

Basic Information

Grant title

Accessible vision care in rural Nepal

Type of Project

Humanitarian Project

Address community needs and produce sustainable, measurable outcomes

Primary Contacts

Name	Club	District	Sponsor	Role
Mohan Karki	Rudramati Kathmandu	3292	Club	Host
Gerry Tipple	Prague-International	2240	Club	International

Committee Members

Host committee

Name	Club	District	Role
Roshan Karki	Rudramati Kathmandu	3292	Secondary Contact
Sudip Koirala	Rudramati Kathmandu	3292	Secondary Contact

International committee

Name	Club	District	Role
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Do any of these committee members have potential conflicts of interest?

No

Project Overview

Tell us a little about your project. What are the main objectives of the project, and who will

benefit from it?

The main objective of the project is to provide a long-term sustainable solution for Vision Care along with prescription eyeglasses to people who do not have an access or cannot afford them in selected rural areas of Nepal (rural municipalities of Sindhuli district - Sunkoshi, Golanjor and Phikal). In these areas there are neither vision care specialists nor vision facilities available.

To achieve this objective, we will establish a vision care center and provide vision screening services for villagers along with 4000 free prescription eyeglasses for the needy one. This project is based on an innovative approach of one-size-fits-all adjustable frames and simplified lens concept which good quality, instant delivery of eyeglasses and which is not dependent on the availability of an optometrist.

The project contributes to train 9 health professional along with 30 Female Community Health Volunteers(FCHVs) to provide quality vision care facilities of the people suffering from refractive errors (ability to learn, earn and stay safe) in the selected municipalities.

The project has the potential to be replicated in other municipalities in Nepal.

Areas of Focus

Which area of focus will this project support?

Disease prevention and treatment

Measuring Success

Disease prevention and treatment

Which goals will your activity support?

Improving the capacity of local health care professionals; Strengthening health care systems;

How will you measure your project's impact? You need to include at least one standardized measure from the drop-down menu as part of your application.

Measure	Collection Method	Frequency	Beneficiaries
Number of medical and health professionals trained	Grant records and reports	Every year	1-19
Number of health facilities benefiting	Direct observation	Every month	2500+
Number of vision screenings	Grant records and reports	Every month	1000-2499
Number of people who bought eyeglasses	Public records	Every month	1000-2499

Do you know who will collect information for monitoring and evaluation?

Yes

Name of Individual or Organization

Health Department of the respective rural municipality

Briefly explain why this person or organization is qualified for this task.

The information for monitoring and evaluation will be collected by the FCHVs and consolidated by the Health Departments of the respective Rural Municipalities who are responsible for the FCHVs and will be responsible for running the vision centers. The municipalities are responsible for monitoring and supervising all health related activities in their respective rural municipality as per government rule and thus have relevant experiences.

Location and Dates

Humanitarian Project

Where will your project take place?

City or town

Sunkoshi, Golanjor and Phikkal Rural Municipalities of Sindhuli District

Province or state

Bagmati

Country

Nepal

When will your project take place?

2022-11-01 to 2023-12-01

Participants

Partners (Optional)

List any other partners that will participate in this project.

Rotarian Participants

Describe the role that host Rotarians will have in this project.

1. Project Implementation
2. Financial management
3. Monitoring and Evaluation
4. Reporting of the project

Describe the role that international Rotarians will have in this project.

1. Fundraising the project
2. Monitoring the project
3. Helping in report writing and submission of final report.

Budget

What local currency are you using in your project's budget?

The currency you select should be what you use for a majority of the project's expenses.

Local Currency

NPR

U.S. dollar (USD) exchange rate

122

Currency Set On

11/05/2022

What is the budget for this grant?

List each item in your project's budget. Remember that the project's total budget must equal its total funding, which will be calculated in step 9. Every global grant includes a match of at least \$15,000 from The Rotary Foundation's World Fund. Project budgets, including the World Fund match, must be at least \$30,000.

