

China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation (CFPA) implements a hand-washing station project in Nepal

Small bucket, big demand and boundless love

On March 28th, the fourth day of the National lockdown in Nepal, CFPA Nepal held a donation ceremony of the hand-washing station project which aims to improve public health and fight for COVID-19 in Mithila Bihari of Danusha, Nepal's second province. Before this, CFPA Nepal has rooted here for five years for post-disaster reconstruction work. The hand-washing station project came into use in community public clinic, police patrol stations and poor communities during the lockdown. It provided hand-washing services and assisted the epidemic prevention of high-risk groups. After the ceremony, the project was quickly spread into the Kathmandu Valley, the third province of Nepal with the support of the local government. About 170 large and small hand-washing stations were built in the Kathmandu Valley and Danusha in less than one month. The staff put up posters in communities to publicize how to protect themselves and others from infection.

At the donation ceremony, Ms Anita Kumari Sah, deputy mayor of Mithila Bihari City, received a hand-washing bucket from the project executive and said, "Thanks for the care of the Chinese people. In this special period, some citizens living in poor communities do have difficulty in washing hands and these small buckets and hand sanitizer will help the people most in need and protect them from infection. "





This project is a quick response to the words of Secretary-General Guterres in the report of *Global Humanitarian Response Plan: COVID-19* on March 25, he said, "We must come to the aid of the ultra-vulnerable-millions upon millions of

people who are least able to protect themselves. This is a matter of basic human solidarity. And this is also crucial to combat this virus. "In the plan, several UN agencies and NGOs are called on to participate in" Building hand-washing stations in refugee camps and settlements and publicizing how to protect yourself and others from infection".

迄今为止，新冠病毒已在全球造成**超过40万人感染，1万6000多人死亡**，且已经蔓延至许多**本就因为冲突、自然灾害或气候变化而深陷人道主义危机的国家**。刚刚发布的联合应对计划将由多家**联合国机构以及非政府组织合作伙伴**共同参与，旨在：

1

提供必要的实验室检测设备以及医疗救治物资；

2

在难民营和安置点建设洗手站；

3

开展有关如何保护自己 and 他人免遭感染的公共信息宣传活动；

4

在亚非拉之间建立空中桥梁，保障人道主义工作者和救援物资顺畅运转。

Till now, the coronavirus has infected more than 400,000 people worldwide and killed more than 16,000 people. It has spread to many countries that are already caught in humanitarian crises due to conflicts, natural disasters or climate change. The *Global Humanitarian Response Plan* that has just been released will be jointly participated by several United Nations agencies and NGOs, aiming to:

1. Provide necessary laboratory testing equipment and medical treatment materials
2. Build hand-washing stations in refugee camps and settlements
3. Publicize how to protect yourself and others from infection
4. Establish an air bridge among Asia, Africa and Latin America to ensure the smooth transfer of humanitarian workers and relief supplies

Choose Project Area:

Nepal and India share a 1,800 kms open border. The No.2 Province in Nepal where we have chosen to launch the project is the place where economic activities are conducted the most vigorously along the border. With 80% of its population here living in poverty and more than 80% illiterate, this area is one of the most densely populated and poorest areas in Nepal. Its residents have just went through the flood in 2018 and windstorm in 2019, which left them nothing but collapsed walls. Therefore, at this particular moment when the COVID-19 fast spreads, especially when Nepal suddenly enacted a nationwide lockdown on March 24, this area is quite vulnerable to the pandemic. People generally do not even meet the basic sanitary requirement. Thus, under such sanitary and living

conditions, it is impossible to meet the expectation projected by the government after imposing “home quarantine”, and will even be a potential factor resulting in COVID-19 outbreak in the country.

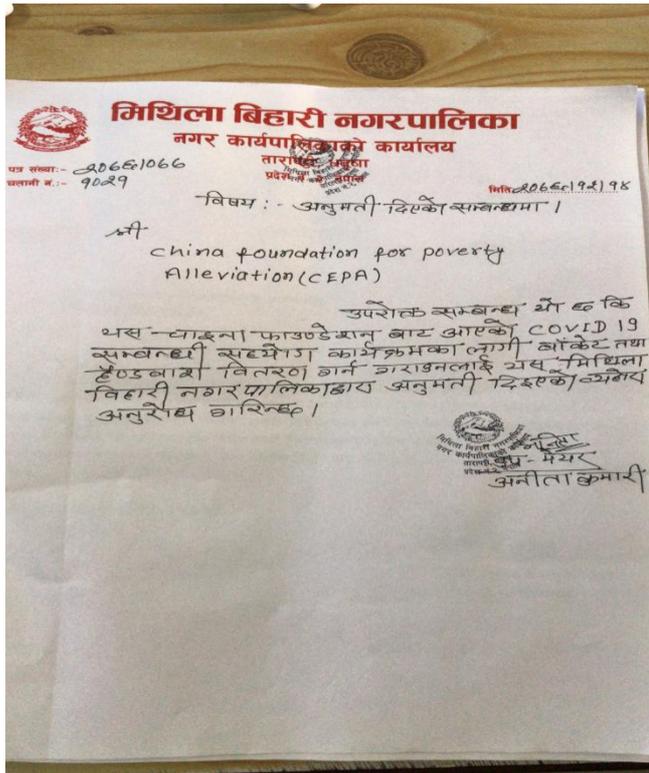


Kathmandu Valley is the capital of Nepal. As a cultural, political and economic center, it is also the most active area for international tourism and foreign communication. Kathmandu Valley, the No.3 Province, is the most densely populated area in Nepal. Of the 29 million population in Nepal, there are more than 8 million people living in Kathmandu Valley. Among them, more than 60% of the population are workers and students coming from all other parts of the country. Since the outbreak, Kathmandu Valley has seen many imported cases of COVID-19 because of arrivals of international flights. The sudden home quarantine request brings more crowded living space and worse sanitary situation for workers here. Nepal government faces great pressure to fight against COVID-19.



