

Nepal

United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

Secondary Schools United Nations Symposium

Nepal is a historic, culturally vacated country with a population of 26 494 504. It is widely known for being a multi-cultural nation located in Asia in the Himalayas and is home to the highest point on Earth, Mount Everest. Nepal is bordered by China to the north with India to south, east and west. It is a developing nation that is wounded by high levels of hunger and poverty. Although these matters do put up borders on the economy of Nepal they have still managed to attempt a lift on their least developed country status and allowed their education to improve greatly in the past 20 years.

The main issue with Nepal's governance is they are often unable to truly listen to their populations needs, have a large amount of corruption, no public institutions that are truly trusted and they have no new ideas in their government system. Nepal's government has tried to fix these issues but the corruption is almost too much for them to handle. An example of this is when the government handed over management of public schools to the local community, hoping they would improve them but the corruption with the local leaders allowed them to do nothing in terms of improving education. Corruption in Nepal is popular among low-level officers, public utility services, tax officials and the forestry industry. Many officers cannot be relied on so, it is difficult for order to be kept and restored. Malcolm Bruce, chair of International Development Committee, believes that "If Nepal is to become less corrupt, improvements in governance and a change of culture have to be made to state institutions." Another major issue with Nepal in terms of their governance is how unstable their government is. Constant change in their government in Nepal have badly affected the country's development and economic growth. The worst part of these changes is there's little hope for stable governance in the near future. King Gyanendra, who was the King of Nepal from 2001 to 2008, formed

the Royal Corruption Control Commission (RCCC) because he announced corruption as one of the major issues Nepal faces. The RCCC has the power to prosecute, and sentence offenders. Although Nepal has issues with political instability and corruption there education in refugee camps is some of the best in the world. They are able to provide almost ninety percent of kids with primary school education which is a very positive number most camps are unable to achieve. Most of this success is due to UNESCO, Caritas Nepal, Jesuit Conference for South Asia, JRS USA, Peace and Development Foundation, Canada and Catholic Relief Service and USA who have all helped with the education in multiple ways. Even if they do have some of the best education in the refugee camps there is still room for improvement. Some improvements that could be made are they could have better quality supplies, increase recreational facilities available, have better vocational educational programs, get more skilled teachers and fix the quality of the facilities they're in. The involvements and advancements UNESCO has made towards education in refugee camps in Nepal are they've worked to attain quality and adult literacy. To achieve this, UNESCO helps a lot with the UN country team in Nepal and closely helps with other development partners in the country.

The preservation of World Heritage Sites is quite important in Nepal because of the tourist they get from them. The four world heritage sites in Nepal protected by UNESCO are Kathmandu Valley (1979), Lumbini (the Birthplace of the Lord Buddha) (1997), Chitwan National Park (1984) and Sagarmatha National Park (1979). Luckily, in Nepal no world heritage sites are on the endangered list. Climate change is a pressing matter everywhere but in Nepal there are many issues regarding it. In Nepal they have very diverse climatic conditions. It ranges from tropical in the south to arctic in the north. The impacts of climate change in Nepal are it changes river flows (affects, low flows, drought, food, sedimentation process), increases temperature, allows precipitation to be uncertain and storm intensity will increase. In Nepal's mid-hills is where precipitation is most intense. Nepal is a safe country but after the 7.8-magnitude earthquake on April 25, 2015 many believed it was not. Nepal

relies on tourism for their economy and after the disaster not a lot of people wanted to visit the heritage sites. The UN Cultural Agency and UNESCO warned people that the structures could be damaged from the earthquake and be unstable. This warning then caused many to believe Nepal was unsafe even after it was fine again. It was understandable that they wanted to warn people but this warning will cause tourists to be in fear.

For a developing nation, Nepal's education is very strong. Most children who have access to education are enrolled in it. Only a select few don't have access to education because of very extreme reasons. Even if kids have been displaced from their homes and are now living in refugee camps, education is one of their top priorities. If it isn't for them, then it is for their caretakers. Nepal's goals for education 2030 are for all girls and boys to receive completely free primary and secondary schooling, provide equal access to affordable vocational training and to eliminate gender and wealth issues involving education by 2030. In 2013, 95.3% of children, in primary age were enrolled but The Millennium Development Goal target is 100% by 2016. Although, this number was very good a lot of children did not continue with their education. In data from 2013, the percentile of children enrolled in grade one that reached grade five was only 84.2%. The impact of the decision to not continue with education is evident when the literacy rate of 15-24 years old is 88.6%. The Sustainable Development Goal has reached and done incredible things. Some of the goals they've achieved include enrollment of students in school in developing nations reached 91%. Since the success the worldwide number of students out of school has dropped by almost half, there has been a dramatic increase in literacy rates and more girls are in school than ever before. Despite these tough challenges such as, high levels of poverty, armed conflicts and other emergencies they have still been better. As stated by UNDP “Education is one of the most powerful and proven vehicles for sustainable development” and with it a greater future can be achieved for all.

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