#	Category	Description	Supplier	Cost in NPR	Cost in USD
1	Supplies	Vision care professional (expert support)	Metro Eye Hospital	122000	1000
2	Training	Training in vision screening, eyeglasses assembling	DOT Glasses	383000	3139
3	Travel	Implementation team of 4 people for 4 days	Local Travel Agency	266000	2180
4	Operations	Female community Health Volunteers accommodation and allowances	Local Suppliers	360000	2951
5	Equipment	Small Vision kits for entrepreneurs	DOT Glasses	360000	2951
6	Equipment	Eye Glasses frames with adjustable features	DOT Glasses	1400000	11475
7	Equipment	Replenishment - Prescription lenses	DOT Glasses	1520000	12459
8	Equipment	LED Vision Chart	Bhimdevi Suppliers	21000	172
9	Equipment	Trial Lens Sets	Bhimdevi Suppliers	114000	934
10	Equipment	Trial frame sets	Bhimdevi Suppliers	33000	270
11	Equipment	Retinoscopes	Bhimdevi Suppliers	258000	2115
12	Equipment	Ophthalmoscopes	Bhimdevi Suppliers	228000	1869
13	Equipment	Lensometers	Bhimdevi Suppliers	570000	4672
14	Equipment	Tables	Local	184000	1508

			Suppliers		
15	Equipment	Chairs	Local Suppliers	160000	1311
16	Equipment	Carpet	Local Suppliers	54000	443
17	Equipment	Wiring and Light Setup	Local Suppliers	60000	492
18	Publicity	Printed brochures and leaflets for entrepreneurs and end-users	Local Suppliers	50000	410
19	Publicity	Local radio and micng	Local Radio Station	40000	328
20	Project management	Contingency	Rotary Club	274280	2248
				Total budget:	6457280 52927

Funding

Tell us about the funding you've secured for your project. We'll use the information you enter here to calculate your maximum possible funding match from the World Fund.

#	Source	Details	Amount (USD)	Support*	Total
1	Cash from Club	Rudramati Kathmandu	800.00	40.00	840.00
2	Cash from Club	Prague-International	4,000.00	200.00	4,200.00
3	District Designated Fund (DDF)	2240	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00

*Whenever cash is contributed to the Foundation to help fund a global grant project, an additional 5 percent is applied to help cover the cost of processing these funds. Clubs and districts can receive Paul Harris Fellow recognition points for the additional expense.

How much World Fund money would you like to use on this project?

You may request up to 4,000.00 USD from the World Fund.

Funding Summary

DDF contributions:	5,000.00
Cash contributions:	4,800.00
Financing subtotal (matched contributions + World Fund):	9,800.00
Total funding:	9,800.00

Sustainability

Humanitarian Projects

Project planning

Describe the community needs that your project will address.

During our community need assessment we found that more than 90 % of the total populations of the selected rural municipalities have never had their vision screened. Also vision screening camp in the Sindhuli district revealed that 120 out of 182 people had poor vision (April 2021). At the same time it was confirmed that in the selected rural municipalities there was no eye or vision care facility, even though there were health centers.

Several interviewees mentioned that their vision was worsening but they didn't know where to go for an eye check up. And people who got their eyes checked up and needed eyeglasses mentioned that it was very costly and time consuming for them since it required at least five days in Kathmandu or another big city.

During the community needs assessment we found out that the following reasons were behind the lack of vision care facilities in Nepal:

- lack of funds to pay for expensive vision screening, eyeglasses, equipment and optometrists,
- lack of solutions for parts of population living in hardly accessible remote areas for whom traveling to cities is both time consuming and expensive,
- lack of eye care professionals and technicians, incl. optometrists, to prescribe and deliver fitting eyeglasses and
- no solution available for a country like Nepal that would combine sufficiently robust frames and lenses to withstand the daily conditions, a possibility to easily and quickly to replace or fix their eyeglasses and affordable price at the same time.

While discussing the issue with the representatives of the municipalities and FCHVs representatives we found out that both would be interested in participating in solving the problem of the lack of vision care. FCHVs were asking for some sustainable solution that would also include their remuneration in case they were the ones involved in providing access to vision screening and eyeglasses.

How did your project team identify these needs?

Our team identified these needs by community need assessments which included community meetings, interviews with representatives of the community, FCHVs and municipalities and pilot vision camps.

Healthworkers, Mayors, political and social leaders, FCHVs, school teachers and villagers participated in the assessment.

How were members of the benefiting community involved in finding solutions?

We conducted pilot vision camps for random samples of Nepalese people to determine the needs of this project in collaboration with municipalities and FCHVs. After the pilot vision camp we concluded that the vision problem of rural people described above could be solved by the solution provided by DOT Glasses who offer prescription eyeglasses that are assembled on spot.

The whole solution is based on training local vision micro-entrepreneurs and vision kits (shops in a bag) which contain a simplified vision screening tool, adjustable one-size-fits-all frames and a limited offer of lenses. Each vision micro-entrepreneur is equipped to serve 20 people with refractive errors within minutes. It was confirmed that the required training to become a vision micro-entrepreneur is simple enough to be provided to the FCHVs.

