TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the Country ..................................3
About SIL International Nepal............................4
Bilingual Adult Literacy .....................................5
Mother Tongue Based Multilingual Education for Children ........................................6
Orthography (alphabet) development ..............10
Orthography Promotion Classes .........................11
Language Documentation ..................................12
Dictionary (by MTCN) .....................................13
Financial Summary ..........................................14
Acknowledgements .........................................16
MESSAGE FROM THE COUNTRY

SIL International (Nepal)'s goal is to mainstream the ethnic minorities in Nepal through language development and inclusive education. For that SIL International (Nepal) through its valued implementing partners serves ethnolinguistic minorities' access to formal and informal education in the language they value most; through mother tongue-based multilingual education (MTB-MLE) and mother tongue-based bilingual literacy program. MTB-MLE is a formal school program where the curriculum and resources begin in the mother tongue and transition to Nepali. Children learn best when instruction is given in their mother tongue. Our mother tongue-based bilingual adult literacy programs target adults who have missed out on formal schooling opportunities and seek to empower them with literacy and numeracy skills, first in their mother tongue and then in Nepali.

In addition to formal and informal education, linguistically marginalized communities have been served through language research and language development. Language survey is the first step in our understanding of the diversity of languages in Nepal; the next steps of language documentation, alphabet development (orthography), literature development and dictionary development lay the foundation upon which further education programs can be built.

During these years SIL International (Nepal) has helped many minority language communities to revitalize, preserve, promote, educate, and document their language. It has impacted many of the people of different minority language communities. In the pages that follow, you will have the opportunity to read some of their genuine impact stories.

A final quarter of the FY 2076-77 and till today the COVID-19 is highly impacting the smooth functioning of SIL International (Nepal)'s work. From the very beginning of the first nationwide lockdown, for the safety of staff, we have taken decisions to work from home. Time and again we planned to operate the office, but due to the rapid escalation of cases of COVID-19 it has locked us at home. Technology has made things easy and COVID-19 has taught us to make maximum use of it.

Time and the situation were not in our favor, but our esteemed and valued implementing partners have made us more than happy to share their achievements and success stories in this Annual Report of the fiscal year 2076-77.

Be safe, maintain social distancing, and strictly follow preventive measures.

Sincerely,

Prithvi Chaudhary
Country Director
ABOUT SIL INTERNATIONAL NEPAL

SIL International is a nonprofit organization committed to serving language communities worldwide as they build capacity for sustainable language development.

Founded in 1934, SIL’s linguistic research exceeds 2,590 languages spoken by over 1.7 billion people in nearly 100 countries. SIL makes its services available to all, without regard to religious belief, political ideology, gender, race or ethnonlinguistic background. SIL has special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and formal consultative relations with UNESCO.

SIL International first worked in Nepal under a formal agreement for linguistic research under Tribhuvan University from 1966-1976. In 2008 we began to support the Central Department of Linguistics on their Linguistic Survey of Nepal “so that all her people, regardless of linguistic background, will be included in the overall fabric of the nation.”

In 2011-12 SIL (Nepal) signed General and Project Agreements with the Government of Nepal to implement multilingual education programs, mother-tongue-based adult literacy programs, linguistic surveys, orthography and dictionary development, and language documentation. Our General Agreement was renewed in November 2016 and our Project Agreement was renewed in October 2017, for five years. It is SIL’s belief that every person has worth and that worth can be affirmed through language development. We believe that language development will contribute to social harmony and will help minority ethno-linguistic communities more fully integrate into broader society.

SIL (Nepal)’s overall objective is to assist ethno-linguistic communities in developing a series of ongoing, planned actions that ensure that their language continues to serve their changing social, cultural, political, and economic needs and goals.
BILINGUAL ADULT LITERACY

For the past year, SIL and its partner organizations started two new bilingual adult literacy programs. The aim of these programs is to equip illiterate or adults barely educated, with basic literacy and numeracy skills, first in their mother tongue and then transitioning to Nepali. Both programs are in preparation phase.

**ME Tharu Bilingual Literacy Program**

This program is implemented by Transformation Nepal (TFN) in Saptari district. Both teaching and reading material are in the final checking stage. Hopefully, the mother tongue literacy class will start at the end of 2020.

