

Shrawan 2079 – Asar 2080
(15 July 2022 – 16 July 2023)

Annual Report





VISION

Transforming Communities through Quality Education

MISSION

Rato Bangala Foundation aims to empower stakeholders in education by offering evidence-based training and awareness programs which foster quality education that prepares children to thrive in the ever-changing world and ultimately develop their communities.

Message from the Chairperson



Shanta Dixit
Chairperson

Rato Bangala Foundation's effort to improve the quality of education in Nepal's schools, both in the public and private sector, marked twenty years this year. The 20th Anniversary was celebrated with like-minded educators from various organizations within Nepal, and the highlight was the graduation of three groups of teachers. It was a pleasure to see their personal as well as professional growth during their course of studies. This was a special event, also because a physical graduation was convened after a break of several years.

Of the three sets of graduates were those who graduated from the Primary Teacher Training Program, a program as old as RBF and run in collaboration with Bank Street College of Education, New York, Kathmandu University, and Rato Bangla Foundation. So far, 409 students have graduated with a PTTP degree, and 204 have received the Post Graduate Diploma in Education from Kathmandu University.

The second set of graduates received our Child-Centered Level One certificate. So far, 1172 teachers have graduated from this three-month course. The third set of graduates were all the primary teachers from Bright Horizon's Children's Home, a charity school for children who either do not have parents or whose parents are too poor to educate or take care of them. Those who were certified, like so many before them, will now be able to run classrooms that provide opportunities to develop skills, that are meaningful and enjoyable for students.

Another highlight of this year has been the Power of Parenting Conference. RBF, in collaboration with RBS, organized Nepal's first-ever conference on parenting, bringing experts from among the RBS parents to share their experiences and create an opportunity for the participants to learn from facilitators and each other. The Power of Parenting conference is a series and will take place in regular intervals. With

better parenting skills, our parents will be able to raise responsible children who are happy and confident and make their own parenting journey much more enjoyable.

Yet another exciting project has been to take the Rapid Neurodevelopmental Assessment (RNDA) to the community in Lalitpur. RNDA is an assessment tool that allows the assessor to figure out whether a child is normal, mildly, moderately, or severely impaired in eight neurodevelopmental domains. Working with Lalitpur Municipality, RBF trained eight school nurses and provided them with a kit for RNDA assessment. It has been of great concern to us that many of the children have impairments in Speech, Cognition, and Behavior areas that will develop only with good care. The RNDA results are concerning as they show that parents are not providing children with the kind of nurturing that enables them to grow holistically.

RBF has focused on Early Childhood Development and is working with ECD centers in all schools within Lalitpur Municipality. Additionally, RBF has

collaborated with Mayors in Tehrathum, Gorkha, and Kathmandu to improve its ECD classes. Working with the youngest age group is very important, as it provides a window of opportunity to work effectively and give children the skills and behaviors that will last a lifetime.

RBF's journey would not have been complete without the support of the Rato Bangala Partnership in Outreach Program, which shares with us our vision and passion. Our work is only as good as our hardworking staff, advisors, and committed board members. We will continue to work with partner schools, teachers, school leaders, and parents at the local, provincial, and central levels so that Nepali children will get the kind of education they deserve. The children in remote areas of Nepal are most at risk of suffering the consequences of a poor quality of education, and it is these children that RBF will continue to advocate for. Comment end



Shanta Dixit
Chairperson

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Main Highlights



Celebrating 20th Anniversary

Rato Bangala Foundation (RBF) celebrated its 20th Anniversary on Magh 8, 2079 (January 22, 2023) in the presence of the Mayor of Lalitpur Metropolitan City (LMC), Chiri Babu Maharjan as a Chief Guest. The panel discussion on “Why Early Childhood Education Matters” was moderated by

Milan Dixit, with Dipu Shakya, Mahashram Sharma, and Shanta Dixit as panelists.

So far, the foundation has trained about 10,000 teachers throughout Nepal, reached 1,400 plus schools, and impacted over 375,000 students.



Power of Parenting Conference 2023



The launch of a series of Nepal's First Conference on Parenting, Power of Parenting, was held on Baishakh 17, 2080 (April 30, 2023) in collaboration with Rato Bangala School (RBS). The conference brought together parents from different walks of life to give them a platform for reflection, sharing, and mutual learning. The highlights of the conference were a Panel discussion on "Parenting in the Digital Age" and ten different closed workshops on various parenting issues and concerns such as Managing Screen Time and Establishing Routine, Responding to Brain Development in Early Childhood

Development (ECD), Practicing Empathetic Parenting, Encouraging Language Development, Self-Regulation & Executive Functioning, Encouraging Problem-Solving Skills and Positive Communication, Online Safety, Effective Communication Strategies for Parents and Adolescent Children, Dealing with Challenging Behaviour, and Breaking the Gender Stereotype. The key facilitators were Kalpana Parajuli, Dr. Archana Nepal, Pukar Malla, Ph.D., Sarita Rana, Sheelu Karmacharya, Riu Poudel Dhungana, Ayushma Rana Shah, Neelam Sharma, Shanta Dixit, PhD., Sheila Shrestha, and Sabin Shrestha.





Triple Certification Program

RBF, RBS, and Rato Bangala Partnership in Outreach Program (RBPOP) held a triple certification program on Shrawan 1, 2079 (July 17, 2022). Twenty-six students of the Primary Teacher Training Program (PTTP), 18 teachers and school leaders of Bright Horizon Community Home (BHCH), and 25 Early childhood teachers from ten schools in Lalitpur received their certificates.

The notable persons present for the certification program were Dr. Bal Chandra Luitel, Dean of Kathmandu University, and Mahendra Chhetri, Chief of Education, LMC and the Chairperson of RBF Ms. Shanta Dixit.