How were community members involved in planning the project?

The community members participated while we conducted the pilot vision camp. After the need was identified, we worked with mayors, health departments of municipalities, local political and social leaders, and selected community people to draft this project and to find the sustainable solution for the vision problems.

Project implementation

Summarize each step of your project's implementation.

Do not include sensitive personal data, such as government ID numbers, religion, race, health information, etc. If you include personal data, you are responsible for informing those whose personal data is included that you are providing it to Rotary and that it will be processed in accordance with Rotary's [Privacy Policy](#).

#	Activity	Duration
1	Developing a door-to-door and vision centers workforce (10-days trainings for a batch of 10 FCHVs + 1 month training for 9 Medical Staffs of three municipalities) - The future workforce will be trained in two ways - all selected FCHVs and vision centers employees will be trained by DOT Glasses in simplified vision screening and provision of eyeglasses plus in entrepreneurship necessary to establish and maintain an ongoing vision micro-entreprise. The future vision centers employees will participate at an optometric training to be allowed to provide proper vision screening.	2 months
2	Creation of vision centers - Each vision center will be created in four major steps (infrastructure, vision center specific training, pilot, screening and fitting prescription eye glasses. We will begin with the creation of one vision center and based on the experience we will establish the other two. The costs related to this activity are listed in the project budget.	1 month
3	Vision screenings and provision of eyeglasses by FCHVs and health workers at the vision centers - Based on the training and pilots the door-to-door FCHVs workforce will start screening vision providing eyeglasses. The aim of this activity is to ensure that at the end of the project there is as stable as possible workforce screening vision and providing eyeglasses door-to-door as well as in the vision centers.	6 months
4	Awareness campaigns - Awareness campaigns will be focused on informing the target community about the benefits of improved vision, new possibility to get their vision screened and advantages of having prescription eye glasses in case they will be diagnosed with a refractive error. The means will include leaflets and radio/micing and will be run during the first month of real FCHVs and vision centers' activity.	3 months

Will you work in coordination with any related initiatives in the community?

Yes

Briefly describe the other initiatives and how they relate to this project.

There is a lack of eye care facilities in Nepal as stated above. We have selected those who are supposed to be the major provider of eye care services to be a partner in this project - the public sector. There are several international NGOs focusing on vision care in Nepal but none of them provides a sustainable solution independent from external funding needs and involving local people in providing access to eyeglasses. This is why we have selected innovative solution of DOT Glasses which comes together with a sustainable vision care solutions

Please describe the training, community outreach, or educational programs this project will include.

There will be two types of training delivered during this project:

30 FCHVs and 6 government health workers will be trained in simplified vision screening and eyeglasses assembly. This 10-day training will cover three modules:

1. Primary eyecare knowledge - this more extensive module covers basic eye anatomy, different types of lenses, refractive errors, and a guide for recognizing other eye diseases.
2. Simplified vision screening & eyeglasses assembly - vision testing, glasses assembly, and lens selection, as

well as guides for organizing vision camps and providing door-to-door service. Six government health workers will go through a 1 month training at Didi Vocational Training Center to become Junior optometrists, operate the vision care center and provide the continuous vision care facilities in rural municipalities.

How were these needs identified?

The training needs were identified by comparing the current competencies of FCHVs and competencies needed to solve the issue of the lack of vision care with the solution provided by DOT Glasses.

What incentives (for example, monetary compensation, awards, certification, or publicity), will you use, if any, to encourage community members to participate in the project?

During this project we will need to motivate two groups of the community members:

1. FCHVs - will provided certificate after the 10 days vision care and glass assemble training completion . Apart from that, they will be motivated by bringing basic vision care to poor and remote communities which is in line with their key incentive to help underprivileged people.
2. People with refractive errors with no access to eyeglasses - will be motivated by obtaining access to eyeglasses and improved vision. To initiate their interest there will be an awareness campaign organized as a part of this project.
3. 9 Medical staffs will received certificate of junior optometrist training after the completion of 1 month long rigorous training.

List any community members or community groups that will oversee the continuation of the project after grant-funded activities conclude.

Rotary Club of Rudramati Kathmandu

Budget

Will you purchase budget items from local vendors?

Yes

Explain the process you used to select vendors.