**Darai Bilingual Literacy Program**

This program is implemented by Nepal Lhomi Society (NELHOS) in Chitwan district. The literacy need assessment and data analysis were completed in June. The Darai people are excited about this program. The young generation educated in Nepali hopes to learn their mother tongue. Therefore, extra mother tongue reading fluency class will be added in this program. Hopefully, the mother tongue reading fluency class will be conducted at the end of 2020.
SIL Nepal is partnering with Nepali Languages Preservation Institute (NNLPI) and Nepal Lhomi Society (NELHOS) to implement two Mother Tongue Based Multilingual Education (MTB-MLE) programs. The MTB-MLE program aim to provide better quality education to monolingual non-Nepali speaking children from rural non-dominant language communities, enabling them to integrate successfully into the mainstream Nepali-medium education system by first starting beginning literacy and kindergarten education in their language.

**Western Tamang MTB-MLE**
SIL Nepal partners with NNLPI to implement a four-year Western Tamang MTB-MLE program in Dhading district. Since April 2019, four government schools participated in this program. The Western Tamang community continued to participate and contribute actively. They developed a total of 54 different titles of mother tongue reading books for Grade 1-3 students.

**Accomplishments**

- 54 titles of mother tongue reading books printed and distributed to schools
- Kindergarten (KG), Grade 1 and 2 teacher training in October 2019
- School visit, kindergarten and Grade 1 reading assessment in November 2019 and March 2020
- Total of 166 students (KG-G2) completed respected grade in March 2020
Impact Story

Miss Ritu Tamang is the kindergarten teacher of Chyamra Secondary School. She has been teaching the KG class for 4 years but hardly seen any good learning result and the student dropout rate was high.

After her school joined the MTB-MLE program, she attended the teacher training. She enjoyed the training and learnt new teaching methods and techniques. In the class, she found the students love the newly made culturally familiar materials and learnt faster before. Since she used Tamang in classroom, the students enjoyed talking to her without fear.

Ritu liked the interactive teaching because the students were more actively participated in the class. It enabled the students learnt faster. She said, 'I have never thought that I could see a such great success in my KG students. I have never imagined using my Tamang language in teaching makes such a big difference. I am so thankful for this program. It demonstrates how my mother tongue can contribute in the education.'
Eastern Tamang MTB Early Childhood Education Pre-School Program

SIL Nepal partners with NELHOS to implement a two-year Eastern Tamang MTB-ECE program in Sankhuwasabha district. Since April 2019, four government schools participated in this program. Due to positive responses from the Eastern Tamang communities, this program will extend from two years (KG-G1) to four years (KG-G3) next academic year (BS2078).

Accomplishments

- Kindergarten and Grade 1 teacher training in October 2019
- Regular school visit
- Kindergarten and Grade 1 reading assessment in February 2020
- Total of 92 students (KG-G1) completed respected grade in March 2020
- CoViD-19 prevention training in Eastern Tamang language was conducted in 4 schools for parents and guardians.
Impact story

Sishurakchya basic school is located in Dima village. The majority of the students are Eastern Tamang. The school started preschool program for years but not much positive result has been seen in this program. Most parents didn’t have any hope for this preschool program until NELHOS introduced the MTB-ECE program to this school.

Kamala Tamang is one of the parents. She is excited to see so many culturally appropriated materials in the classroom and teachers are well trained. Most important, her daughter enjoyed going to school and learned so much just a year. She said, ‘I personally witnessed the good learning progress of my daughter. She also learns basic hygiene, self-discipline and good habits. The teacher also taught me the importance of providing nutritious healthy food for our kids, less junk food.’

The headmaster also expressed how the program changed the parents’ attitude towards children education. Right now, parents visit the school once a week to check on the progress of their child and get the input from teachers how to support their child learning.

This is the hope of the teachers and parents that the program can be extended to higher grade so that the children can learn better. The parents don’t need to send the child to boarding school nearby town.
ORTHOGRAPHY (ALPHABET) DEVELOPMENT

Orthography in unwritten languages is an urgent task for the language development process. It is the first step in language preservation, promotion and development. Alphabets need to be developed and standardized. SIL with the partner organizations and collaboration with the community organizations conducted the initial orthography development workshop. Then, a draft for field test is prepared in a two-week workshop.

