



PowerHousing Australia & Habitat for Humanity

A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP



A world where everyone
has a safe and decent place to live.

building homes, communities and hope



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BACKGROUND

In late 2011 the Chairman and the Board of PowerHousing set me a goal.

- Find a Partner in the Not-for-Profit world working in South East Asian Region
- Develop a partnership to make a real difference in disadvantaged lives
- Locate the appropriate Aid Agency with like-minded vision
- Stephen Sharp of Compass Housing participated in the **Asia Pacific Housing Forum Sept 2011** (Sustainable Shelter in an Age of Climate Change and Disasters)



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DECISION – HABITAT for Humanity

This choice was made based on the following criteria:

- Projects to be focused on housing disadvantaged people
- Projects to be responses to climate change or disasters
- Projects to have a hands-on component – to ensure involvement of PowerHousing Australia Members – their staff and tenants



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PROPOSAL – HABITAT for Humanity

Three Projects were put forward for the consideration of PowerHousing Australia

1. Vietnam
2. Indonesia
3. Nepal

RECOMMENDATION - Nepal

- Stephen prepared a report for the October 2011 Members meeting on The Conference, The Relationship with Habitat for Humanity and the 3 Proposed Projects.
- Stephens' strong recommendation for **PowerHousing Australia** is to commence the project in Nepal by mid-year 2012



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COMMITMENT

- In December 2011 and early January 2012 a draft MOU was developed between **Habitat for Humanity** and **PowerHousing Australia**
- To commence the project in Nepal by mid-year 2012.
- To raise \$150,000 for the Ex-Kamaiya Project in Nepal
- This funding to be raised by members and their staff and communities, business partners and key stakeholders.



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PROPOSED PROJECT - Ex-Kamaiya Project, Dhangadhi, NEPAL

- Nepal is one of the poorest Countries in South East Asia
- A quarter of Nepal's 29 million people live in abject poverty
- The Ex-Kamaiya people are from the country's western lowlands who were subjected to an extreme form of bonded slavery for over 500 years under the Kamaiya system
- This practice of bonded labor was declared illegal in the mid 1990's by the government of Nepal.



PROPOSED PROJECT - Ex-Kamaiya Project, Dhangadhi, NEPAL

- An estimated 200,000 bonded laborers were declared free of their ancestral debts.
- Over 20,000 households received land allocations – much of which is barren, disaster prone or with poor essential facilities.
- A decade after being liberated, the freed Kamaiyas are forced to live a very difficult life – poor housing, sanitation, and barren land
- The government has still not fulfilled its promises of providing proper rehabilitation and relief packages



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PROPOSED PROJECT: Ex-Kamaiya Project, Dhangadhi, NEPAL

- The proposed project will assist an Ex-Kamaiya community living in Manahara, around 20 km outside Dhangadhi, a town in western Nepal.
- Home to 136 households, Manahara community members live in dilapidated housing structures made from mud and plastic sheeting, which provide little protection from the elements.
- There are no latrines in the area, leaving the community with no option but to community practice open defecation in the nearby forest. Diarrhoea, cholera and typhoid are rampant in the area.
- Water supply is grossly inadequate; and due to a lack of irrigation, the land is dry and infertile. Former-Kamaiya families eke out a living on meagre earnings and subsist on a diet of rice and chilli. In these dire conditions, there is an ever-present risk that vulnerable individuals will revert to bonded labour in order to meet their basic needs.

www.nepalbase.org



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- Implemented by Habitat Nepal in partnership with BASE, a reputable local NGO working to improve living conditions for marginalised groups and which was instrumental in freeing the ex-Kamaiya population from bonded labour.
- This project will support the provision of latrines and tube well facilities for 136 households.
- The project will also seek to enhance the community's economic self sufficiency through vocational skills training and access to micro-loans for small business development.
- Increasing the community's income earning capacity is expected to assist households in meeting their basic nutritional requirements.

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- Volunteers will have the opportunity to work on a pilot house (or houses) for the second phase of the project. The intention of PowerHousing Australia is for our members' staff and tenants to be involved in the work required, during 2012 and 2013, including building houses.
- Economic empowerment is also a necessary precursor to the provision of loans for housing upgrades, which will be supported in a second phase project, subject to available funding.
- The intention of PowerHousing Australia is for our members staff and tenants to be involved in the work required, during 2012 and 2013.

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PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND OUPUTS

	Objective	Output
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve community health and sanitation. To construct a Pilot House (or houses) in preparation for Stage 2 of this Project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of 136 latrines Training for 136 households in latrine construction and maintenance Installation of 68 tube wells Community Water Committee established and trained Provision of hygiene and sanitation training for 136 households Provision for a Pilot House (or houses)
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To assist the community to achieve financial stability and economic self sufficiency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 136 household representatives participate in vocational skills training 136 households gain access to micro loans for business development



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HOW DO WE ACHIEVE THIS?

The Project Cost is \$150,000

- Business Partners, Stakeholders and PHA Members to contribute financially
- PHA Members to send an employee such as your maintenance person, or a Tenancy Manager and a tenant who would well contribute to the provision of these latrines, tube-wells and homes as a Habitat For Humanity Community Group Build for 136 households
- Members to fund-raise in your local community and to raise awareness for this project (eg. Could do a local “Pram-Push-a-Thon” in a local housing community to include Mums and Children)





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As an initial start-up the following members and business partners of PowerHousing Australia have already committed to this project.

Members

- Compass Housing
- Haven
- St. George Community Housing

Business Partners

- Community Sector Banking
- Sinclair Brooks



SinclairBrook

engages in the formation & delivery of capital projects as an advisor to clients and as a joint-venture / development partner.



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WE CAN ALL ACHIEVE THIS

- We can all contribute to deliver this project and provide the much needed housing and provision of sanitation and water to these people.

TOGETHER WE CAN DO THIS ONE SMALL THING.

Our Work



Get Involved



Contribute