Dr. Bal Chandra Luitel, Dean of Kathmandu University, gave practical suggestions to encourage child-centered



learning in Nepal in his keynote. Mahendra Chhetri, Chief of Education, LMC, spoke about the effectiveness of the training in transforming classrooms into spaces where children learn by doing. The Director of RBS and Chair of RBF noted that progress in education takes a long time, there are a lot of gaps, so all require patience and perseverance.





Bal Sahitya Mahotsav 2023

Bal Sahitya Mahotsav is the annual literature festival organized in a joint collaboration between RBS, Rato Bangala Kitab (RBK), and RBF on 4 March 2023. RBF's display consisted of the Early Grade Reading stall. Participants found out their reading level by doing the EGR test on a tablet. The parents and children thoroughly enjoyed the reading test where they identified their children's performance and ability.

RBF in collaboration with RBPOP supported community schools of Kageshwori and Gorkha to participate

and observe Bal Sahitya Mahotsav. They enjoyed watching the play, 'Dhumdham ko Ghumgham', directed by Akansha Karki of Kausi Theatre. The play was based on Dhumdham ko Ghumgham, Bhaktaprasad Bhyaguto ko Nepal Yatra, and it gave valuable life lessons. Then, a closed mural-making session based on the play was organized. The sessions were conducted in two batches by the RBF trainers with about 30 students in each group. The session was followed by Read Aloud and collage-making by the students on the mural board. All in all, a very exciting program for the students.





Main Program



Primary Teacher Training Program (PTTP)

Primary Teacher Training is a comprehensive year-long program designed to enrich expertise and start the journey of creating professional educators. The PTTP training continued for the 19th batch with 25 participants. The major highlights of this batch were a community study trip to Pokhara from Poush 8-12, 2079 (December 23-27, 2022), where

the participants studied different places and prepared big books, and a session on Gender and Social Inclusion by Ms. Eleena Subba, Team Lead of RBF.

The 20th batch of the training commenced in Jestha 2080 (May 2023) with a cohort of 27 teachers including some pre-service teachers. Throughout the



“I feel very privileged to be a part of this training organized by Rato Bangala Foundation. I have benefited greatly from it as a teacher in many ways, both personally and professionally. Since I was never in teaching profession, this training has provided a strong foundation with motivation and confidence to be a primary school teacher. I have learned about different teaching skills, methods and strategies, and how to adapt them to different learners. Additionally, this training has helped me to better understand the needs of individual child and how to teach them effectively. I am more motivated to learn and grow as a teacher. I now plan to implement the learning from my training by creating a nurturing and engaging environment for my students. I will use all the skills, methods and strategies I have learned to meet the needs of all of my students. Finally, I am confident that my one year primary teacher training has prepared me well for a successful career in teaching.”

■ Bandana Sharma

course, the participants gained in-depth knowledge of key subjects. The education philosophy course works

as a frame providing socio-emotional learning to integrate the content area subjects.





Child-Centered Level One Training

Child-centered level one training is a three-month-long course to provide a broad spectrum of exposure to Nepali teachers so that they can learn the basic essentials to conduct a child-centered classroom effectively. Level One training for the 45th

batch started on Falgun 3, 2079 (February 15, 2023) and ended in Asar 2080 (June 2023) for 26 participants. The training organized in collaboration with RBS provided hands-on experience on practical methods to use in their own classrooms.



Early Grade Reading Program (EGR)



Early Grade Reading Program focuses on assessing the reading skills of children in Grades one to three. This program typically concentrates on teaching reading at four different levels; classroom learning, teachers, institutional structures, and community.

RBF provided EGR training from Shrawan 12-16, 2079 (July 28 to August 1, 2022) for

12 participants. The participants learned how to use the EGR material to identify the reading level of students and to facilitate their learning in their classes.

RBF visited schools that previously received training on EGR. RBF trainers observed EGR classes and gave feedback to improve the class. Some possible activities were also shared during class observation.





Rapid Neurodevelopmental Assessment (RNDA)

RNDA Test at the Early Childhood Centre of RBS

RBF organized and administered RNDA tests for 93 students of the Early Childhood Centre, RBS. The tests took place in many batches; from (Feb 6-9, 2023), Asar 19-20, 2080 (July 4-5, 2023), and Asar 25-28, 2080 (July 10-13, 2023). The RNDA test helps to record the status and create an informative report on the neurodevelopment of students aged 5 and 6 years, using real-life examples and concise language. This test serves as a valuable tool in increasing caregivers' understanding of the pivotal role played by neurological development in children. It emphasizes the impact of neurodevelopment on overall growth and future success. Additionally, the assessment helps to identify and address any potential developmental delays

or impairments through customized plans created collaboratively with teachers, parents, and healthcare professionals.

Training on RNDA

RNDA training was conducted from Baishakh 19-28, 2080 (May 2-11, 2023), for 15 participants, including seven staff members from RBF, RBS, and Rato Bangala Public Outreach Program (RBPOP), along with eight nurses from various schools in Lalitpur. The key objectives of this training were to familiarize participants with the RNDA methodology, which involved understanding the age-specific RNDA form, item-wise grading, and data recording, developing knowledge about neurodevelopmental milestones and their correlation with brain development,



enabling early identification of delays and planning necessary interventions, and equipping participants with the necessary skills for data entry, analysis, and interpretation of RNDA results to identify patterns and design individualized intervention plans.

During the training, Shanta Dixit delivered an engaging presentation on ECD and brain development. Her talk shed light on the intricate relationship between neurodevelopment and overall growth, providing valuable insights to the attendees.





Scholarship Program

RBF continues to provide sponsorship for eight girls from different parts of Nepal to study at Rato Bangala School. The basic requirements for schooling, like tuition fees, stationery, food, accommodations, and uniforms, are provided to the students. RBF monitors each student's performance, and the MOU is renewed yearly.