Our project wins support from local government. At the same time, the hand washing stations signed agreements with local communities and provided training for local community members to properly manage water supply and hand sanitizer use in order to ensure the service during lockdown. We also printed posters about COVID-19 for community workers to introduce to local residents, so that they will not get panic for lack of basic knowledge.

Operational process:



Government approval document

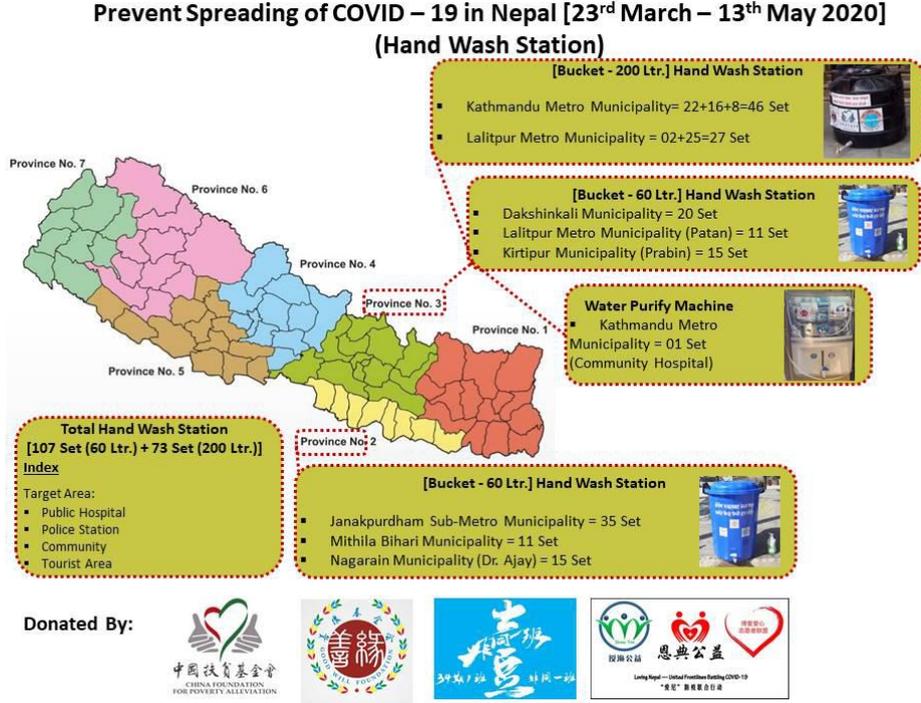


Community workers training



Designing posters about COVID-19 and the promotion work of them in local communities

The influence and demonstration effect of the project:



There have been positive effects on Nepal since the project conducted. Firstly, it led the local communities to follow the example, which has brought a great demonstration effect. Secondly, China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation, as the international NGO in Nepal, was the first to cooperate and support the community health project issued by Nepal government according to the quarantine policy and the outbreak policy, which has received recognition of the

public and the media. Thirdly, under the circumstances of international flights grounded, the materials and goods were not able to be delivered. China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation led a group of Chinese social organizations, used the government sources they have and the advantage of local teams, crossed the sea and went abroad, formed an alliance to deal with the outbreak together, showing the compassion of Chinese people.

The Nepal community health project against COVID-19 was launched by China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation, together with Tibet Good Will Foundation. The project helped to improve the local sanitary condition that adjusted measures to local condition, making the delivery of the bucket, as well as the promotion and use more efficient. This project completely fits the situation and needs in Nepal, it has aroused widely acceptance and achieved great effect. Taking actual action to support and participating in preventing and controlling the COVID-19, this project is a powerful measure to respond the national activity and an action to respond the UN initiative. Proudly, this action, also mentioned in the president Xi's call with Nepal's president, reported by Xinhua News.



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helped Chinese families who had been detained in Kathmandu under the quarantine policy to gain the attention.

Cases of the project:

Case No.1

Nepal government had built a new community health station as a part of reconstruction after the disaster, however, the logistical support system is incomplete. The place where those medical workers wash their hands was a small and crude bucket. After the hand wash station was put in the hospital, doctors taught patients to use the sanitizer to wash their hands and told them the importance of hand washing especially during the outbreak.



Case No.2:



The hand wash bucket in the highway towards India is shabby, the hand wash station provided by Chinese people is equipped with hand sanitizer.

Case No.3、



Since the lockdown in Nepal, the police officers' workload has increased, and this hand wash station was praised by the officers. Nepal's police officers think this Chinese project can aim at their group and is very helpful, and they shall protect themselves by washing their hands frequently. They truly thank Chinese people and send us their respect.

Case No.4、



This small hand wash station draws the attention of people, they are very willing to wash their hands.

Case No.5



During the second week after the quarantine policy issued in Kathmandu, many

families were facing an embarrassed situation that they have no money to buy foods. Nepal government therefore, started to provide food for free in communities, those hand wash stations with China NGO logo became the highlights of food give-out stations. Some volunteers told us that the hand wash station is very useful, not only has they solved the clean dinning problem and prevent the virus, but also made those homeless people wash their hands and clean their faces before eating. A small hand wash station conveys a huge Chinese compassion.

China Foundation for poverty alleviation Nepal office country director Zouzhiqiang