With the incorporation of the feedback from the language community, revisions are made at a review meeting and the orthography booklet is finalized. Then, two local facilitators from the language community are trained to lead orthography promotion classes in their language area. These two-day classes introduce the participants about the process of how to read and write their mother tongue consistently.

MTCN

Gamale Kham orthography meeting.

- The initial meeting with linguists and partners were held at SIL on Dec 11. Partners and linguists were introduced in the meeting. Glen Moore and Bethany who are working among the Gamale shared their interests and some questions regarding the orthography development process. Christ Wilde’s article on Gamale phonological stuffs were also discussed during the meeting.
- Initial meeting with Glen Moore, Bethany, Dr. Netramani and Sushil was held at SIL office to a general discussion on the article written by Chris Wild on the orthographical issue. Bethany, Glen and Dr. Netramani introduced each other on their linguistic background. Contact person for the further meeting for the Gamale stakeholders and orthography was discussed. Glen was given a responsibility to collect the information and send to Sushil.

Gurung Orthography Review Meeting (Sept. 18-19) – 14 participants

Dewas Rai Orthography Review Meeting (Oct. 25, 019) – 25 participants from 5 districts

Kumali language Orthography Review Meeting – 30 participants

Kumali Orthography Publication (2020 Sep.20) – 300 copies distributed

Dewas Rai Orthography Publication (2020 Sep.27) – 800 copies distributed
ORTHOGRAPHY PROMOTION CLASSES

In partnership HIS Nepal, drafts of writing guides have been distributed in the respective language communities for feedback.

HIS Nepal

12 orthography promotion classes conducted for Hyolmo and Bote
375 participants of Hyolmo and Bote language speakers have learned their orthography
4 teachers trained for orthography promotion
Supported 5 language communities (Gurung, Hyolmo, Bote, Chepang, and Jumli) for mother-tongue development.
Conducted 5 writing engagement workshop for Bote and 75 participants were benefited
Produced orthography promotion videos for three languages.

Impact Story (from Bote orthography promotion class participant)

This is the first time I am participating in the language program that is being conducted in my own language (Bote). And, I don’t think there had been any program in this language before. We have limited Bote language in speaking only. But today I have learned 'How to read and write' Bote language. I believe this program (Orthography Promotion Class) will surely help in developing and preserving Bote language. Now we should promote this program into other Bote villages.
Language documentation is a useful tool to carry out the relevant discourse like, interactive, narrative, procedural, oratory and formulaic. Similarly, documentation in reports, drama, poem, song, language play, proverbs, etc. have been done in Uranw, Dumi and Kumal. A useful computer software program ‘SayMore’ (proposed by SIL International) is used for the data processing in the language documentation. The audio recorded data (in the field) is rerecorded in careful speech and is processed systematically using thorough procedures like, oral translation, transcription, written translation, etc.

**HIS Nepal**

Lhowa language reading materials displayed at different fair.

500 copies of Bote anthology produced.

125 Dewas anthology collected.

5 writers’ engagement workshop completed for Bote language. Seventy-five Bote MT speakers benefited.

500 copies of Jumli writing guide and orthography promotion materials produced.

**MTCN**

Western Magar language development pre-meeting (Aug. 27, 2019)

Kham Magar language development pre-meeting (Sept. 12-13, 2019)

Thakali language development pre-meeting

Maikoti Kham stakeholders’ meeting (Nov. 9, 2019)

Takale Kham stakeholders’ meeting (Nov. 11, 2019)

Maikoti and Takale Kham Magar language documentation (Nov. 9-13, 2019)

Maikoti and Takale Kham Magar language documentation data processing (Dec. 9-28, 2019)

Kathariya Tharu language documentation, data compilation and data processing

Gurung orthography review meeting (Sept. 18-19, 2019)

Dewas orthography review meeting (Oct. 25, 2019)

Kumali orthography review meeting (Jan. 6, 2020)

Gamale Kham orthography meeting

Kumali orthography publication (Sept. 20, 2020)

Dewas Rai orthography publication (Sept. 27, 2020)

Dhimal dictionary finalization is on progress.
Having a dictionary is foundational to any language group. The record of the lexical units can represent the body of knowledge of the speech community. Systematizing the language with spelling, pronunciation, part of speech and definition can be taken as efforts in giving importance to the language as resource of the community. It paves the way to further language development and even to mother-tongue education activities. In order to respond to demands of the digital age, we have started to publish dictionaries in electronic format. Ten different dictionaries from Nepal can be browsed at www.webonary.org. They can also be downloaded to any android device (phone and tablets) from google play store or installed using an SD-card.

