SIR EDMUND HILLARY'S

HIMALAYAN TRUST



2024-2029 STRATEGIC PLAN

The Himalayan Trust is an international non-profit humanitarian organisation working in the Solukhumbu Mt Everest region of Nepal.

Our aim is to improve the health, education and general well-being of people living in this region.

INTRODUCTION

The Himalayan Trust's fiver year Strategic Plan outlines the objectives that will guide our future work and sets out the direction for the Himalayan Trust from 2024 to 2029.

This strategic plan builds on the successes and strengths of the Himalayan Trust's past and present work, and the deep interest and affection that New Zealanders have for Nepal.

We will focus on outcomes aligned to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the implementation of best-practice methods for our work in Nepal and in New Zealand.

BACKGROUND

Sir Edmund Hillary founded the Himalayan Trust in the 1960s when he built the first school in the small village of Khumjung. Every year, Sir Ed trekked in the areas of his aid work, evaluating what had been done, consulting with local people, building schools and hospitals and planning for the future. For Sir Ed, his work in the region was a labour of devotion, friendship and respect for the people of the Himalayas.

The Himalayan Trust follows in Sir Ed's footsteps. We work in partnership with local people to develop the resilience of remote communities and to strengthen the bond between the people of Nepal and the many New Zealanders who have given their time, money and support over the years.





VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

VISION

In the spirit of Sir Ed, there are empowered, sustainable Himalayan communities.

MISSION

In the spirit of friendship and goodwill the Himalayan Trust partners with the peoples of the Nepalese Himalaya to achieve their aspirations for better education, healthcare and livelihoods. Simultaneously, the Himalayan Trust aims to strengthen and mobilise national awareness of New Zealand's long and strong history in Nepal.

VALUES

- **Sustainability and empowerment:** we seek to engage and empower people in the communities in which we work so any change is sustained.
- **Partnership and friendship:** we take a participatory approach to understanding the issues faced by the mountain communities, and work with them to deliver the outcomes they seek and need.
- **Creativity:** as a small organisation we support innovation, evaluation and learning.
- **Transparency:** we recognise that robust internal processes and governance are essential.
- **Respect and integrity:** we commit to respecting the perspective of the communities we work with.

KEY CHALLENGES

Over the duration of this strategic plan we have identified the following issues to be addressed:

- Identifying projects of greatest need in the Solukhumbu and surrounding districts
- The need for independently-verifiable impact based on outcomes not inputs
- Clarity of purpose supported by genuine accountability
- Clarity in our relationships with organisations and partners in Nepal and in line with Nepali law
- Complete transparency on all historic obligations, risks and liabilities
- Ensuring the Himalayan Trust is inclusive, accessible and relevant to New Zealanders

STRATEGIC GOALS

These are divided into what we intend to achieve (Programme Goals) and the process by which we aim to deliver those goals (Operational Goals).

PROGRAMME GOALS

The Himalayan Trust seeks to enable sustainable Himalayan communities. Our work will be outcomes-focused and combine both historic and new programmes of work. We will promote and apply a holistic community development approach, with planned exit strategies to facilitate community ownership of these programmes. We will work in the following key areas:

- Health
- Education
- Environment
- Sustainable Communities

These thematic areas are aligned to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a clear focus on:

- SDG 1: No poverty
- SDG 3: Good health and well-being
- SDG 4: Quality education
- SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities
- SDG 13: Climate action

The priorities for the work of the Himalayan Trust are as follows:

GOAL 1: HEALTHY LIVES

The Himalayan Trust believes access to healthcare and clean drinking water are fundamental rights. With Himalayan Trust Nepal, we will work alongside local people to achieve the following outcomes:

- Healthcare for all – improved health services & facilities as well as improved and equitable access.
- Clean water and sanitation – improved access to drinking water, safe sanitation, agricultural irrigation, fire safety and water security



Expected impact
Men, Women and children will have better health and hygiene with improved access to health services. Fewer people will die due to avoidable illnesses and sanitation issues. Child mortality will decrease and food and water security will improve.