The primary objective of the scholarship program is to educate children and enable

them to become role models in their community and inspire other children to follow the same. These children, on scholarship, come from various parts of Nepal and are helped by donors living in Nepal and abroad. RBF ensures they receive an all-around facility and perform well in school with guidance from hostel supervisors and school teachers. A complete report is sent to the respective donors regarding their academic performance and hostel life.





Other Training

Training for private and public school



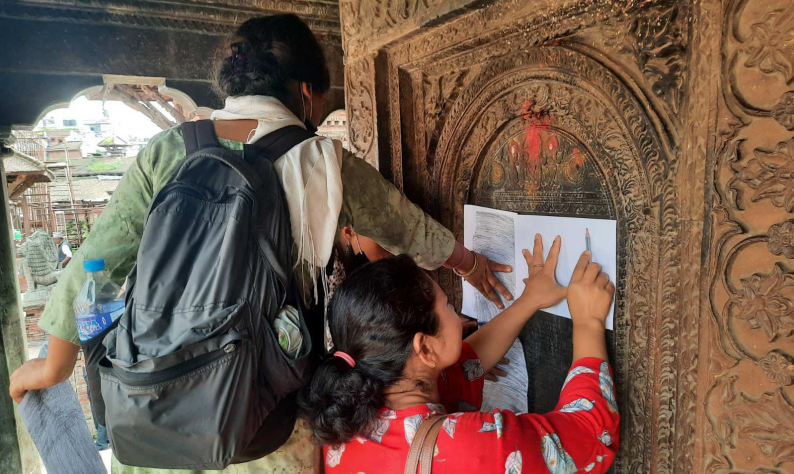
RBF conducted a Geography training, facilitated by Sam Brian, for both private and public schools. The training was held in two batches from Asar 4-6, 2080 (June 19-21, 2023) and from Asar 11-13, 2080 (June 26-28, 2023) for private and public schools respectively. A total of 21 teachers; 11 from private schools and 10 from

government schools participated in the training. The participants learned about the Terrain Model and its application in geography education which increased the effectiveness of teaching. The training also provided a space that allowed the teachers to share the best practices and experiences related to the topic.





Training in collaboration with schools



St. Xaviers

Level One training for the teachers of St. Xaviers continued. The sessions are held on alternate Sundays for 23 teachers, allowing teachers to implement their learning in their classrooms and come back to the classes to get more ideas for implementation.

The teachers also organized a school exhibition at St. Xavier's School, Godawari on December 11, 2023. The participants were elated as they had the opportunity to reflect on their learnings from the training for their schools and different authorities to observe.



Everest Education Foundation



The partnership with Everest Education Foundation aims to provide training for both Early Childhood (EC) and Primary Teachers. The first phase of the training was organized from Shrawan 3-9 (July

19-25, 2022) and the second phase was conducted from Poush 24-29, 2079 (January 8-13, 2023). This six-day training focused on providing guiding teachers toward a play-based pedagogical practice



“This training, facilitated by Rato Bangala Foundation, was highly fruitful for us. The sessions were specifically designed to develop effective teaching methodologies for children, addressing our needs perfectly. The well-organized and useful content, coupled with engaging teaching methodologies, exceeded our expectations. The sessions were exciting, enjoyable, and wonderful, incorporating various activities, brainstorming games, and student-centered learning approaches. We found the training more than sufficient. Moving forward, we hope to receive similar workshops and training to further strengthen our teaching methodologies and provide quality education in our institution.”

in the ECD center, strengthening the relationship between teacher, principal, parents, and children, and ensuring

children’s development to develop a child-centered classroom. The training benefitted 16 EC teachers and 49 Primary teachers.





Projects in collaboration with RBPOP



Early Childhood Development (ECD)

Early Childhood Development Project focuses on developing effective ECD in different community schools in Lalitpur. This project aims to improve the way children learn which brings a positive impact on children's capabilities. The project itself is divided into four cohorts, leading max of 11 community schools in each Cohort.

Cohort I



RBF conducted school visits to ten different schools; Yasodhara School, Patan Secondary School (SS), Madan Smarak School, Shree Chandee SS, Shree Shramik Bal Bigyan School, Shree Hari Siddhi School, Shree Shringar School, Shree Shanti School, Aadarsaha Saul School, and

Tri Padma SS, of Cohort I in Bhadra and Ashoj. The objective of these visits was to monitor the condition of ECD and the progress of the students and observation of the class management to teaching techniques.





Cohort II

A two-day refresher training for the teachers of Nur/PG and KG teachers was organized from Bhadra 27-31, 2079 (Sept 12-16, 2022) in two different batches. The trainers provided insights on play-based pedagogical practice in classrooms based on best practices and revisited the 11 essential rules of EC. This training had the participation of nine Nur teachers and eight KG teachers.

RBF conducted school visits to ten different schools; Shree Padma Prakash SS, Shree Balkumari SS, Shree Jana

Udaya SS, Shree Yuwa Prabhat Bidya Mandir SS, Shramik Shanti SS, Prabhat SS, Shree Bal Binod SS, Shree Mahendra Adarsa SS, Min Nath Adarsha Shikya Sadan Basic School (BS), and Shree Sachetena Primary School, of Cohort II from Kartik 17-25, 2079 (November 3-11, 2022). During the monitoring and observation visit, the trainers saw the lessons taught in the EC classes and their teaching methodologies. They also evaluated the EC teaching methodologies based on 11 essential best practices.



Cohort III



A demo class, classroom setup, and management in 11 schools; Adarsha Kanya Niketan SS, Shree Chandee Adarsha Saral SS, Shree Gamvir Samudra Setu SS, Shree Harisiddhi SS, Pragati Shiksha Sadan SS, Shree Shanti Vidyashram School, Tri-Padma Vidyashram SS, Shree Yashodhara Bauddha SS, Patan SS, Madan Smarak SS, Shramik Bal Bigyan Lower Secondary Community School, continued from Ashad 21 to Shrawan 6, 2079 (July 5-22, 2022) and Shrawan 2-6, 2079 (July 18-22, 2022) respectively. The Demo class taught all EC teachers to conduct child-friendly classes and incorporate 11 essentials in their EC lessons so that all

students can share and participate in the activities. The classroom setup helped create child-friendly EC classrooms and set the environment so that the children and teacher could work comfortably and provide different opportunities to children.

