

PDRC

Making your dream into reality

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH CENTER

Annual Report 2012



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



"Investing in young Dalit's higher education does not necessarily mean that elevates the status of the Dalit community only but it also means producing competent human resource for the country's development. "

I am extremely pleased to have completed four years as president of this organization. In this context, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to my colleagues in the board, staffs, donors and well-wishers for their continuous support in making my tenure successful, productive and effective. It is important to note that the organization has gone through many ups and downs to reach this stage.

Despite numerous obstacles it has been facing since its establishment, PDRC continues to march towards its objective of increasing Dalit's access to quality, value-based and employable education.

Investment in higher education doesn't fall under the priority of neither the state nor the other agencies concerned. Provided the stakeholders promote the work of this organization, it would be easier for us to expand our services to the people living far from Kathmandu.

In the past, Dalit community experienced consistent denial of access to education by the state itself. Education is the prerequisite for the individual empowerment and overall development of the community. In this respect, there is an urgent need of playing proactive role in order to uplift the education status of Dalit community. It requires the sizable financial investment, however.

The state has adopted several social measures to incorporate excluded groups like Dalit in the mainstream of the nation. However, member of this community have not been able to utilize the opportunities due to the serious lack of skills and competencies. There are large numbers of talented, diligent youths in this community but their talent has been shadowed by their poverty and social status. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the state to let their talent grows and prospers.

Investing in young Dalit's higher education does not necessarily mean that elevates the status of the Dalit community only but it also means producing competent human resource for the country's development. Therefore, it is our genuine request everyone to take this matter to an account and support the initiative of our organization.

With the little support from individual and institutional donors, PDRC has been able to rescue numbers of students reached on the verge of dropout. By informing, empowering and engaging Dalit youths, we are developing the future leaders in Nepal. We invite you to read them in the pages of this report. We also extend our deepest thanks to all who make this organization's work possible and who share our belief that educating our youths is critical to transforming and improving the lives of our people.

Thanks for helping to make this possible and many other success stories!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Kamala Hemchuri'.

Kamala Hemchuri
President

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title page.....	1
Letter from president.....	2
Table of content.....	3
Chapter 1: Introduction.....	4-5
Highlight from 2012.....	6
Chapter 2: Programs and services.....	7-13
Chapter 3: Monitoring and Evaluation.....	14
Chapter 4: Partnership and collaboration.....	15-16
Chapter 5: Support received.....	16
Chapter 6: Case studies.....	17-18
Chapter 7: Others.....	19-21
Chapter 8: Lesson learned and future direction.....	22
Chapter 9: Financial snapshot 2012.....	23-25
Our reach.....	26
Contact address.....	27

1.1 WHO WE ARE

Professional Development & Research Center (PDRC) is an independent not-for-profit founded in 2005 with the commitment to make difference in the lives of Dalit and marginalized community; that are socially excluded, economically deprived and politically backward. PDRC exclusively works in the education sector to increase their access to quality higher education. They are further equipped with professional skills and competencies so that they can be a true professionals in their chosen career. Similarly, PDRC equally involves advocacy based on research and explorations.

PDRC assists to the career development of Dalit youths by informing, empowering and engaging them through various means to contribute to their professional, success and in turn the success of their communities and nation. Without having access to quality higher education, sustainable empowerment of an individual is not possible. In order to ensure Dalit's right to education, values based initiatives and efforts are required. Having realized these very fundamental issues, PDRC has been working to promote the access and right to formal quality education for Dalit that can and has lead to improved, dignified and productive life in the society.

OUR VISION

Create a discrimination free society through education.

OUR MISSION

To ensure quality, value-based and employable education for Dalits and marginalized

OUR OBJECTIVES

- 1) To increase Dalit and marginalized students' access in quality higher education
- 2) To establish PDRC as a sustainable, resourceful and strong advocacy organization

OUR SHARED VALUES

PDRC is committed to its goal of eradicating caste-based discrimination through education. The following core values guide all that we do:

Fairness: We believe in behaviors, attitudes and activities that ensure that we treat each and every member of the team and community politely and fairly

Self esteem: We develop Dalit individuals who believe and have confidence in their ability and value

Commitment: Producing committed community members is the ultimate goal of the organization.

Youth oriented: Youths are the future hope of our community and nation. We are committed to creating an environment of value based, quality and employable education for Dalit youth.

Integrity: In all matters, we will be transparent, honest and moral. We will also act with principles of accountability and credibility with our stakeholders.

Team spirit: Through trust, respect and empathy, we will work cooperatively, collaboratively and leverage the diversity within our internal and external team.

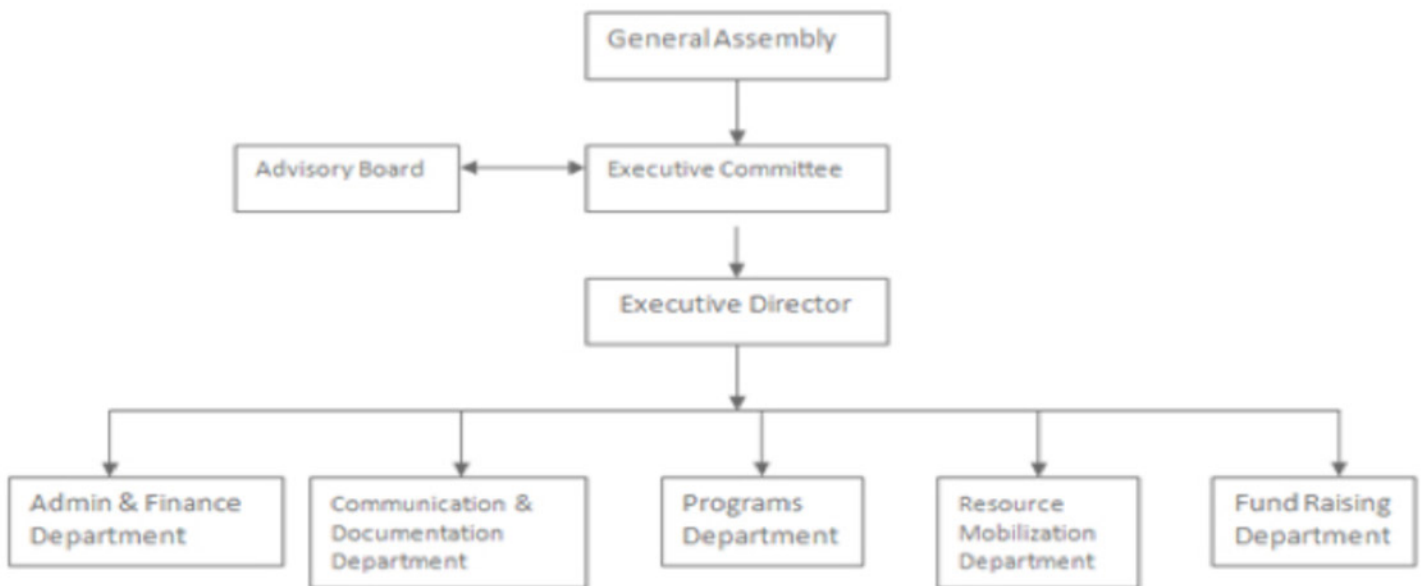
Volunteerism: The spirit of giving is the historic cornerstone of PDRC. We encourage and promote individuals to act with a sense of ownership, contribute to the success of their careers, and give back to their communities and nation.

