

## PARTNER PLAN

# Joel Githinji - Nepal December 2012

United Mission to Nepal  
PO Box 126  
KATHMANDU  
Nepal

Greetings to all

I take this opportunity to thank Church of Scotland for supporting my family in Nepal. We visited our relatives and friends in different locations in Kenya. Grace and Francis were able to connect with their friends again. They tried to communicate well in Swahili but are not fluent. We saw lots of changes for example new developed infrastructure such as roads and buildings.



Kenya face insecurity threats especially from the people opposed to Kenya's forces intervention in Somalia. There were frequent grenade blasts and so we avoided crowded places. We had a good time and enjoyed Kenyan food and people's company.

We are back to Nepal and children are in school. Agnes was left in Kenya but she will be joining us in Nepal on 22<sup>nd</sup> December.

In Nepal I attended the International day celebration of persons with disability. It was a day well spent chatting with representatives from organizations working for people with special abilities. The event happened in Kathmandu at the World Trade Center. There was Career Expo for Persons with Disabilities. The discussions were about removing barriers to create an inclusive and accessible society for all. I saw different people with special abilities the blind, deaf and disabled and my heart was moved. The celebration was attended by Government officials, INGOS, lateral and bilateral agencies, NGOS and companies.

It was revealed that 2% of the total population in Nepal is reported to have some kind of disability. There are about 500,000 people with disabilities in Nepal and still 90% of the them live below the poverty line. The technical barrier hinders or keeps persons with disabilities from equal, active and effective participation. The barriers hinder access to employment, health and education. The good news was that Nepal is transforming and therefore the society begins to understand the issues surrounding people with disabilities. The Career Expo for Persons with Disabilities is an event that will promote employment opportunities for persons with disabilities in order to make them self-dependent, productive and dignified citizens of Nepal.

I resumed my work in UMN and currently we are planning to visit partners and churches in various districts to monitor the progress of church and community mobilization interventions. The Tutors will be trained on how to facilitate HIV and AIDS curriculum in Bible Schools and Pastoral training Centers. Churches will be mobilized for work related to HIV and continue HIV training on HIV for church leaders and members. We plan to conduct review meetings with facilitators who will take through churches and communities on HIV and AIDS response.

Pray for our work and family's protection as we continue to serve the Lord

We wish you all happy Christmas and a blessed New Year 2013

**Joel & Agnes**

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