The third phase of training for the Nur/PG and KG teachers was organized in two batches; from Mangsir 20-21, 2079 (December 6-7, 2022) and Falgun 1-8, 2079 (Feb 1-8, 2023). There were a total of 15 Nur/PG and 16 KG teachers. The training reinforced the 11 essential practices.





Cohort IV

A baseline survey was conducted in 11 schools; Shree Pancha Kumari BS, 2 Shree Aadarsha Kanya Niketan, Shree Krishi Udaya BS, Shree Tika Vidhyaashram, Shree Namuna Machhindra SS, Shree Choina Bina Guruganesh BS, Shree Ballekh Kumari BS, Shree Balodaya BS, Shree

Mahankal BS, Shree Krishna SS, Shree Rudrayani SS, of LMC under Cohort IV. The primary purpose of this survey was to collect comprehensive information about the current state of ECD and the classroom implementation techniques employed by teachers in ECD classes.



One-day leadership for ECD



RBF conducted a one-day leadership workshop for all the leaders from ECD Cohorts I, II, III, and IV from Lalitpur municipality. This workshop was

conducted on Falgun 12, 2079 (Feb 24, 2023) and focused on the work and successes achieved so far and figuring out the way forward.





Sarthak Bal Sikai Karyakram

Sarthak Bal Sikai is a project focused on improving teaching and learning in community schools in collaboration with the local government. The project is implemented in three districts; Aathrai, Gorkha, and Kageshwori Municipality.

Aathrai



The Sarthak Bal Sikai project at Aathrai continued. RBF successfully organized workshop for principals, second-phase, and third-phase training for the teachers of nine collaborating schools in Aathrai.

A three-day workshop for principals was conducted from Asoj 5-7, 2079 (September 21-23, 2022) for the headteachers. The workshop oversaw the participation of seven school leaders and one field officer. The main objectives of this training were to support establishing child-friendly ECD classes, develop the maximum capacity of the school leaders, make them aware of the 11 essentials of child-friendly practices, and apply them in their ECD classes.

A six-day second phase training was organized from Asoj 26 to Kartik 1, 2079 (October 12-18, 2080) for the school teachers. The main objective of the training is to support child-friendly ECD classrooms and teaching pedagogies. The main focus of this training was to reinforce 11 essential child-friendly best practices, importance in EC teaching, Child's age level development, Nutrition, classroom management, and various teaching methodologies.

A three-day third phase training was organized from Jestha 10-12, 2080 (May 24-26, 2023). The primary objectives of this training were to enhance awareness and capacity in implementing child-



“We learned that teaching according to the age level development is important. Keeping in mind their interest, and their capacity we tried to apply morning meetings, class agreements, songs, and games in the class. Through these activities, they develop their concentration, cooperation, creativity, and interactive skills. Students enjoyed playing with blocks. After this training, I observed the change in children’s actions as they increased in their age. It’s necessary that teachers need to know about it. I realized we need to make the lessons so exciting and curious. We did an experiment on the float and sink which we enjoyed a lot. I think children will enjoy and learn many more things through the experiment work. Thank You, RBF”.

■ Krishna Maya Subedi

friendly practices, create child-friendly learning environments by focusing on classroom setup and management, and encourage active students to engage and participate in various classroom activities.

Along with the training, RBF also closely monitored the Early Childhood classrooms of these schools during the school visits.

RBF visited these schools from Baishakh 31 to Jestha 6, 2080 (May 14-20, 2023). During the visit, they observed Early Childhood Development (ECD) classes and conducted orientation sessions for parents, principals, and local community members. The team addressed various concerns and offered valuable suggestions to improve the ECD program in the area.



Gorkha



Likewise, in Gorkha, the Sarthak Bal Sikai project continued in 36 community schools of Bhimsen Gaupalika. RBF conducted the second and third phases of training. A six-day second phase training was organized from Bhadra 26-31, 2079 (September 11-16, 2022) in Bhimsen Gaupalika, Gorkha. The objective of the training was to support child-friendly ECD classrooms and teaching pedagogies by reinforcing 11 essential child-friendly best practices, Child's age level development, Nutrition, classroom management, and various teaching methodologies. Teachers shared positive changes as well as challenges of the first phase of training during its implementation.

Similarly, a three-day third phase training was also organized from Chaitra 21-23, 2079 (April 4-6, 2023). All the preschool teachers from 36 schools participated in the training. There were 50 EC teachers in training. The main highlights of the training were reinforcing 11 essentials, Read Aloud, conflict resolution, theme-based lesson plans, and center activities. Besides these, the training also focused on good parenting, nutrition, dance and movement, physical education, and gender education. The participants visited Rato Bangala's preschool to observe and learn the methodologies as well as the implementation of the 11 essentials to adapt it in their schools.





Kageshwori

The Sarthak Bal Sikai project was launched in Kageshwori Municipality in Shrawan 2079 (August 2022) in collaboration with the Kageshwori Manohara Municipality. RBF organized a baseline survey to observe the Early Childhood classrooms to know their condition and also interviewed EC teachers and principals of 16 schools.

A two-day substitute training for 42 volunteers was organized on Mangsir 8 and 9, 2079 (November 24 and 25, 2022). The training's main objective was to make it easier to manage EC classrooms efficiently

and successfully utilize child-centered EC teaching methods. After the training, they underwent a seven-day placement period in 17 schools across the municipality. The certificate distribution ceremony was organized on Mangsir 26, 2079 (December 12, 2022).

