

November 16, Kathmandu

Journey report (general)

Management summary

During the first board meeting (on arrival of Niels), Samundra Belgium and Samundra Nepal defined their common future: **creating a positive and sustainable impact on the living standards in the rural municipality of Baitheswhor.**

The journey in Baitheshwor was performed by Ramesh Dahal, Dipendra Dahal and Niels Visser. Ramesh's guidance through the municipality **added real value** to the understanding of the area size (two valleys), local governmental institutes and politics and geological issues (erosion and lack of irrigation).

Samundra agreed - after a formal meeting with the Baitheshwor Hospital board - on financial collaboration with **health camps on uterine prolapse**, including aftercare. The hospital will act as coordinator.

Different projects came up along the journey and will be listed in a **'project library'**. E.g. scalable kiwi plantations and irrigation infrastructure. Every project in this library will be **enriched with indicators** (KPI on social development, effort/impact ratio, budget, #households, ...)

With the executive body, matters on **website upgrade** (samundra.org will be renewed and hosted by Samundra Nepal) **financial products** on the Nepalese market, legible for NGOs, were discussed (e.g. long term deposit with 10% interest rate).

Objectives & outcomes

1. Samundra Nepal's working strategy will be acknowledged by the local government

- Baiteshwor rural municipality (general)
- Baiteswhor agriculture department
- Baiteswhor health department
- Ward n.5 (local, where the Mainapokhari and the hospital are located)

All government instances are aware of Samundra being present in the area, by granting us time to meet with them. They appreciated our presence and acknowledged Samundra's strategy.

2. Learning from the past will be capitalised for further initiatives

- 1-day health camp is mostly not sufficient
- Electricity supply to households is almost 99% accomplished, the net and delivery are stable. This means that solar projects are postponed until further notice
- WA-S-H projects postponed for the same reason: no official data on toilets is gathered, but according to the new house constructions, toilets are present at most household
- We can only generate impact through local partners. This visit is a very good example: Ramesh meeting the government was very effective, Niels meeting the government was completely not effective.

Samundra should act as an **incubator**. After setting up a project/program, once it is mature, it should be passed on to a local partner for ownership, maintenance and further growth.

Samundra should act as a **facilitator**, e.g. instead of giving away baby kiwi plants, Samundra can contribute to the agriculture equipment (stands for plants to grow), the program participants need to buy the plants themselves. This way, there is a minimum buy-in by the participants/residents.

3. A health camp will be organised in Mirge, Mainapokhari and Chhetrapa

- Hospital board defined the first health camp theme on uterine prolapse
- Data on women current conditions (determining symptoms) will be gathered by women health volunteers

- 3 above venues have been confirmed to organise health camps at, spread in time
- Date not set while writing this report
- Hospital will be the project driver, Samundra will participate as facilitator
- The current project file needs to be updated on the budget:
 - Hospital will coordinate the project and supply equipment, available staff and basic medication
 - Samundra will be asked to provide the cost for the extra medical staff, e.g. gynaecologists)

Aftercare is an unpredictable factor in this matter: Samundra needs to determine its position on this concerning medication, treatment and surgery.

Next health camp theme could be ENT (ear-nose-throat) with children as target group.

4. Areas to further support will be identified in consultation with stakeholders

- Irrigation and agriculture with local agriculture department and professional farmer
- Setting indicators (KPI) for development measurement (by Ramesh)

5. Priorities and action plan for upcoming months till March 2022

- Setting indicators (KPI) for development measurement (by Ramesh, NP board, BE board)
- Setting up a library of all possible projects (long list) with KPI on development and an effort/impact ratio (by Ramesh and NP board)
- Rework on and detailing the health camp project file (by Ramesh)
- Create a new template for project files/proposals (by Ramesh)
- Define project proposal on the Kiwi-project (start with small group of residents, make it scalable up to 100) (by Ramesh)
- Website launch: new design, content and launch asap (by NP board)

6. Samundra Nepal's website will be launched with relevant information

- Since Samundra.org is forwarding to HCH's website, this need to be changed
- Samundra Nepal board (Neesha, Jagat), will create
 - a new website look and feel for Samundra Nepal

- projects content since 2018 from HCH's website will be copied
- team descriptions (both Nepal and Belgium) needs to be accurate
- Samundra Belgium will transfer the ownership of the domain name samundra.org to Samundra Nepal

7. Collaborative relations with local government, Samundra Belgium, Samundra Nepal and local communities will be strengthened

- The journey with Ramesh, Dipendra & Niels was very fruitful to get to know each other in person – this will speed up the collaboration
- Government: see point 1.
- Missing: residents of the community were not involved during this journey.
- Missing: third parties (e.g. other ngo's, mother groups, forest preservation groups, ...) were not involved during this journey.