1.2 THE STRATEGY

- Contributing to the career development by informing, empowering and engaging Dalit youths
- To establish PDRC as a strong nationally recognized research based advocacy organization contributing to formulating and implementing pro-Dalit policies effectively
- To mobilize national and international resources
- To increase linkages and relations with national and international educational institutions
- To establish a distinct and sustainable network to inform and educate Dalit and marginalized communities
- To improve the PDRC infrastructure and human resource capabilities to support the growth of the organization
- To establish mutually beneficial partnership with the students and alumni in becoming PDRC ambassadors and promoting the spirit of volunteerism

1.3 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

PDRC is governed by a dedicated board that brings a diverse set of skills from leadership positions in national and international organizations. Learn more at <http://pdrc.org.np/team.php>



PDRC EXECUTIVE BOARD



PDRC MANAGEMENT TEAM



HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2012

Formed a joint consortium of governmental and non-governmental organizations to run PSC preparation classes. The member organizations include National Dalit Commission (NDC), Dalit NGO Federation (DNF), Nepal National Dalit Society Welfare Organizations (NNDSWO), Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO) and Nepal Dalit Personnel Society (NDPS-Nepal) including Professional Development and Research Center (PDRC).

PDRC president nominated for N-Peace Award for her contribution to improve the educational status of Dalit community in Nepal.

Established a well-equipped Resource Center to meet the independent learning needs of the students. It has 10 computers with strong power back up and connected by the strong internet connectivity.

PDRC student Sujan B K has been selected by the Government of Nepal to study in the MBBS program at Quaid-Azam Medical College in Pakistan under the scholarship scheme of the government of Pakistan.

Organized an interaction program with HARVARD student Mr. Subhas Ghimire entitled "My journey: from Gorkha to Harvard." He is a student of Public Policy at John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Prepared PDRC institutional logo song. This is probably the first-of-its-kind initiation in the history of NGOs in Nepal.

Launched an innovative internship program in partnership with the Center for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI). Under this program, highly motivated seven youths selected for six month's internship at CECI's sectoral partner's offices.

Signed an agreement with the HELVETAS Swiss incooperation to establish and maintain national level database of educated Dalit youths in Nepal.

PDRC has been granted membership of National Campaign for Education (NCE). It is an implementing partner of Global Campaign for Education (GCE). NCD has 52 organizations ranging national and international organization working in the education sector in Nepal.

PDRC provided one research grant to Dr. Tara Lal Shrestha for writing a research-based book on Dalit issues. This book is supposed to offer new conceptual insight on Dalit issues.

PDRC also provided two small research grants to the graduates of second cohort of Academic and Intellectual Discourse on Dalit to carry out their master's level thesis.

2.1 DR. TOM JACOBSEN FUND

Dr. Tom Jacobsen Fund was established by the financial support of Norway-based Company named Jarla AS. This fund is named after its CEO Dr. Tom Jacobsen. Through this fund, he has pledged to provide life long support to PDRC for the benefits of dalit youths.

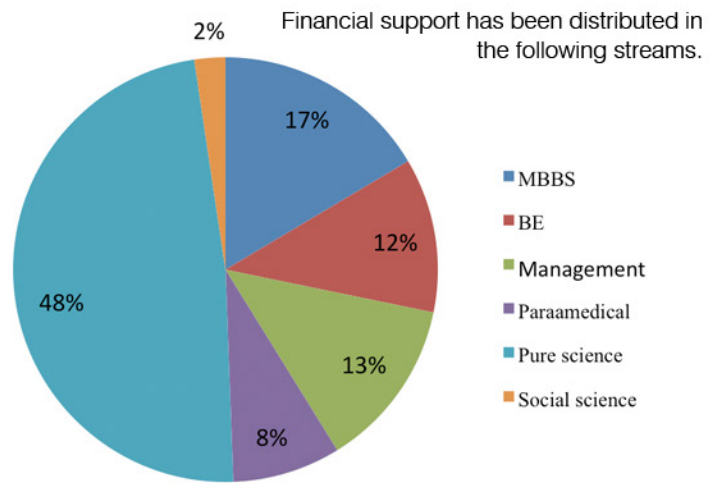
The foremost objective of this fund is to provide financial support in higher education in the form scholarship and payback scholarship. Under this, PDRC selects and provides supports to the individuals in the need of assistance as a result of economic challenges and extreme poverty. The beneficiaries of this program are only Dalit and marginalized students of Nepal. Once the students are selected for certain course, they are provided support until their designated course completes.

In 2012, Ten (9 Male & 1 Female) students received payback scholarship for bachelor's degree and 15 received scholarship for 10+2. More than 85 students have been benefited since the fund's inception in 2009.