A six-day first phase training for 32 EC teachers in first phase training was organized in the Kageshwori Municipality Mangir 11-16, 2079 (November 27 to December 2, 2022). The participants learned about the play-based educational



“I gained various insights from the session, particularly about the use of dominoes, which was a new concept for me. We engaged in different activities using a single domino set, such as domino simple, domino war, and domino line off. These activities will be highly beneficial for early childhood development (ECD) children. Additionally, the discussion on brain development and its correlation with the eight domains provided me with valuable information about a child’s holistic growth and development.”

■ **Nirmala Khadka**
Bal Bikash Secondary School
Kageshwori Manohara Municipality

approach and its 11 essential practices that are to be applied in their teaching strategies. Moreover, EC teachers learned to apply the techniques effectively and efficiently in their teaching and learning journey. They are now able to communicate effectively, allocate time efficiently, set clear and achievable goals, provide direction and motivation, navigate challenges and seize opportunities, overcome obstacles by analyzing the situation and making informed decisions, prioritize physical and mental well-being, build relationships, cultivating resilience, practicing empathy and a positive mindset.

RBF also successfully carried out the second training phase from Jestha 16-28, 2080 (May 30 to June 11, 2023). The primary focus of this training was to empower Early Childhood teachers with the implementation of a play-based pedagogical approach in their classrooms. The training emphasized incorporating best practices while providing the necessary skills and knowledge to foster the holistic development of students. Furthermore, the goal was to create an environment that promotes optimal growth and learning for children.



RBF visited four schools; Rastriya Secondary School, Kanti Bhairav School, Bal Uddar School, and Chawal Narayan School from Jestha 2-5 (May 16-19).

The primary objectives of these visits were to raise awareness and enhance teachers' capacity to integrate child-

friendly practices into their teaching methods. RBF's commitment to these schools involves providing continuous support, exploring innovative solutions based on their needs, and implementing a robust monitoring and evaluation system to ensure the success of our initiatives.





Staff Development



Geography Training

RBF trainers actively participated in Geography training and training on how to conduct research facilitated by Sam Brian from Jestha 22-24, 2080 (June 5-7, 2023) and Jestha 28-32, 2080 (June 12-15, 2023) respectively. This training enhanced the comprehensive understanding of specific topics covered and fostered a

collaborative learning environment which enabled them to share their experience as well as enhanced their critical analytical abilities. This training helped participants to incorporate modern technologies such as digital mapping tools, Geographical Information Systems (GIS), and online resources into their teaching strategies.



Retreat



The entire RBF team went on a retreat to Dhulikhel. The one-day getaway provided a space for the team to come together, strengthen, and get to know each other. This helped us to integrate new staff members with the involvement of everyone

in various fun activities. The staff retreat helped to boost team morale, foster collaboration, and recharge. All the staff of RBF returned to the office with renewed energy and enthusiasm.



Rato Bangala Foundation

Executive Board Members

Chairperson	: Dr. Shanta Dixit
Vice Chairperson	: Ms. Milan Dixit
Secretary	: Mr. Shamik Mishra
Treasurer	: Mr. Uttam Thapa
Members	: Mr. Amar Gurung Mr. Shailesh Baidya Ms. Sumnima Tuladhar Dr. Mahashram Sharma Ms. Maya Gauchan
General Members	: Ms. Rekha Pandey Ms. Rajani Upadhya Ms. Astha Thapa Pandey

Staff Members

Anupa Rimal	: Office Associate
Eleena R. Subba	: Team Lead
Hari Prasad Pudasaini	: Admin and Finance Officer
Midesh Maharjan	: Lead Trainer Educator
Riya Manandhar	: Program Officer
Aayush Chitrakar	: M&E Officer
Bhaikaji Rajbahak	: IT Officer
Bandana Uprety	: Teacher Educator
Sadikshya Bajracharya	: Teacher Educator
Bhawana Subedi	: Subordinate Teacher Educator
Sanju Sharma	: Subordinate Teacher Educator
Smita Karki	: Subordinate Teacher Educator
Sarala Saxena	: Admin and Finance Assistant
Mishri Awale	: Support Staff

Financial Report

J. B. Rajbhandary & DiBins

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF RATO BANGALA FOUNDATION

Report on the Audit of Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of **RATO BANGALA FOUNDATION** (hereinafter referred to as "RBF") which comprise of Statement of Financial Position as at 31st Ashad 2080 (16th July 2023), Statement of Income and Expenditure, Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, and Notes to Accounts.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of RBF as at 31st Ashad 2080 (16th July 2023), its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended on that date in accordance with Nepal Accounting Standards (NAS).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Nepal Standards on Auditing (NSAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our audit report. We are independent of RBF in accordance with ICAN's Handbook of Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with ICAN's Handbook of Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these Financial Statements in accordance with NAS and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the Financial Statements that are free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the Financial Statements, management is responsible for assessing RBF's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate RBF or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing RBF's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Financial Statements as a whole are free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but it is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with NSAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these Financial Statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with NSAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- i. Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the Financial Statements whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of the internal control.



Page 1 of 2

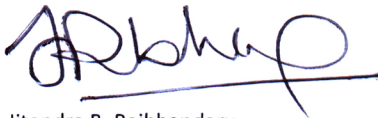
- ii. Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of RBF's internal control.
- iii. Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- iv. Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on RBF's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our report to the related disclosures in the Financial Statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause RBF to cease to continue as a going concern.
- v. Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the Financial Statements, including the disclosures, and whether the Financial Statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- vi. Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within RBF to express an opinion on the Financial Statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We have communicated with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

We have obtained all the information and explanations along with replies to our queries, which to the best of our knowledge and understanding, were necessary for the purpose of the audit. In our opinion, the financial statements comprising of Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Income and Expenditure and Statement of Cash Flows dealt with by this report are in agreement with the books of accounts.

