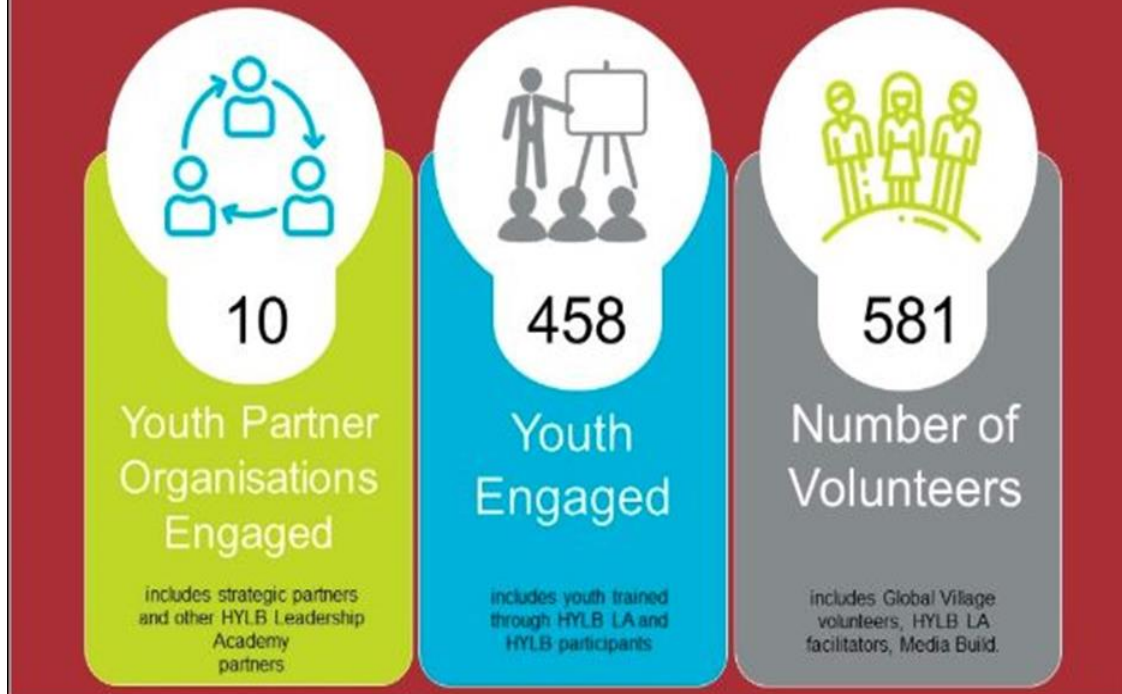


What we achieved through Volunteer Programs October - December 2018



The power of youth

Nepali youth are a dominant force in supporting Habitat's mission: helping vulnerable families build or improve the place they call home.

Habitat Nepal has witnessed how the energy and determination of youth can make a positive impact on society when their aspirations become a reality through transformative learning experiences. For the past six years, Habitat Nepal and its partner organisations have been providing Nepali youth with opportunities to get involved with shelter-related issues in their communities. Youth volunteers have built houses for the neediest and raised awareness on safe shelter, promoting that houses be built to withstand future earthquakes or floods. The youth have rallied together and spoken out about adequate and affordable housing in Nepal. Building on the success of our youth campaign, Habitat Young Leaders Build Leadership Academy (HYLB LA) was launched to introduce leadership training for today and tomorrow's advocates to create lasting societal change.

Media Build

On International Volunteer Day, 5 December 2018, Habitat Nepal and its three partner organisations - Sahara Nepal, Jeevan Bikash Samaj and Mahuli Community Development Center - jointly organized a one-day build with 138 youths and journalists in Jhapa, Morang and Saptari districts simultaneously. The volunteers from different media houses and youth organisations lent their support to construct three permanent homes for vulnerable families in three communities.

Spotlight on a Habitat Volunteer



[Photo credit: Sambida Regmi/Habitat for Humanity Nepal]

Sunita trimming bamboo poles for Kajal's new house.

Sunita, a twenty-three year old journalist from *Our Biratnagar Online Media*, was among them. It was her first experience on a building site. "I read Kajal's (home partner) story in a local newspaper – a teenage girl who shoulders the sole responsibility for the care and upbringing of her three little sisters by selling fodder in a local market. I never thought I would have the opportunity to meet her in person. As a journalist, it gave me a new perspective on housing issues in Nepal, especially for vulnerable people like Kajal. The build also enabled me to understand how organisations like Habitat for Humanity and Jeevan Bikas Samaj are supporting flood affected and vulnerable communities to build back better and safer."

Habitat Nepal recognizes that it is the young Nepalis, like Sunita, who will carry Habitat's vision into future generations. Through its Youth Leadership Academy, Habitat Nepal equips and mobilizes low-income and marginalized youth to become the shelter-conscious leaders of tomorrow.

"Lending my hand to build [Kajal's] house was a privilege, and it is personally enriching. The build was a life-transforming experience."