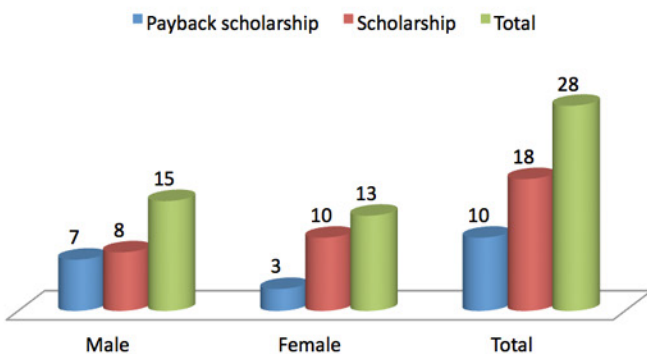
“Our hope is that by offering the opportunity for further education, scholarship participants will not only be able to improve their own future, but also that of their own communities.”- PDRC president

Scholarship Distribution since 2009 till date

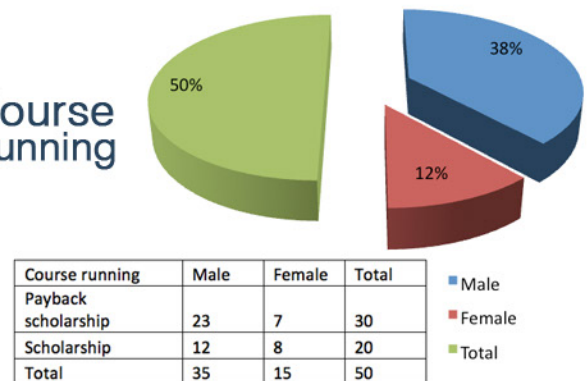
Categories	2009		2010		2011		2012		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Scholarship	3	0	7	11	7	4	5	5	42
Payback Scholarship	5	2	18	7	1	0	9	1	43
Total	8	2	25	18	8	4	14	6	85



Course Complete



Course Running



Course running	Male	Female	Total
Payback scholarship	23	7	30
Scholarship	12	8	20
Total	35	15	50

2.2 YOUTH EMPOWERMENT IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (YEST)



Youth Empowerment in Science and Technology is the signature program of PDRC. This program was established with an objective to provide guidance and assistance to the students in various competitive exams such as medical engineering, paramedical sciences, forestry and agriculture etc.

PDRC itself conducted four sessions at different times in 2012 for medical entrance preparation classes.

MPACT: Three students became qualified to study MBBS for this year. They're Sujan B K, Chabbi Lal Nepali and Kshitiz Nepali. The point to note here is that Sujan and Chabbi are the beneficiaries of Dr. Tom Jacobsen Fund.

It is also another milestone achievement for PDRC that Sujan B K has been selected by the government of Nepal to study in the MBBS program at Quaid-Azam Medical College in Pakistan under the scholarship scheme of the PTAP, government of Pakistan. Similarly, Kshitiz and Chhabi are studying MBBS at Patan Academy of Health Sciences and Kathmandu Medical College respectively.

Finally, three students cleared the highly competitive entrance exam of engineering conducted by the Pokhara University this year. They're Shanta Bahadur Sarki and Deepak B K. Shanta is scholarship recipient of Dr. Tom Jacobsen Fund in 10+2. Now, they are both studying bachelors of engineering in Nepal Engineering College Bhaktapur under full scholarship.

2.3 EMPOWERING DALIT DAUGHTERS (EDD)

PDRC established Empowering Dalit Daughters (EDD) project with the commitment to empower Dalit daughters through academic excellence and leadership skills. In 2006, we selected 24 highly talented and motivated Dalit girls across the country and brought them in Kathmandu to enroll them in the top colleges of Nepal. Through this program, PDRC has sought to increase the access and equity of Dalit girls in higher education, while building their leadership abilities. PDRC offered them college scholarship including food and accommodation. These young women are supposed to be the role model for changing the perception about the roles of women and Dalits in the community. This is a five year's project and has come to an end recently.

IMPACT: MBBS studying- 2, Masters cleared- 2, Bachelor's degree cleared- 13, Bachelor degree persuing - 5. One student became the University gold medalist.



PDRC STUDENT HEMA BECAME A GOLD MEDALIST

PDRC's student Hema Shreepaili received a gold medal from the government of Nepal for her outstanding academic performance. She scored highest marks in the 10th batch (2008- 2011) of three year's bachelor's program of hotel management. This coveted medal was awarded on the occasion of 39th anniversary of NATHM.



GOLD MEDALIST

HEMA SHREEPAILI
Bachelor in Hotel Management, NATHM
Tribhuvan University

PDRC president Kamala Hemchuri told that Hema's achievement is evidence that there are tremendously talented students in our community." She further adds, "They have to be nurtured in a special environment so that they emerge confident and competent human resource for nation building." Similarly, vice president Bhim B K advised her to keep working hard for greater accomplishments in the future. NATHM representative Mr. Shiva P. Jaishi said that Hema is a disciplined student coupled with hard working nature.

Beneficiary's snapshot: *"It is the most cherished moment for me. I am so excited and thrilled. By getting accepted to EDD program, I feel like luckiest person in the world. I wouldn't have achieved this success without PDRC's support. Therefore, this is a great honor, not only for me but for the PDRC who invested in*

PDRC STUDENT WENT TO MALAYSIA FOR INTERNSHIP

PDRC's student Prashansa Nepali went to Malaysia for six month's internship at Hyatt Regency, Kuantan Resort in Malaysia, one of the most distinguished tourism destinations in the world. She is studying Bachelor in Hospitality and Catering Management (BHCM) at Kantipur College of Catering and Hospital Management in Kathmandu. The hospitality students are required to complete an internship as a part of their four year's academic program. They are conferred with academic credit for the successful internship.



