaken various level of community based awareness programs in the villages as well as schools.

Successful story:

As we have mentioned above, since the formation of organization with the minimum resources, we have been able to carry out various projects. Running of various awareness programs on time to time, installation of drive slow board, distribution of scholastic materials, building of library in the schools are successful outcomes of our organization. We are so grateful to our respected donors, individuals and organization from abroad to make these activities comes true. Besides these we are thankful to all our volunteers' members and intellectuals who have put their sincere and selflessness efforts.

Future Planning

- Call for international volunteers
We have already work out and make programs for international volunteers who are willing to continue their work experiences, social minded, learn Nepalese cultures and tradition. We hope volunteers will gain lot of personal practical experiences while volunteering with COYON.
- Running educational awareness projects
As we feel education is the major need for development of people, we will continue providing education awareness campaign and programs on cleanliness, social responsibilities, health awareness, youth, woman and children programs.
- Installing more drive slow board on the road soon.

As the national highway runs across the village and schools area, we highly feel that speed check board are needed in various places specially area where schools is located.

- Build RCC roof in Chandrodaya Primary School.
Organization has already helped this school providing scholastic materials, running education programs like showing drama, educational movies, song competition, building library , The school needs strong RCC roof to protect the children from rain, heat, we are looking for funding agency which can help in building the RCC roof.
- Culture awareness programs:
The younger generation needs to follow their culture and tradition along with education so various dance competition, folk songs, dramas will be performed.
- Education with fun:
The national singers performing the cultural show will enhance the cultural awareness and help them to grow up as responsible citizens. Since past couple of years the folk songs seems to be a strong media in Nepal as most of the rural and uneducated people can understand it very easily and enjoy it. COYON is planning to consult with national level folk song artists to prepare an audio cassette based on value of education and distribute them all over the country as well as broadcast them on national Medias.

Obstacle or hindrance

Though volunteers are kind enough to provide their physical and moral support, we strongly felt that economic funding is so much necessary to carry out much more works. The communication, lack of fund, and so many obstacles are hindering to carry out our works smoothly.

To run the organization, a proper place with some office equipment is much needed. COYON has so far been conducting its activities in different locations with limited recourses. We now feel that, as the activities and members are grow; COYON is very much in need of a small amount of materials and equipment to meet minimum administrative requirements. We believe that availability of the office equipment and materials will help us to manage our work, the project, and the planned activities more smoothly, efficiently and effectively.

So far, COYON is running with very limited recourses. We are willing to work under any conditions, and have been doing so since the inception of the organization. Often, however, COYON members experience the need of official equipment for more effective administration and records keeping. We have just been able to rent a room in the village as our office and we are still need of general official equipments such as telephone, camera, computer, printer etc.

Conclusion

Even if the organization have different sort monetary, social and political problem, it is working on its way to achieve the objectives and ambition it has. The organization is fond of

suggestion, assistance and support from any individual or organizations. Your suggestion and comment will lead us on the right path towards our mission and your monetary support will give education, food, health and happiness to a person in this world.

Contribution

If in case you feel our activities are going well for the social benefits and our aim and objectives are directed towards the correct path, then you may want to provide any moral, physical or monetary support. For any kind of comment and suggestion please do write us an email to coyon@coyon.org.np or use our Kathmandu mailing address. For monetary support except cash you can send your contribution to any of our following contact address. Please use our bank account for any amount of cash contribution.

AC #: K11444S
AC Name: Co-operative Youth Organization Nepal
Banker: Kumari Bank Limited,
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Any kind of comment and contribution will be highly appreciated.

Contact COYON.

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