- We have selected the main supplier - DOT Glasses - after publishing the request for proposals on social media and local newspapers. The winner of the competitive bidding - DOT Glasses - will provide basic vision and entrepreneurship trainings and vision kits and their replenishments.
- The optometric training will be provided by local Didi Vocational Center
- The vision screening machines will be purchased based on an open bidding process.

Did you use competitive bidding to select vendors?

Yes

Please provide an operations and maintenance plan for the equipment or materials you anticipate purchasing for this project. This plan should include who will operate and maintain the equipment and how they will be trained.

The municipalities will be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the vision centers and for the vision kits provided to the government health workers and FCHVs. The related training is a part of the training described above.

Metro Eye Hospital will be responsible for the optometric oversight.

Describe how community members will maintain the equipment after grant-funded activities conclude. Will replacement parts be available?

Local Government (Rural Municipalities) will maintain the equipment after grant-funded activities are

concluded – they will be responsible for storing and maintaining the equipment of the health centers.

If the grant will be used to purchase any equipment, will the equipment be culturally appropriate and conform to the community's technology standards?

Yes

Please explain.

The equipment will be very culturally appropriate, it was one of the requirements of the municipalities. That is one of the advantages of DOT Glasses - the simplified vision screening tool, simplified lens concept and adjustable frames are very easy to understand and use even without any medical background. It has been confirmed by the supplier that the training will equip the FCHVs as well as the government health workers with all they need to be able to provide appropriate eyeglasses to people with refractive errors. The cultural appropriateness was also confirmed during the pilot vision camp after which the DOT Glasses solution received positive feedback from all participants.

After the project is completed, who will own the items purchased by grant funds? No items may be owned by a Rotary district, club, or member.

All items will be owned by the local government, i.e., selected rural municipalities.

Funding

Does your project involve microcredit activities?

No

Have you found a local funding source to sustain project outcomes for the long term?

Yes

Please describe this funding source.

Yes, based on the contracts with the municipalities which will be signed before the project starts the rural municipalities will take over and operate and possibly grow the network of eyeglasses providers and health centers after the project is finished. Given the sustainability of the solution the funding requirements are expected to be minimal.

Will any part of the project generate income for ongoing project funding? If yes, please explain.

Yes, Vision care center in local municipalities will charge minimum cost for vision checkup and also they will be selling the prescription eyeglasses with minimum profit margin. Also, 30 FCHVs will be encourage to become vision micro-entrepreneurs by selling the eyeglasses after conducting the door to door vision screenings and selling eyeglasses in remote areas.

At the vision centers the income will be used to buy the replenishments and to cover the operation costs.

Authorizations

Authorizations & Legal Agreements

Legal agreement

Global Grant Agreement

I confirm and agree to the following:

1. All information contained in this application is, to the best of our knowledge, true and accurate.
2. We have read the Terms and Conditions for Rotary Foundation District Grants and Global Grants ("Terms and Conditions") and will adhere to all policies therein.
3. The grant sponsors ("Sponsors") shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Rotary International (RI) and The Rotary Foundation (TRF), including their directors, trustees, officers, committees, employees, agents, associate foundations and representatives (collectively "RI/TRF"), from and against all claims, including but not limited to claims of subrogation, demands, actions, damages, losses, costs, liabilities, expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees and other legal expenses), awards, judgments, and fines asserted against or recovered from RI/TRF arising out of any act, conduct, omission, negligence, misconduct, or unlawful act (or act contrary to any applicable governmental order or regulation) resulting directly or indirectly from a Sponsor's and/or participant's involvement in grant-funded activities, including all travel related to the grant.
4. The failure of the parties to comply with the terms of this Agreement due to an act of God, strike, war, fire, riot, civil unrest, hurricane, earthquake, or other natural disasters, acts of public enemies, curtailment of transportation facilities, political upheavals, acts of terrorism, or any similar cause beyond the control of the parties shall not be deemed a breach of this Agreement. In such an event, the Agreement shall be deemed terminated and the Sponsors shall refund all unexpended global grant funds within 30 days of termination.
5. TRF's entire responsibility is expressly limited to payment of the total financing amount. TRF does not assume any further responsibility in connection with this grant.
6. TRF reserves the right to cancel the grant and/or this Agreement without notice upon the failure of either or both of the Sponsors to abide by the terms set forth in this Agreement and the Terms and Conditions. Upon cancellation, TRF shall be entitled to a refund of any global grant funds, including any interest earned, that have not been expended.
7. The laws of the State of Illinois, USA, without reference to its conflicts of laws principles, shall govern all matters arising out of or relating to this Agreement, including, without limitation, its interpretation, construction, performance, and enforcement.
8. Any legal action brought by either party against the other party arising out of or relating to this Agreement must be brought in either, the Circuit Court of Cook County, State of Illinois, USA or the Federal District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, USA. Each party consents to the exclusive jurisdiction of these courts, and their respective appellate courts for the purpose of such actions. Nothing herein prohibits a party that obtains a judgment in either of the designated courts from enforcing the judgment in any other court. Notwithstanding the foregoing, TRF may also bring legal action against Sponsors and/or individuals traveling on grant funds in any court with jurisdiction over them.
9. This Agreement binds and benefits the parties and their respective administrators, legal representatives, and permitted successors and assigns.
10. If any provision of this Agreement is determined to be illegal, invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
11. Sponsors may not assign any of its rights under this Agreement except with the prior written consent of TRF. Sponsors may not delegate any performance under this Agreement without the prior written consent of TRF. Any purported assignment of a Sponsor's rights or delegation of performance without TRF's prior written consent is void.
12. TRF may assign some or all of its rights under this Agreement to an associate foundation of TRF. TRF may delegate any performance under this Agreement to an associate foundation. Any other purported assignment of TRF's rights or delegation of performance without the Sponsors' prior written consent is void.