2.4 ACADEMIC AND INTELLECTUAL DISCOURSE ON DALIT



PDRC conducted second cohort of Academic and Intellectual Discourse on Dalit this year from 13 May- 13 July, 2012. This is a two-month comprehensive course designed to equip and stimulate upcoming generation through a multi-perspective approaches to critically analyze Dalit movement in Nepal. It further aims to bring enthusiastic youths into a critical debate of more comprehensive analysis and explorations of Dalit issues. This is also an opportunity for youths for their leadership development and also build network with the fellow graduates including the academicians and scholars. This course has played an integral role in the PDRC's mission to inspire Dalit youths, improving their knowledge and skills.

The Graduates were awarded with the certificate of participation on 17 July, 2012 at Dr. Dilli Raman Regmi Library in Lazimpat, Kathmandu. 22 participants from diverse background graduated in the second cohort.

"This program is an avenue for academicians, scholars and rising young professionals from diverse background to gather, research and exchange ideas on how socially excluded Dalits are best mainstreamed in the process of democratization. The participants will experience intellectual renewal, strengthen their abilities and broaden their perspective about one of the most unheard, unseen and unreached community of Nepal." PDRC president

2.5 LOBBY AND ADVOCACY

64th Int'l Human Rights Day Celebrated

In order to commemorate 64th International Human Rights Day, PDRC organized a national level essay contest among Dalit youths entitled the Role of Higher Education in Promoting Dalit's Human Rights. The essay contest was divided across the two categories namely 10+2 and bachelor and the college level Dalit youths were invited to write an essay on the given topic. The main objective of the essay competition is to give youths an opportunity to express themselves on the human rights issues concerning Dalit community.

Nearly 24 youths across the nation participated in the competition, which ended on 5 Dec, 2012. The winning essays were selected after a thorough screening by a judging panel on the presented ideas on the basis of their originality, relevance to the topic, fairness and clarity of expression. The essays were also assessed in software to check the possible plagiarism, which is presumably new to the Nepalese context.

Susma Rasaily and Kiran B K were declared winner in program organized on 8 Dec, 2012 in the bachelor and intermediate level respectively. Both were awarded by certificate and cash prize. Speaking at the prize giving ceremony, the prominent human rights lawyer Tek Tamrakar, said human rights is not an issue of mere intellectual discussion, and it must be translated into action and behavior.



"PDRC has very noble objectives" said chief guest Dr. Leela Pathak, Member, National Human Rights Commission of Nepal. She further opined that the Nepalese society suffered sustainable inequalities due to the state's indifference in the past towards Dalit community. She urged the government to adopt some policy measures to empower the socially excluded groups like Dalit. She further added, **"Every child must be grown up with strong values so that he/she can compete with anyone, irrespective of his caste and gender."**

The PDRC institutional logo song was also made public on the same program. When the chief guest Dr. Pathak clicked in the computer screen, the audience stood from their seat to cheer up the song. This is probably the first of its kind for the NGOs in Nepal.

21st March Observed

The 47th International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is observed in Kathmandu on 21 March, 2012. This historic day was marked jointly by sister organizations of the major political parties and Dalit civil society organizations. This day aims to remember the murder of 69 innocent blacks by police in a peaceful demonstration in Sharpeville, South Africa in 1960.

PDRC also participated in a peaceful demonstration on March 21 in Kathmandu. This rally later turned into an interaction program entitled National Seminar Dalit Rights in New Constitution at Nepal Academy Hall, Kamaladi and Kathmandu. The main leaders of the main political parties were present at the program. They pledged to work to ensure the rights of Dalits. They also noted the need for vigorous struggle of the peoples of the special rights of Dalits.



2.6 OUR CORE SERVICES INCLUDE

Academic and career counseling

Academic and Career Counseling is one of the most popular services of PDRC among the students. Students are offered counseling to the academic advising and career goals. This helps students improve their academic standing and further assist them in planning their academic, personal and career goals. After the counseling, the students seem to be benefited to make an informed decision while choosing the career. More than 3500 students have taken counseling services from PDRC.

IMPACT: 300 students counseled for their educational needs in 2012. More than 3500+ students counseled since the establishment of the organization.

Sankalp “The commitment”

This is the age of information. It is very important to have an access to information for education and career advancement opportunities. Under this program, PDRC collects all the information about the available opportunities in higher education and disseminate that information across the country through different channels and networks.

In this connection, PDRC prepared a letter containing the information about all the available opportunities in higher education and sent them in all government/public schools across the nation including 75 district education offices. In the recent times, PDRC has also been social media massively for this purpose.

IMPACT: Students from the remote areas started inquiring about the scholarships and their number increased every consecutive years.

Facilitation and Training

After the reemergence of democracy, there are few opportunities available for socially excluded groups. Despite access to information, they lack the knowledge and skills required to grab the opportunities available for them. In this connection, PDRC has also established a resource center which has 10 computers connected with the high speed internet connectivity. They're also trained with other soft skill trainings. We also use our resource center for this purpose.

IMPACT: 2 students selected for Fulbright Commission's one year student exchanges program and one student is also selected for Fulbright Commission's master's program. He is going to study public policy in one of the finest universities of US beginning of the August, 2013. One student is selected for 9 month-long internship at USAID and another for World Health Organization (WHO) in Nepal.

PSC preparation classes

Dalit community has been demanding for their meaningful participation in the state mechanism. As a result, there are certain quotas allocated for Dali candidates. Unfortunately, many seats allocated for Dalits still go unused each year. Keeping this fact into serious considerations, PDRC started PSC preparation classes' examsc with an objective to insure dalit's participation in the decision making level. In 2011, 20 students were provided support to take classes in an institute. The number of candidates increased to 30 this year.

IMPACT: 2 candidates Yashoda Ghimire and Bikas Sundas entered into the government services of Nepal through PDRC services. We were also succeeding to form a consortium of six different government and non-government organization working for Dalits. We have established a basket fund for conducting PSC preparation classes for 2013. 30 candidates have been taking classes in a designated institute.

CHAPTER 3: MONITORING AND EVALUATION

PDRC is committed to the highest possible standard of services to the students. At the same time, PDRC is also committed to measuring the impact and outcomes of our programs and services. The result and case studies in this report illustrate our strategy of continuously evaluating the benefits that our efforts bring and programs are designed to achieve. To measure these outcomes, PDRC personnel visit the colleges/universities of the students three times in a year. The Social Welfare Council Nepal also supervises our work once in a year.



