

Activity Report 2018

It's time again to look back on the past year of our association's activity. The year 2016 was once again rich in activities, all of which pursued the goal of advancing the planned aid projects in Nepal.

The following is a review of the activities of the Pro Nepal association in 2016. For detailed information on individual campaigns with corresponding images, please refer to our website: www.pronepal.org

In February, several members were present in five Poli supermarkets in the region to promote the association and its projects. Gruppo Poli had selected our association, along with others, for its solidarity project "Coltiviamo i vostri progetti". Two board members were present at the closing event in Trento in May.

There were many other fundraising activities:

- A total of nine flea markets
- A Lecture at the FOS Merano technical college on 18 March (with cheque presentation in October)
- A Charity Easter market in Sarnonico (TN) on 19 March
- UPAD Merano event on 21 April on the topic of "Nepal ad un anno dal terremoto"
- Nepal lecture for the Proveis Education Committee on 24 April 2016
- A Christmas market in Merano and in Bolzano/Bozen in December
- Design and sale of a 2017 desk calendar with pictures on the topic of "sponsored children".

In addition, the committee members, supported by members and volunteers, were involved in implementing the activities decided at the five board meetings. These included the preparation and implementation of the general meeting of members on 29 April in Lana. This included a PowerPoint presentation by Mrs Hanna Battisti, who had travelled to Nepal the previous month with her husband Thomas Benedikter and visited various aid projects run by the association.

During 2016, the ProNepal association worked with various partners and supported them in the reconstruction of buildings destroyed or damaged by the 2015 earthquake. These include the Phugmoche association and the Buddhi Maya Sherpa school projects in the district of Ramechhap. The association has also taken over the financing of Mensa fees for 20 particularly needy schoolchildren in the village of Saimarang.

Two young South Tyroleans were on a volunteer assignment in Nepal; our association made the necessary contacts for them, and their experience reports with consistently positive impressions can be read on our website www.pronepal.org. Our tasks also included the maintenance and constant updating of the organisation's website and its presence on social media.

In addition, the association now works with four different homes in Kathmandu; a home that offers education to deaf-mute children and young people has recently been added. More than 50 sponsorships, supported by committed sponsors and the organisation itself, enable the homes to provide the destitute children entrusted to them with a home and an appropriate education.

However, the greatest effort was required to implement the 'big' projects. Thanks to the active and competent support of our Nepalese partner association SEO we were finally able to complete the project "Construction of a drinking water pipeline for the Jamune school centre and village". The construction of three school classrooms in Tipchok, which began in the previous year, was completed. At the request of the SEO and the Tipchok school community, a school playground, and a retaining wall to secure it, a so-called gabion wall, were also built in this place. Once this work was completed, the focus shifted to the implementation of the Tipchok drinking water pipeline project co-financed by the Autonomous Province.

In spring, a newspaper article drew our attention to a young Nepalese man who had arrived in Bozen/Bolzano as an unaccompanied minor. He was accommodated in a youth centre in Bozen/Bolzano. The young person was invited to several meetings organised by the association, partly so that he could feel somewhat secure in this foreign environment. They also tried to help him solve his bureaucratic problems. Unfortunately, no solution was found and the young man from left South Tyrol. To our knowledge, he has now found a job in Portugal and hopes to receive his entry documents soon.

As usual, the association's autumn excursion took place in October, this time in the magnificent mountain world of Rein in Taufers.

Meran, in 2019

The chairman: Riccardo Ruffini