To the best of our knowledge & belief and accordingly to the explanations given and based on our audit, we are of view that the activities carried out are found to be within the objectives of RBF and RBF has complied generally with the provisions of the Income Tax Act 2058 relating to withholding tax.



CA Jitendra B. Rajbhandary

Senior Partner

COP: 25

Date: 16th Ashwin 2080 (3rd October 2023)

UDIN: 231010CA000140290Z

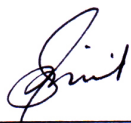


Rato Bangala Foundation
Patan Dhoka, Lalitpur
Statement of Financial Position
As at Ashad 31, 2080 (July 16, 2023)

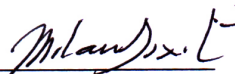
Assets	Schedule	Current Year	Previous Year
Property Plant and Equipment	1	739,541.92	684,513.01
Investment	2	6,492,000.00	6,492,000.00
Current Assets		13,535,888.57	4,955,853.25
Deposits and Receivables	3	2,419,449.52	1,354,867.29
Cash and Cash Equivalent	4	11,116,439.05	3,600,985.96
Total Assets		20,767,430.49	12,132,366.26
Liabilities & Reserves	Schedule	Current Year	Previous Year
Surplus & Reserves		3,774,877.33	5,342,938.92
Opening Balance of Surplus & Reserves		5,293,599.87	8,412,606.51
Additions during the year		(1,556,633.83)	(3,119,006.64)
Total Surplus & Reserves		3,736,966.04	5,293,599.87
Capital Reserves (Grant Assets Fund)	5	37,911.29	49,339.05
Fund Balance & Current Liabilities			
Restricted Funds		15,915,541.58	4,797,094.28
Scholarship Fund	6	11,836,520.58	4,157,272.78
Janajagriti School Kavre	7	634,821.00	639,821.50
Woord En Daad	8	3,444,200.00	-
Current Liabilities		1,077,011.58	1,992,333.06
Accounts Payables	9	769,511.58	1,712,992.36
Other Current Liabilities	10	307,500.00	279,340.70
Total Liabilities & Reserves		20,767,430.49	12,132,366.26

Notes to Financial Statements 13
Schedules 1- 13 form integral part of Financial Statements

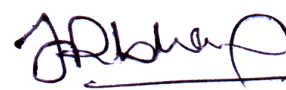
As per our report of
even date



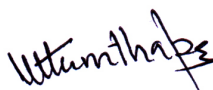
Dr. Shanta Dixit
Chairperson



Milan Dixit
Vice Chairperson



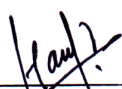
CA Jitendra B. Rajbhandary
Senior Partner
J. B. Rajbhandary & DiBins
Chartered Accountants



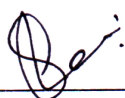
Uttam Thapa
Treasurer



Shamik Mishra
Secretary



Hari P. Pudasaini
Admin & Finance Officer

Eleena R. Subba
Team Lead



Date: October 3, 2023
Place: Lalitpur, Nepal

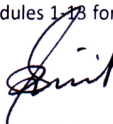
Rato Bangala Foundation
Patan Dhoka, Lalitpur
Statement of Income and Expenditure
For the period from Shrawan 1, 2079 to Ashad 31, 2080 (July 17, 2022 to July 16, 2023)

Income	Schedule	Current Year	Previous Year
External Sources (Restricted)			
II International conference for Quality Education		-	-
Scholarship Fund (Various Donors)	6	3,114,649.00	1,988,555.52
Janajagriti School Kavre	7	5,000.50	530,444.00
Woord En Daad	8	-	-
RBPOP programs	12	-	3,987,916.99
Total Income from External Sources (A)		3,119,649.50	6,506,916.51
Internal Sources			
Teacher's Training		9,176,211.00	5,592,134.30
Population Media Nepal (PMN)		1,288,601.00	-
Other Income		1,660,405.72	1,311,661.66
Bank Interest		571,418.21	505,422.09
Dividend Income		85,500.00	85,500.00
Membership / Registration Fees		1,300.00	179,423.75
Total Income from Internal Sources (B)		12,783,435.93	7,674,141.80
Total Income (A+B)		15,903,085.43	14,181,058.31
Expenditure			
External Projects Expenditure (Restricted)			
II International conference for Quality Education		-	-
Scholarship Fund	6	3,114,649.00	1,988,555.52
Janajagriti School Kavre	7	5,000.50	530,444.00
Woord En Daad	8	-	-
RBPOP Programs	12	-	3,987,916.99
Total Expenses of External Sources (Restricted) (C)		3,119,649.50	6,506,916.51
Internal Projects & General Expenditures:			
Office General Expenses	11	14,339,570.28	9,168,414.44
Population Media Nepal (PMN)		500.00	-
Total Internal Projects & General Expenditures (D)		14,340,070.28	9,168,414.44
Total Expenditure (C+D)		17,459,719.78	15,675,330.95
Excess of Income over Expenditure (B-D)		(1,556,633.83)	(1,494,272.64)
Income Tax Expenses of previous years		-	(1,624,734.00)
Balance transferred to Balance Sheet		(1,556,633.83)	(3,119,006.64)

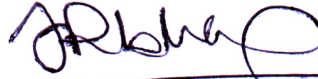
Notes to Financial Statements
Schedules 1-13 form integral part of Financial Statements


13


As per our report of
even date



Dr. Shanta Dixit
Chairperson


Milan Dixit
Vice Chairperson



CA Jitendra B. Rajbhandary
Senior Partner
J. B. Rajbhandary & DiBins
Chartered Accountants


Uttam Thapa
Treasurer


Shamik Mishra
Secretary


Hari P. Pudasaini
Admin & Finance Officer

 **RATO BANGALA
FOUNDATION**


Eleena R. Subba
Team Lead



Date: October 3, 2023
Place: Lalitpur, Nepal

Rato Bangala Foundation


Patan Dhoka, Lalitpur

Statement of Cash Flows


For the period from Shrawan 1, 2079 to Ashad 31, 2080 (July 17, 2022 to July 16, 2023)