CHAPTER 4: PARTNERSHIP AND COLLABORATION

PDRC's partnership with CECI

Professional Development and Research Center (PDRC) and Center for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI) partnered to start an innovative traineeship program for socially excluded Dalit youths. The foremost objective of this project is to provide opportunities for selected number of youths who are passionate about building their career in the development sector.



It further aims at bringing added value to the assignments of the Students without Borders (SWB) interns from Canada by matching the assignments of the local interns. This internship program commenced from 6 August with the beginning of two months training and last after four months excluding training time. After selection, trainees need to go through comprehensive induction program for grasping the true objective of this program. After two months training of English language, computer essential and administrative skills at New Era, 7 out of 10 were posted in one of the offices of CECI's sectoral partners. During the training, they are provided mentoring and performance feedback to help them prepare for career in the development sector.

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CECI provided a financial support to establish a resource center. With that support PDRC has bought 10 computers and installed one power back up. It's a Wi-Fi service enabled zone. In addition, CECI provided one intern named Alexandra Charlot and one L4C Volunteer named Jennifer Robertson.

PDRC joined National Campaign for Education

Professional Development and Research Center (PDRC) has been granted the membership of National Campaign for Education (NCE), which is an implementing partner of Global Campaign for Education (GCE). It primarily works for carrying out advocacy intervention in education.

The main mandate of NCE is to ensure quality education for all by raising voice of the voiceless so as to guarantee quality education in equitable basis. It has members ranging from international and national non-government organizations, federations, education journalists, national non-government organizations and teachers' association.



GLOBAL CAMPAIGN FOR
EDUCATION
www.campaignforeducation.org

PDRC through this platform will bring the educational issues of Dalits into forefront. It will further focus on holding the government accountable for their role in providing quality education to Dalit.

HELVETAS-PDRC Partnership



HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation and PDRC signed an agreement with regard to providing inception fund to PDRC to establish and maintain database of educated Dalit youths to help them get employment through a regularly updated roster that will be shared periodically to the various stakeholders including donors, UN agencies, INGOs, NGOs, private sectors and of course the government agencies. This financial support from HELVETAS to PDRC is a part of HELVETAS's commitment for Dalit upliftment by increasing employment opportunities to educated Dalit youths. HELVETAS also provided used (usable) computer hardware to PDRC to support the database project.

In this connection, PDRC has collaborated with the feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO) by forming a consortium.

CHAPTER 5: SUPPORT RECEIVED

5.1 PDRC receives donation Support

PDRC received a financial donation from a Karin Lorum, a friend from Norway. This donation was made during her last visit to Nepal. During her visit to PDRC, she said that she believe in the transformational power of education and thus always emphasize the responsibility of the person like her to contribute to society and being kind and generous to others.

From her support, PDRC provided financial assistance to one deserving student named Bikash Gayak for completing his bachelor degree in pharmacy. On behalf of PDRC, we would like to extend a heart-felt thanks to her.

5.3 ICRC donated used IT equipments



ICRC

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) delegation in Nepal donated used IT equipments to PDRC for supporting the more effective and efficient management of daily office works of the organization.

The equipments are HP server, HP 17" LCD monitor and HP LaserJet printer. Mr. Caroline Mesle, administrator of ICRC Nepal delegation handed over these equipments to PDRC executive director Birendra Biswakarma at ICRC premises in a program organized on 28 December, 2012.

5.2 Pravin Karki's support to Dalit youths

Pravin Karki, who resides in the United States, signed an agreement with PDRC for sponsoring PDRC students for two academic years effective from the month of July, 2012. Through this support, Mr. Karki will provide financial support to PDRC to sponsor needy students to complete their 10+2 education in any colleges of Kathmandu.

As of now, this scholarship has been awarded to six students comprising two girls and four boys.



CHAPTER 8: SUCCESSFUL STORY - SUJAN B K

Sujan leaves for Pakistan to study MBBS



Sujan came in contact with PDRC through one of his distant relative brother. As advised by PDRC, he took admission in the intensive international college in 10 +2 in science and got scholarship through the HSEB Scholarship Student Scholarship Bank program. PDRC also lobbied the management team of the college to succeed to waive the practical fees substantially.

Sujan stayed in a hostel managed by PDRC close its office. PDRC also provided all the furniture to him. When he was in class XII, his father diagnosed with the brain tumor. His family spent substantial amount of money for his treatment. He was also passing through the series of problems at that time. He said that PDRC was the only organization that he could trust then. He used to share his father's desire for him to become a doctor. His father is a only bread winner in the family and it was also difficult for him to complete 10+2.

He received regular counseling and motivation from PDRC in such situation. His first division marks in 10+2 didn't bring happiness in his face because he was more worried about his uncertain further education. PDRC advised him to enroll in B.Sc. in a government college and prepare for MBBS entrance exam simultaneously. PDRC also provided him a scholarship to support his studies.

He opined that this small support from PDRC instigated a tremendous faith and support to work hard for his father's long cherished dream. His consistent attendance in all the preparation classes conducted by this organization also enabled him to be a potential candidate for MBBS. Finally, he appeared in the MBBS entrance test of MoE for the August session and passed the qualifying exam for studying MBBS.

He has been selected by the government of Nepal to study MBBS program in Pakistan under full scholarship program. This shows that a person can achieve his goal despite the daunting obstacles but he/she needs perseverance. PDRC executive director Birendra Biswakarma said that this is one of the greatest achievements of our student.

CHAPTER 8: SUCCESSFUL STORY - SHYAM NEPALI

Shyam's journey from Mugu to USA

He was born in economically backward family but literate. His father was teacher. Being from a literate family he was given education since his very childhood. Though poor but they were happy with what they have. But his happiness with his family did not last longer. He had to leave his family due to the fear of the Maoists. He was brought to the capital city at his very young age and was admitted to the school which he never wanted "things do not happens according to what we want and we need to accept whatever comes to the way". It was the same situation for Shyam.