13. Sponsors will comply with all economic and trade sanctions, including those implemented by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) of the United States Department of Treasury, and will ensure that they do not support or promote violence, terrorist activity or related training, or money laundering.

14. This Agreement constitutes the final agreement between the parties. No amendment or waiver of any provision of this Agreement shall be effective unless it is in the form of a writing signed by the parties.

15. Rotary International (RI) and TRF may use information contained in this application and subsequent reports to promote the activities by various means such as The Rotarian, Rotary Leader, rotary.org, etc. Unless indicated otherwise in writing, by submission of the photos, the parties hereby grant to RI and TRF the worldwide right to publish and use the photos, including but not limited to, in RI and TRF publications, advertisements, and Web sites and on social media channels and to license use to others, including, but not limited to, media outlets and its partners and through RI's online image database, for the purposes of promoting Rotary. By submitting the photos, the parties represent and warrant that all persons appearing in the photos have given their unrestricted written consent to use their likenesses and to license use to third parties.

16. The Sponsors agree to share information on best practices when asked, and TRF may provide their contact information to other Rotarians who may wish advice on implementing similar activities.

17. The Sponsors will ensure that all individuals traveling on grant funds have been informed of the travel policies stated in the Terms and Conditions and have been made aware that they are responsible for obtaining travel insurance.

Primary contact authorizations

Application Authorization

By submitting this global grant application, we agree to the following:

1. All information contained in this application is, to the best of our knowledge, true and accurate, and we intend to implement the activities as presented in this application.

2. The club/district agrees to undertake these activities as a club/district.

3. We will ensure all cash contributions (as detailed in the grant financing) will be forwarded to The Rotary Foundation (TRF) or sent directly to the global grant bank account after Trustee approval of the grant.

4. Rotary International (RI) and TRF may use information contained in this application to promote the activities by various means such as The Rotarian, the RI international convention, RVM: The Rotarian Video Magazine, etc.

5. We agree to share information on best practices when asked, and TRF may provide our contact information to other Rotarians who may wish advice on implementing similar activities.

6. To the best of our knowledge and belief, except as disclosed herewith, neither we nor any person with whom we have or had a personal or business relationship are engaged, or intend to engage, in benefiting from TRF grant funds or have any interest that may represent a potential competing or conflicting interest. A conflict of interest is defined as a situation in which a Rotarian, in relationship to an outside organization, is in a position to influence the spending of TRF grant funds, or influence decisions in ways that could lead directly or indirectly to financial gain for the Rotarian, a business colleague, or his or her family, or give improper advantage to others to the detriment of TRF.

All Authorizations & Legal Agreements Summary

Primary contact authorizations

Name	Club	District	Status
Mohan Karki	Rudramati Kathmandu	3292	
Gerry Tipple	Prague- International	2240	

District Rotary Foundation chair authorization

Name	Club	District	Status
Hana Gamrot	Prague- International	2240	
Rajendra Lamsal	Butwal	3292	

DDF authorization

Name	Club	District	Status
Hana Gamrot	Prague- International	2240	
George Podzimek	Praha-Staré Město	2240	

Legal agreement

Name	Club	District	Status
Radka Rajská	Prague- International	2240	
Kishor Tripathi	Ariquepay - Arequipa	4455	