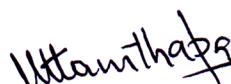
Particular	Current Year	Previous Year
Cash Flow from Operating Activities		
Surplus (Deficit) before Taxation & Extraordinary items	(1,556,633.83)	(1,494,272.64)
Add:		
Depreciation	212,543.55	210,591.00
Less:		
Dividend income	(85,500.00)	(85,500.00)
Income Tax Expenses	-	(1,624,734.00)
Cash flow from operations before change in the working capital	(1,429,590)	(2,993,915.64)
Working Capital Adjustments :		
Decrease (Increase) in current assets	(1,064,582)	517,765.60
Increase (Decrease) in current liabilities	(915,321)	(175,367.00)
Cash Flow from Operations	(3,409,494)	(2,651,517.04)
Net Cash flow from Restricted Funds	11,118,447	2,641,323.00
Net cash Flow from Operating activities (A)	7,708,953	(10,194.04)
Cash Flow of Investment Activities		
Fixed Deposits	-	-
Purchase of Property Plant and Equipment	(279,000)	(5,100.00)
Dividend incomes	85,500	85,500.00
Net cash flow from Investment activities (B)	(193,500)	80,400.00
Cash Flow of Financing Activities		
Borrowing of loans	-	-
Repayment of loans	-	-
Net cash flow from financing activities (C)	-	-
Total Increase (Decrease) in cash (A+B+C)	7,515,453	70,205.96
Cash & cash equivalent at the beginning of the year	3,600,986	3,530,780.00
Cash & cash equivalent at the end of the year	11,116,439	3,600,985.96

As per our report of
even date



Dr. Shanta Dixit
Chairperson


Milan Dixit
Vice Chairperson


CA Jitendra B. Rajbhandary
Senior Partner
J. B. Rajbhandary & DiBins
Chartered Accountants


Uttam Thapa
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Secretary


Hari P. Pudasaini
Admin & Finance Officer

 **RATO BANGALA
FOUNDATION**
Eleena R. Subba
Team Lead



Date: October 3, 2023
Place: Lalitpur, Nepal

Projected Annual Plan 2023-24 (2080-81)

Projected Annual Plan 2023–24 (2080–81)

Rato Bangala Foundation (RBF) will work on the projects and activities mentioned below during the 2023-24 fiscal year (FY).

Programs executed in collaboration with Rato Bangala Partnership in Outreach Program (RBPOP)

Early Childhood Development in Lalitpur

RBF and RBPOP entered into a partnership to conduct the early childhood development (ECD) programs in the ECD centers of 43 schools in Lalitpur. The objective is to create a developmentally appropriate teaching-learning environment in ECD classrooms by enhancing the research and play-based pedagogical knowledge and skills of ECD teachers. Activities include training teachers, supplying educational materials, holding demonstration classes, and helping to set up classrooms.

The project timeline is from July 2018 to June 2021 (Cohort I), July 2019 to June

2021 (Cohort II), July 2020 to June 2022 (Cohort III), and July 2022 to June 2024 (Cohort IV). The project will feature a few events to wrap up Cohorts I and II because they are nearing their conclusion. RBF intends to undertake a program review with the principles of the participating schools. Additionally, the principals and teachers will receive refresher training to help them recall what they had learned and share any challenges they encountered when putting their knowledge into practice. In addition, Cohort I and II visits to the projects' schools will entail monitoring and assessment. Programs for key stakeholders to be certified for their accomplishments from Cohort I will also be run.

For Cohort III, similar activities will be conducted. The teachers will receive training along with the certification. Furthermore, the principals and teachers will receive refresher training as well. Similar to Cohort I and II, these schools

will also have school visits for the objectives of monitoring and evaluation.

Regarding Cohort IV, all the initial phase activities will be conducted including substitute teachers' orientation and certification, the first phase- six days of training, the second phase- 12 days of training, and the third phase- six days of training. In between these trainings, classroom set up and demo classes will also take place. RBF monitoring and evaluation team will keep a close watch on all of these operations. Cohort IV schools will receive books and building blocks as resource materials.

Bal Sahitya Mahotsav

Bal Sahitya Mahotsav (BSM) is a collaboration of Rato Bangala School, Rato Bangala Kitab (RBK), and RBF. For this year's BSM, RBF in collaboration with RBPOP is planning to provide an orientation workshop for a very limited selected school. This training will focus on the module and techniques to organize BSM. The teachers and students from those schools will be invited to attend BSM 2024 and participate in the refresher sessions conducted by RBF teacher educators. Afterward, the RBF team will support them in conducting BSM in their school.

Sarthak Bal Sikai, Aathrai, Terhathum

This year, the RBF team will continue its work in Aathrai after completing the second year of a three-year project (2021-

2023) in 9 schools. This year, the RBF team will give Refresher training after which the monitoring and training team will visit the respective schools for monitoring and evaluation. Onwards, the Principal's workshop- a three-day training will be organized in Kathmandu after which stakeholder orientation and substitute teachers training will also be conducted. The first phase- three days of training and the second phase- six days of training will also be conducted for the teachers from these community schools. The trainer team will visit these schools for a classroom setup and demo classes in between these training. In addition, the monitoring and evaluation team along with the trainers team will visit these schools for necessary assessment and monitoring.

Sarthak Bal Sikai, Gorkha

RBF, in partnership with RBPOP, started working with 36 schools in Bhimsenthapa rural municipality in 2021. This year, the foremost intervention is a stakeholder visit by Board members and the Lead trainer followed by a visit from the monitoring and evaluation and trainers unit to assess the ongoing activities. Moving forward, the principal's workshop, stakeholders orientation, Substitute teachers' training, the first phase- three days of training, the second phase- six days of training, the third phase- six days of training, and the certification program will be organized. At the end trainers, M&E with the RBPOP team visit these schools for monitoring and evaluation.