After completing his high schooling he went back home. Being from a conservative family and society his mother wanted him to stay back home and get married but he wanted to study and earn more so that neither he nor his kids has to face any sort of financial problem like him from very small age. He came back to Kathmandu and meet Mr. Birendra Bishwakarma the executive director of PDRC for any scholarships or any kind of support he could get.

He was admitted to Milestone College as a science major according to him "I had never imagined that I would ever study science in days to come". Like his school days he had to face the same financial problem. He hardly had money even to buy a set of books. Besides he even had to repay the money at Swapna Batika School. He started to seek job. For money he escaped many of his classes and did all sorts of work he had ever imagined he would ever do but money and situation made him do everything. He has worked as a bouncer and the saddest thing is he has also washed dishes at the hotels.

Later, he came in touch with PDRC and this time he came for career counseling. He came in touch with Mr. Rup Sunar the program manager. Shyam says "I was really impressed by the welcoming and calm behavior of Mr. Sunar. I was told about the many opportunities that I can get."

Currently he is studying at North- West College, Powell, Wyoming as Engineering major. In USA too he had to come across many challenges whether it was from food to making friends. But he was able to come across everything due to his calm, determined and the way of looking at the problem and solving it with maturity character which he possessed in himself since his very childhood.



CHAPTER 9: OTHERS

PDRC 7th Anniversary Celebrated

PDRC celebrated its 7th anniversary on July 17, 2012 at Dilliraman-Kalyani Regmi Memorial Library located in Lazimpat, Kathmandu. Government representative, PDRC advisory members, executive members, management team and students were present at the meeting.



The program started with the welcome speech from PDRC secretary Ram Charmakar. After the welcome speech, PDRC executive director Birendra Biswakarma made a short presentation about PDRC activities and its major accomplishments in the past one year. He shared some of the key achievements that PDRC has helped to shape the future of many Dalit youths.

Among the speakers were Dr. Tara Lal Shrestha, subaltern writer and a lecturer at Tribhuvan University. He inspired participants, specially the youths, to be academically sound and competent. He further added, "This community must make its presence everywhere including the state beurocracy. Your focus must be in education because it gives the scholarly grist to the people"



The other eminent present in the meeting also acknowledged the contribution of PDRC. Dalit intellectual Hira Bishwakarma told that PDRC has been doing a phenomenal work in its sector. Unfortunately, neither the government nor the donor agencies seems to have been serious in this matter. Higher education doesn't fall under their priority. Therefore, PDRC must be serious in finding adequate resources for its sustainability. Similarly, Dr. Lekhnath Poudel, undersecretary at Ministry of Education (MoE) said, ***"In recent years, the number of services that you're providing at PDRC have grown. You're focusing your energy and attention exclusively in higher education which is worth praising. I believe that this investment will certainly define the future Dalit movement."***



Likewise, the chair of the State Restructuring Committee (SRC) Dr. Madan Pariyar also appreciated PDRC work. He further told, "These accomplishments seem to me crucial in further advancement of Dalit movement in the future. PDRC has really evolved profoundly in its mission to unlock the potentiality of our youths." In her concluding remarks, PDRC president Kamala Hemchuri acknowledged the role of individuals and the organizations that helped PDRC bring to this stage.

Interaction with HARVARD student

PDRC organized a talk program with Mr. Subhash Ghimire on 9th June, 2012 in Kathmandu. Mr. Ghimire is a student of public policy at John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He shared his journey from the tiny village of Gorkha to Harvard University.



He comes from a remote village called Arupokhari in Gorkha District, Nepal. He is also the founder and executive chairman of The Saraswati Foundation. After having spent four months in helping war affected kids in Arupokhari, a remote village in western Nepal, he started the foundation to further the cause and help war affected kids attend school. He also established a library with more than 1,600 books. "I am a wildly optimistic person willing to sacrifice for my country so that future generations do not have to suffer the same way. I believe that changing a country has to start with educating the young generation and that is where I am investing my energy." he confessed his conviction.

He has been recognized for his achievements with several awards and honors. A few of these include most recently receiving the US Embassy Youth Advisory Council Award, the Distinguished Senior Leadership Award from St. Olaf in 2010, and the Clinton Global Initiative University in 2012 and the Epic Change Fellow Award in 2010.



Award Ceremony held at PDRC

Ankush Nagarji, a talented Dalit youth currently pursuing his Masters in Sociology/Anthropology at Tribhuvan University has been felicitated with Dambar Singh and Seti Rasali Award for the year 2068. The event was held in PDRC on 25 May, 2012. This award was established by Veterinary Scientist, Public Health Expert and Professor Dr. Drona Prakash Rasali in memory of his late Grandfather and Mother to encourage the engagement of Dalit youths in a scholarly study of social, political and economic issues of Dalit community through inter-disciplinary perspectives.

The award consists of Letter of Appreciation along with the cash sum of Rs. 10,000. Chief Guest, Dr. Om Gurung, Head of the Department of Sociology/Anthropology at Tribhuvan University, handed over the award to Mr. Nagarji whereas the cash was presented by Om Prakash B K, a very close relative of Dr. Rasali. The special letter of congratulation sent by Dr. Rasali was also read out in the program.

Speaking on the function, chief guest Dr. Gurung said, "There are similarities between Dalit and Indigenous community when it comes to the right-based issues. We are emotionally attached to it but that alone is not enough. We have to be involved in massive policy research and informed advocacy. In her concluding remarks, PDRC president Kamala Hemchuri told that the future movement should be directed more through policy research and scholarly study of our issues.

Interaction program held

PDRC organized a virtual interaction program with Rajendra Senchuri on 22 September, 2012 at PDRC office in Kalanki, Kathmandu. He is a medical technologist and currently residing in the United States. He has also been serving as a secretary of Nepali-American Society for Oppressed (NASO) community.