Accomplishments

Dhimal Dictionary Editing, Launching and Distribution (2020, March-19)

- Documents have been ready but launching program has not been fully decided. The peer review in the dictionary has been done with the experts in the language: Dr. Karnakhar Khatiwad from Tribhuwan University and Dr. Som Dhimal from the language community.
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Income
The total income of SIL International (Nepal) for FY 2076/77 was NRS. 2,26,45,100. Out of which NRS. 2,25,93,764 was from SIL International & NRS. 51,336 was generated from other sources.

Expenditures
The total expenditure of SIL International (Nepal) for FY 2076/77 was NRS.2,26,39,627. Out of which, expenditure on program was NRS.1,74,85,149 & expenditure on administrative service was NRS.51,54,478. The expenditure details on different projects & administrative service is as follow:

### SIL International Nepal

Comparative Budget Expenditure Report for Year-to-Date 15th July 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Project</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Actual</th>
<th>Variance</th>
<th>Spent %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Development/Language Assessment (MTCN)</td>
<td>60,63,200</td>
<td>70,96,004.00</td>
<td>(10,32,804)</td>
<td>117%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yamphu Literacy (MTCN)</td>
<td>25,01,600</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>25,01,600</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthography Promotion (HIS Nepal)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>33,06,319.00</td>
<td>(33,06,319)</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Majhi Literacy (HIS Nepal)</td>
<td>18,02,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18,02,000</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meche MLE (NNLPI)</td>
<td>37,10,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>37,10,000</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Tamang MLE (NNLPI)</td>
<td>18,55,000</td>
<td>23,05,108.00</td>
<td>(4,50,108)</td>
<td>124%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Tamang MLE (NELHOS)</td>
<td>18,33,800</td>
<td>17,00,766.00</td>
<td>1,33,034</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darai Literacy (NELHOS)</td>
<td>18,33,800</td>
<td>3,29,912</td>
<td>15,03,888</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chitawan Tharu Literacy (TFN)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>15,940.00</td>
<td>(15,940)</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid East Tharu Literacy (TFN)</td>
<td>18,02,000</td>
<td>19,11,612.00</td>
<td>(1,09,612)</td>
<td>106%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media Academy Nepal (MAN)</td>
<td>3,50,000</td>
<td>1,65,059</td>
<td>1,84,941</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Early Grade Reading (NEGR)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6,54,429</td>
<td>(6,54,429)</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Program Expenses</strong></td>
<td>2,17,51,400</td>
<td>1,74,85,149</td>
<td>42,66,251</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Administration Expenses</strong></td>
<td>54,37,850</td>
<td>51,54,478</td>
<td>2,83,372</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>2,71,89,250</td>
<td>2,26,39,627</td>
<td>45,49,623</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FY 2076/2077 (2019/2020)

- Language Development/Language Assessment (MTCN)
- Orthography Promotion (HIS Nepal)
- Meche MLE (NNLPI)
- Eastern Tamang MLE (NELHOS)
- Chitawan Tharu Literacy (TFN)
- MAN
- Total Program Expenses
- Total

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Project</th>
<th>Budget (INR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Development/Language Assessment (MTCN)</td>
<td>6,063,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthography Promotion (HIS Nepal)</td>
<td>2,501,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meche MLE (NNLPI)</td>
<td>3,710,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Tamang MLE (NNLPI)</td>
<td>1,833,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Tamang MLE (NELHOS)</td>
<td>1,833,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chitawan Tharu Literacy (TFN)</td>
<td>350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid East Tharu Literacy (TFN)</td>
<td>1,802,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Early Grade Reading</td>
<td>27,189,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Administration Expenses</td>
<td>5,437,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Program Expenses</td>
<td>21,751,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>27,189,250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SIL International (Nepal) would like to express our thanks to the Social Welfare Council (SWC), for their support and authorization of our work. It is truly our privilege to serve the government of Nepal.