



Alumni International Medal

Helen Sherpa

Helen Sherpa has worked for the improvement of education, health and well-being of Nepalese communities disadvantaged by poverty, caste, age or access to services for more than 25 years.

The 1980 Lincoln University Diploma of Parks and Recreation graduate is the Country Director of World Education, and her programmes are aimed at women and children in rural communities. She is highly experienced in the planning, development and management of the delivery of formal and non-formal education services for the poorer and more disadvantaged communities.

Helen has developed cooperative arrangements with local NGOs including the training of their staff, and village facilitators, to implement and sustain programmes and serves as the key liaison person between the NGO, UNICEF, World Food Programme, international donors and the Ministry of Education.

World Education also works with local partners and government to prevent human trafficking and exploitive child labour, reducing poverty through livelihood projects, providing high quality non-formal training for children and adults, and works towards improved learning outcomes and equity in education.

She has led work to develop World Education's Early Grade Learning programmes, including interventions to address children with disabilities and those with language barriers and on United States funded projects from 2002 to 2013 she led the development of educational interventions for child labourers and children at risk in Nepal. Over two decades these have helped remove more than 65,000 children from the worst forms of child labour and commercial sexual exploitation.

She was also involved in the USAID funded conflict-mitigation program, which reached more than 17,000 women in western Nepal with literacy, financial literacy and income generation interventions and played a key role in the development of the "Farmer Field School" approach across Nepal, and the "Schools as Zones of Peace" (SZOP) Program.

These financial literacy efforts have reached over 150,000 women, and the Farmer Field Schools over 100,000 women farmers, reducing the use of harmful pesticides and increasing productivity.

Helen Sherpa is a worthy recipient of the Lincoln University Alumni International Medal.

Professor Grant Edwards
Vice-Chancellor

Bruce Gemmell
Chancellor