The main objective of this meeting was to introduce students with online education system and experience sharing of Nepali Diaspora with the PDRC students. Another objective of this meeting was to inform the students about how everyone can have an access to the world-class education that has so far been available only to privileged circle. While talking about online education, he explained about the leading universities in the world that are offering online courses for anyone for free of cost. He suggested few websites and links to the students for choosing a course of their interests. He also emphasized the role of technology that has enabled student's access to abundant resources.

The meeting was conducted in a video conference through Skype.



CHAPTER 7: LESSON AND FUTURE DIRECTION

Following are the lesson learned through experience that has significant impact. Our successes and failures are also the source of lesson learned. This realization derived from the reflection and analysis of experience that has potential to improve future course of action.

- a) PDRC deals with the number of students from diverse background. We generally encourage SLC graduates to study science in 10+2 so that they can develop their critical faculty of mind. This is very important for rendering Dalit's participation in the decision making level in the long run.
- b) There are many young people in this community with talent and energy. They have the potential to be a highly skilled human resource. Despite PDRC's interest to serve their needs, our resource limitation always fall short in this endeavor. Therefore, more investment in higher education is needed in favor of Dalit community.
- c) After the revival of the democracy, there are some opportunities available to young Dalit. Parents are also aware of the need of education. Gradually the number of educated youth increases. They need to be trained to improve their skills and competencies to fit in the competitive job market.
- d) It is very important that information about the scholarship should be accessible to the people living far from the capital. This will enable the students to peruse their further study despite their financial problems.
- e) It is also important to partner with the political parties with regard to disseminating information up to the grass root level through their national wide strong networks.
- f) It is equally important to lobby with the government and other development agencies for enhancing Dalit's employment possibilities in different sectors.

Looking to the future: New Initiatives

- a) Most of the issues that concern us today are influenced by different factors and a large number of people. In dealing with these challenges, working with other people and organizations important because of the required diversification of knowledge, expertise and resources to address the challenges. Therefore, PDRC will explore opportunities for possible collaboration and partnership in the future.
- b) After the revival of democracy, there are certain opportunities available to the Dalits in higher education. However, these facilities are being enjoyed by the people who have access to information. Sometimes assigned seats also not used. Therefore, it is proposed that PDRC will establish its information desk at least in the five development regions across the country.
- c) PDRC also plans to establish a resource center that can be used as a common platform to the initiative of an academic study of Dalit issues through research and other academic exercises.
- d) The government or donor agencies don't have significant investments in higher education. Therefore, PDRC will also lobby with the government and other development agencies to invest in higher education of Dalit.

2012 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Professional Development and Research Center (PDRC)

Kalanki, Kathmandu

Balance Sheet as on 31st Ashad, 2069 (15th July, 2012)


(Figures in Rupees)

Particulars	Schedule No.	Current Year	Previous Year
SOURCES OF FUNDS:			
Fund Surplus (Deficit)	1	6,059,793.47	4,833,997.01
		6,059,793.47	4,833,997.01
Internal Fund	1	577,476.74	446,137.42
Reserve and Surplus			
Capital Reserve	2	176,976.59	115,973.42
		176,976.59	115,973.42
Total		6,814,246.80	5,396,107.85
APPLICATION OF FUNDS			
Fixed Assets	3	708,743.16	758,209.48
		708,743.16	758,209.48
Investment -Fixed Deposit		2,100,000.00	2,200,000.00
Current Assets, Loans & Advances			
Cash & Bank Balance	4	1,327,017.49	1,025,204.08
Advances & Receivables	5	2,733,828.14	1,513,580.00
		4,060,845.63	2,538,784.08
Less: Current Liabilities & Payables			
Current liabilities & Payables	6	55,341.99	100,885.71
		55,341.99	100,885.71
Net Current Assets		4,005,503.64	2,437,898.37
Total		6,814,246.80	5,396,107.85


Significant Accounting Policies & Notes on Accounts Schedules are the integral part of the Financial Statements

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As per our report of even date attached.


Reemaya Nepali
Treasurer


Birendra Biswakarma
Executive Director


Kamala Hemchuri
President

For NBSM & Associates
Chartered Accountants

CA. Durga Prasad Gnawali
Partner

Place: Kathmandu
Date: Sep 7, 2012



Professional Development and Research Center (PDRC)
Kalanki, Kathmandu
Income and Expenditure Account
For the year ended Aashad 31, 2069

Particulars	Schedule	Current Year (NRs)	Previous Year (NRs)
Revenue :			
Grant-Tom Fund		4,191,668.15	3,602,707.73
Grant-NYOF		1,250,000.00	2,542,000.00
Other Income	7	430,063.86	502,426.50
Total Revenue: A		5,871,732.01	6,647,134.23
TOM Fund Expenditures	8	2,576,988.04	1,609,281.29
Office, Administration & Other Project Expenditures	9	1,775,811.70	2,823,967.16
Depreciation	3	161,796.49	158,015.25
Total Expenditures B		4,514,596.23	4,591,263.70
Surplus of Fund over Expenditures transferred to Fund Balance: [A-B]		1,357,135.78	2,055,870.53

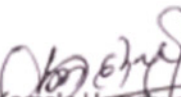
Significant Accounting Policies & Notes on Accounts
Schedules are the integral part of the Financial Statements

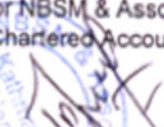
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As per our report of even date attached


Reemaya Nepali
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Partner



Professional Development and Research Center (PDRC)
Financial Year 2068-69
Schedule-3 Fixed Assets