GOAL 2: EQUITABLE AND QUALITY EDUCATION

A quality education is the foundation for building sustainable livelihoods. The Himalayan Trust believes, as Sir Ed did, in working with local communities to ensure children get the best start in life through quality education. Together we will achieve the following outcomes:

- Access to quality schooling – scholarships as well as new and improved classrooms
- Quality teaching – improving learning opportunities for children by making teachers more effective
- Literacy – increased literacy for school graduates, both women and men
- Technological Literacy - establishing computer labs across Solukhumbu will improve the employability of graduates
- Equitable Access - barriers due to girl's health, period poverty and disabilities will be addresses to ensure equitable access to education.





Expected impact
More children will leave school able to read and write as well as being technologically literate. All schools supported by the Himalayan Trust will have safe and earthquake-resistant buildings that provide a healthy, supportive and inspiring learning environment. More importantly, within schools, children will benefit from high quality teaching and learning opportunities and all children regardless of gender, ability and other factors will face fewer barriers to education.

GOAL 3: GREATER ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE

The Himalayan Trust believes that the natural environment of the Solukhumbu Himalaya is a powerful asset to its people, however in a changing climate there are multiple threats to health, livelihoods and the environment. With a tourism and agricultural economy, action towards a sustainable economy and environment is important. Working alongside the resilient and entrepreneurial Himalayan people and the Himalayan Trust Nepal, we will work towards the following outcomes:

- Protecting the local environment and ecological heritage
- Enabling sustainable local enterprise
- Improving water security and resilience
- Promoting sustainable agricultural practices
- Developing strong environmental and sustainable advocacy with the community

Expected impact
The people of the Himalayan communities we support will have greater confidence in their ability to endure

changes in climate. The local economy will support sustainable development of the region and acts as stewards for their natural environment. Disaster risk will be reduced through better preparedness and improved infastructure and practices.

OPERATIONAL GOALS

GOAL 4: LONG-TERM AND ONGOING FUNDING FOR OUR WORK IN NEPAL.

An investment strategy is applied to preserve (and where possible grow) capital, to maximise the funding available for projects. This is outlined in the 2024 Statement of Investment Policy and Objectives document (SIPO).

A fundraising strategy is developed that incorporates existing activities and identifies new and creative revenue streams that align with our values. The strategy focusses on:

- Broadening awareness of the Trust's mission within NZ
- Building a dedicated base of regular givers
- Bequests
- Membership as a vehicle for growing our community.





GOAL 5: THE SPIRIT OF SIR EDMUND HILLARY'S LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP, ADVENTURE AND PHILANTHROPY REMAINS RELEVANT TO NEW ZEALANDERS

- Establish Summit Challenge as an iconic New Zealand challenge that represents the values of our country and people
- Develop Everest Day in partnership with the NZ-based Nepalese community in order to maintain the relevance of the New Zealand/Nepal relationship and the growing adherence to Everest Day on the 29th of May each year in other countries.
- Increase understanding of Sir Ed's legacy amongst school children and younger adults in New Zealand
- Build the next generation of Trust supporters through engagement in Trust activities
- Increase appreciation of the Himalayan Trust's work amongst visitors to the Everest region through:
    - The Sir Edmund Hillary visitor centre
    - Himalayan Trust treks
- Awareness of the Himalayan Trust's work amongst key audiences within the New Zealand public. Including key audiences like:
    - People who have visited Nepal

- Mountaineers
- People with a love for the mountains and outdoors
- People with a close connection with Ed's legacy
- Charitable people

GOAL 6: A SUSTAINABLE ORGANISATION

- Sound governance and efficient financial processes and systems are in place
- Connections to our communities and partners are nurtured
- We are a lean organisation, with operational systems that are efficient, resilient and minimise people-dependency
- A culture of accountability and continual improvement to ensure that the highest standards of operations and programme delivery are maintained
- A sense of responsibility is nurtured in our members and major donors - encouraging networking, fundraising, advocacy and future governance roles

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Key performance indicators and a robust process of monitoring and evaluation of all the Himalayan Trust's work will be established and implemented throughout this strategic plan period by;

- Annual review process (AGM and annual report)
- Monthly operational KPIs (Revenue by category, New and total regular givers, New and total members, Operating expenses by category).



PETER HILLARY
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on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Himalayan Trust.

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The Himalayan Trust is a registered charity with the New Zealand Charities Commission, registration CC39393.

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