

## **CEDAR Fund**

### **'Remove Price Tags, Free Body & Soul' Donation Campaign Against Human Trafficking Ministry Report**

In 2022/2023, CEDAR partnered with 6 Christian organisations to support their anti-trafficking ministries, with 7,016 direct beneficiaries and more than 23,000 indirect beneficiaries. Our partners include:

- Asha Nepal (Nepal)
- Eden Ministry (Myanmar)
- Evangelical Fellowship of India Children At Risk (India)
- Immanuel Foundation Thailand (Thailand)
- LIFT International (Thailand)
- The Salvation Army (Bangladesh)

The project introduced below is executed by Asha Nepal, a CEDAR partner in Nepal, to rescue Nepalese women and their children who were trafficked across the border and into the red-light district of Mumbai, India. They provide rehabilitation services in Nepal to help victims reintegrate into society.

#### Introduction of Asha Nepal

Asha Nepal is a Christian organisation founded in 1998. They assist sexually exploited women and their children through rescue, providing a safe environment and counselling. They also provide vocational training, formal and non-formal education to help them reintegrate into society, while they continuously provide assistance even after reintegration. Asha Nepal runs a family home in Kathmandu for these women and their children, giving them a safe home and helping them with education, practical life skills and a resilient character to continue growing and thriving after reintegration into society.

#### Background

According to the 2021 Trafficking in Persons Report by the U.S. State Department, human traffickers take advantage of the open border between Nepal and India to traffic Nepalese women and children to India for sexual exploitation. Traffickers increasingly use social media to lure and deceive victims amid coronavirus-related lockdowns. There are also studies stating that there have been 150,000 cases of human trafficking in South Asia in 2021, of which more than 30,000 Nepalese were trafficked to India.

The staff of the CEDAR partner visited a red light district in Mumbai, India, and found that Nepalese women who had been trafficked face difficulty in exiting the sex industry, reasons for this are:

- Tight control by gangs at the border of red-light districts makes them hard to escape.
- With no vocational skills and access to other sources of income, trafficked women worry that they will not be able to support themselves and their children if they don't continue to work as sex workers.
- Even if they have the intention to leave the sex industry, they don't have anyone to turn to.

## Project Details

### Project Name:

- Rescue, Rehabilitation and Re-Integration Process of Trafficked and Sexually Exploited Women and Their Children

### Project Period:

- January 2022 to December 2022
- April 2023 to March 2024  
(A total of 24 months)

### Project Goal:

- To rescue and provide rehabilitation services to trafficked women and their children

### Beneficiaries:

- Trafficked women and their children

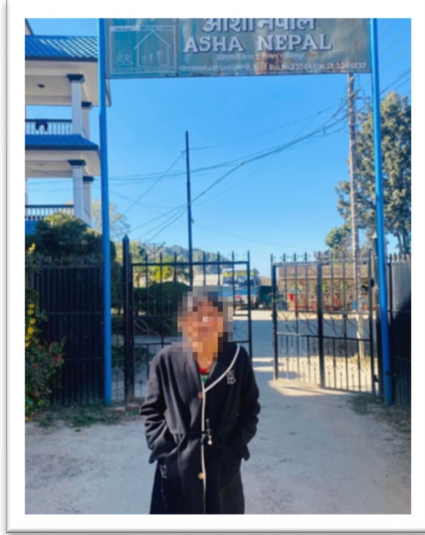
### Key action:

- Establish a centre and organise outreach service in Mumbai, India, to help trafficked Nepalese women and their children leave the red-light district of Mumbai and join Asha Nepal's Family Home.
- Provide a safe environment in their family home, as well as daily necessities and physical, mental and spiritual health counselling services to help victims recover.
- Provide education or vocational skills training, and connect with employers to help survivors reintegrate into society.
- Assist the survivors to reintegrate into their families if feasible.

## Progress

- Between July and December 2022, CEDAR partner conducted a total of 43 outreach operations in Mumbai, reaching more than 1,240 women and 138 children.
- Assisted 46 women to leave the red-light district of Mumbai. In addition, successfully helped ten women and nine children to move to Asha Nepal's family home.
- Currently, there are eight women and 18 children of sexually exploited women (including ten girls and eight boys) living in Asha Nepal's family home. In addition, one woman and six children of sexually exploited women have been assisted to reintegrate into their families.

### A Life-changing Story



Laura (pseudonym) is a young woman of only 21 years old, but she has already suffered a lot in her young life being sexually exploited.

When Laura was very young, she fell into a coma after eating food prepared by her relatives. When she woke up, she found herself trapped in an unknown place and sexually assaulted by multiple men. Not only that, she was also forced to act as a surrogate mother. After being devastated and tortured, she became very afraid of men, as if suffering from 'male phobia'.

When Laura came to Asha Nepal, her physical and mental condition was already very bad. She can understand others but cannot express herself. Recognising her distressing situation, Asha Nepal's staff took her to see a psychiatrist. The diagnosis revealed that she did not have any underlying mental health

issues but was indeed grappling with severe psychological trauma. To aid her in regaining her well-being, it was determined that she would require suitable therapy and medication assistance.

Asha Nepal took good care of her, made her feel the warmth at home, and provided her with the needed treatment and medication. Her sleeping condition has improved, and although she speaks very little, we believe that as the staff take good care of Laura with the love of God, her mental state will become healthier and more stable.

### Take Action



The above is one of the life-changing stories we learned from our partners. Thanks to your support, CEDAR can continue to work hand in hand with churches and Christian organisations in different countries to fight against human trafficking in Myanmar, Thailand, Bangladesh, India and Nepal. Our ministry includes the following elements:

- RESCUE: Reach and rescue trafficked children and women
- PROSECUTION: Arresting traffickers and ensuring convictions
- REHABILITATION: Protecting, counselling, and vocational training for victims
- PREVENTION: Raising awareness through education in the community and establishing support networks

We sincerely invite you to support the 'Remove Price Tags, Free Body & Soul' Donation Campaign with your prayers and support. We say NO to human trafficking together so that people's bodies and souls can be released and freed, and people can live out the values and dignity bestowed by God.

Monthly donation	Beneficiaries
HK\$500	Operating community centres, offering anti-trafficking training and livelihood support to residents (based on half month's expenditure).
HK\$800	Assisting a Nepali woman or child who has been trafficked abroad to return to her country.
HK\$1,200	Offering medical support, trauma counselling, and food to three victims of human trafficking (based on a year's expenditure).
HK\$2,400	Tracing the crime of online sex trafficking, with a team of professional investigators collecting evidence and helping the Thai government to prosecute traffickers.

Donation (Please specify: Anti-human trafficking)

Online donation	Click <a href="#">here</a> for an online donation	
Cheque	Please make it payable to CEDAR Fund	
Direct Deposit	HSBC : 004-600-385678-001 BEA : 015-185-68-00931-7SSA BOC : 012-581-2-020114-7 DBS : 016-478-001364162	
Credit card: Visa / Master Card	<a href="#">Online donate here</a> or fill in the <a href="#">donation form</a>	
PayMe	Scan the QR code to donate	
Faster Payment System	FPS ID: 3354016	

Please donate according to the above methods and send the cheque, bank-in slip, or screenshot of successful payment along with your name, contact phone number and mailing address to us via mail, email, or WhatsApp.

**Mailing Address:** CEDAR Fund, G.P.O. Box 3212, Hong Kong

**WhatsApp (for donation matters only):** [5160 7549](tel:51607549)

**Email:** [sharing@cedarfund.org](mailto:sharing@cedarfund.org)