S.N	Particulars	Depn Rate	Opening Balance	Cost				Total (Opening +Addition)	On opening balance	Depreciation		Current Year	Previous Year
				Up to Poush	Magh to Chaitra	Beisakh to Aashad	Transfer /Disposal			During the Year	Total		
A. Acquired Assets													
1	Block B	25%											
	Office Equipment		112,832.51	-	-	-	-	112,832.51	28,208.13	-	84,624.38	112,832.51000	
	Furniture, Furnishing & Bedding		69,557.73	37,800.00	-	8,500.00	-	98,857.73	17,389.43	9,450.00	72,018.30	69,557.73000	
	Voltage Regulator		10,604.69	-	-	-	-	10,604.69	2,651.17	-	7,953.52	10,604.69000	
	Motorcycle		231,098.33	-	-	-	-	231,098.33	57,774.58	-	173,323.75	231,098.33000	
	Canon Camera		9,062.50	-	-	-	-	9,062.50	2,265.63	-	6,796.87	9,062.50000	
	Computer & Accessories		100,441.46	-	-	-	-	100,441.46	25,110.37	-	75,331.09	100,441.46000	
2	Block D	15%											
	Audio & Video Library		4,663.51	-	-	-	-	4,663.51	699.53	-	3,963.98	4,663.51000	
	Book		81,460.32	4,200.00	-	6,527.00	-	92,187.32	12,219.05	956.35	79,011.92	81,460.32000	
	Software		22,515.00	11,300.00	-	-	-	33,815.00	3,377.25	1,695.00	28,742.75	22,515.00000	
	Total		642,236.05	53,300.00	*	6,527.00	8,500.00	693,563.05	149,695.14	12,101.35	631,766.56	642,236.05000	
B. Grant Assets													
3	Block B	25%											
	Office Equipment		4,864.75	-	-	-	-	4,864.75	1,216.19	-	3,648.56	4,864.75000	
	Furniture, Furnishing & Bedding		59,881.04	-	-	-	-	59,881.04	14,970.26	-	44,910.78	59,881.04000	
	Computer/Laptop		25,304.75	116,539.00	-	-	-	141,843.75	6,326.19	29,134.75	106,382.81	25,304.75000	
4	Block D	15%											
	Books		3,612.50	-	-	-	-	3,612.50	541.88	-	3,070.62	3,612.50000	
	Cycle		1,174.52	-	-	-	-	1,174.52	176.18	-	998.34	1,174.52000	
	Kitchen Utensil		4,132.45	-	-	-	-	4,132.45	619.87	-	3,512.58	4,132.45000	
	Other Fixed Assets		17,003.42	-	-	-	-	17,003.42	2,550.51	-	14,452.91	17,003.42000	
	Total		115,973.43	116,539.00	*	*	*	232,512.43	26,401.08	29,134.75	176,976.60	115,973.43000	



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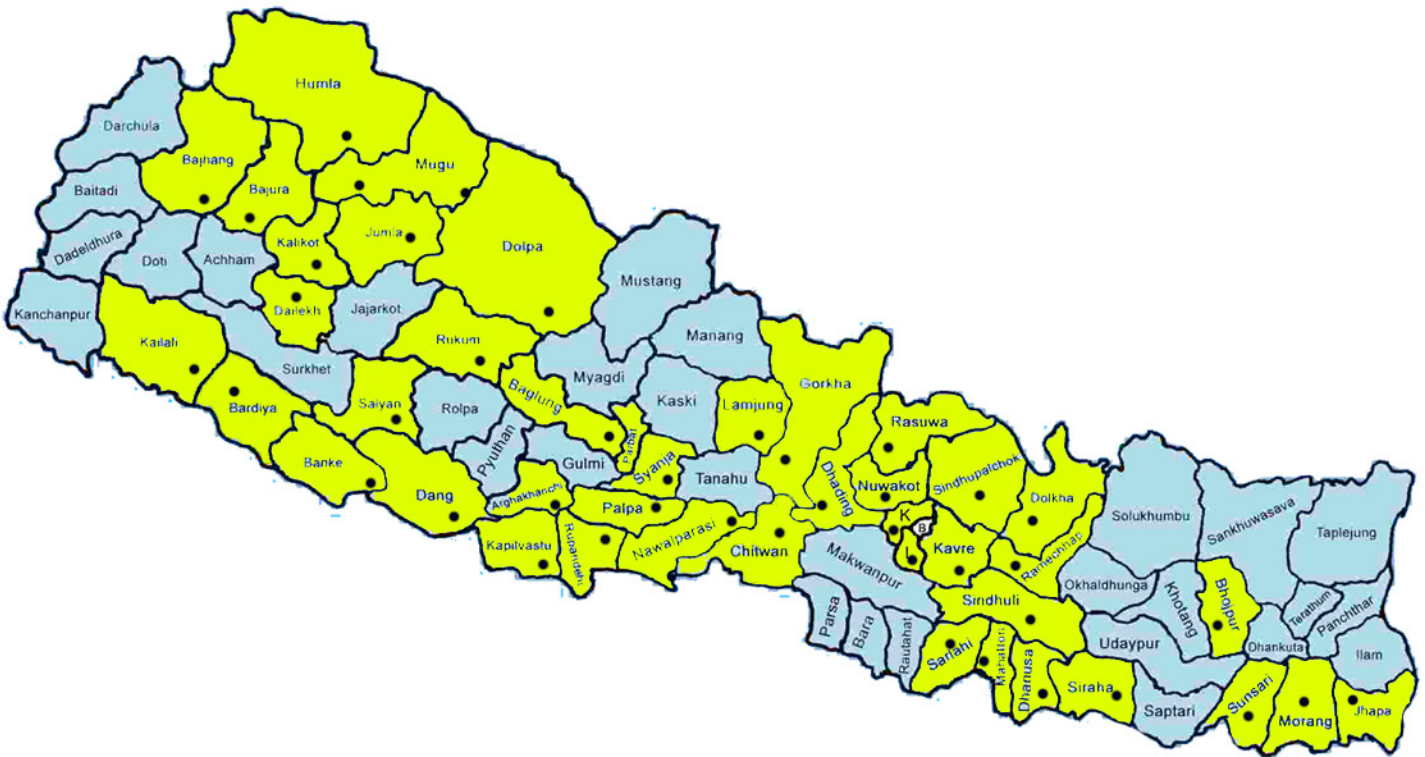
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OUR REACH

Since its establishment in 2009, more than 85 students from 43 districts across the country have benefited from direct support of Dr. Tom Jacobsen Fund. The yellowish Green color indicates the districts of beneficiaries.



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THANK YOU