Sarthak Bal Sikai, Kageshwori

Sarthak Bal Sikai in Kageshwori was initiated last year. This year, after completion of the first phase and second phase training, the M&E unit will visit these schools. Followed by the third phase- three days and one day of refresher training.

Sarthak Bal Sikai, Phidim

Sarthak Bal Sikai Program will be conducted in Phidim. The program aims to generate competent substitute teachers from students who have a better understanding of their schools and curriculum. This year, a principals workshop along with the stakeholders' orientation will be organized. The substitute teachers' training will be provided. By the end of the training, the students will have the necessary skills and knowledge to conduct various classes as substitute teachers. Similarly, a teacher training program will be conducted for existing teachers. Three phases make up teacher training. But for this year, only the first phase and the second phase will be conducted with the classroom setup and demo classes between these training. The M&E unit will visit these schools for monitoring and evaluation.

Rapid Neuro-Development Assessment Training

Rapid Neuro-Development Assessment Training RBF will collaborate with RBPOP and Lalitpur Municipality to train 15 of their school nurses and female community

health volunteers (FCHV) so that they are competent to conduct Rapid Neuro-Developmental Assessment (RNDA) assessments among children from 0-16 years of age. RBF has planned to organize ten days RNDA training for LMC, RBF, and RBPOP staff and interested RBS staff. RNDA training for LMC, RBF, RBPOP, and RBS - 10 days, RNDA-trained nurses (from 8 project schools) conduct RNDA tests in respective schools, and RBF Trainers will visit the site.

Training teachers for Everest Secondary School, Biratnagar

RBF is collaborating with Everest Secondary School in Biratnagar to enhance child-centered learning in their school in 2021. In the second year, class observation and refresher training for EC and primary school teachers will be conducted. The refresher training will help teachers to reflect on their learning, and improve their modality accordingly for better outcomes.

In-house Training

Primary Teacher Training Program (PTTP)

This year, 25 participants are enrolled in this one-year program that will be completed in April 2024. The training for the new batch will start in May 2024.

Child-Centered Learning Level One Training

RBF conducts two sessions of its Level One Training annually. The 46th Batch Training

will start on August 4 2023 and is ongoing and will end on October 13, 2023. The 47th Batch of training will tentatively start in February 2024.

Managing sponsorship of students

RBF will manage the sponsorship of eight students from different districts of Nepal and will meticulously monitor them for their betterment at Rato Bangala School. RBF will manage and fulfill the basic requirements for their schooling, which include their tuition fees, stationery, food, and uniforms. The students will be sheltered in the school's hostel. At the end of each year, RBF will provide its annual report to the respective donors.

Early Grade Reading (EGR) Workshops

INTENT Project

Introducing New Triangle to Educate Nepalese Teachers (INTENTThe T)- Education Project in Nepal was developed by Woord en Daad an organization in the Netherlands under this project created an education consortium group of four organizations; Rato Bangala Foundation, REED Nepal, KISC Equip, and ECEC in Nepal to improve quality education in public schools of Nepal by working in following pathways.

This INTENT project is planned for five years, with Rato Bangala's primary focus in the first year being Early Childhood

Development (ECD) in 21 schools within Tarakeshwor Municipality This involves 41 EC classes and 51 ECD teachers. The baseline and Focus Group Discussion (FGD) will be conducted on August 21, 2023. After the baseline, the Substitute teachers will be trained for 2 days to conduct the EC classroom in the absence of teachers. The project for year 1 will begin in August 2023 and will conclude in March 2023. Subsequent years of the project will focus on the Primary and Secondary teachers, principals, and leaders (up to grade VIII). Additionally, the project will address other important areas like Early Grade Reading for early grade teachers and Psychosocial well-being, GESI, and Special Needs to teachers, principals, and local governments.

Transformative Learning through Entertainment-Education to Reduce Child Marriage

Transformative Learning through Entertainment Education to Reduce Child Marriage is a short-term project that aims to raise awareness and foster dialogue around persistent gender norms, child marriage, educational inequality, and sexual and reproductive rights. This will be achieved through the utilization of the existing radio program "Mai Sari Sunakhari", a radio play developed by the Population Media Center in 2017. The ultimate goal is to put an end to child marriage, protect the rights of girls, and promote action through empowerment and advocacy. The

program focuses on equipping adolescent girls and boys with knowledge, skills, and social assets to enable them to speak up for and exercise their rights. This campaign runs in five districts of Sudur-Paschim province (Bajura, Achham, Bajhang, Doti, and Dadeldhura) and five districts of Karnali Province (Jumla, Kalikot, Jajarkot, Dailekh, and Surkhet). The main activities are a three-day workshop, orientation program, listening session of the radio drama, ‘Mai Sari Sunakhari’, and storytelling workshop for the participants of these districts.

Other Programs

RBF will continue to organize various masterclasses and conferences on the Power of Parenting.

RBF will focus on team building amongst its staff and run internal training activities and programs. As part of its team-building efforts, RBF staff will organize a retreat for the team.

RBF will strengthen its working relationships and partnerships with local governments.

RBF will distribute books, book racks and other materials and necessary equipments to Janajagriti Secondary School, Kavre.

Way Forward

Over the years, RBF has effectively upgraded the standard of learning experiences for thousands of children who attend community schools by supporting child-centered approaches to teaching-learning through its numerous programs. The new collaboration with like-minded organizations will help us explore new themes and areas to work on. It will continue to train groups and collaborate with our partners to change the scenario of the education system in Nepal. RBF is appreciative of the assistance received from all of its partners and colleagues. This support strengthens the commitment of our hard-working team to achieve the organization’s goal and vision.

“ Education is a human right with immense power to transform. On its foundation rests the cornerstones of freedom, democracy, and sustainable human development ”

– *Kofi Annan*



Rato Bangala Foundation

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