

DIALOGOS

Assessment Trip to Nepal 25/9 to 6/10-2002

1.0 Background

DIALOGOS Nepal-group had finally in August 2002 all formalities regarding the project Solukhumbu Edu- Communication in order, 9 months later than planned. The group decided to send out a team to check upon the situation and initiate the implementation of the project.

A Terms of Reference (TOR) was worked out (**see attachment 1**), and the group decided to send out Ib Schou, radio journalist and Torkil Dantzer, economist from the Nepal-group. This is the report of the trip and it follows the outline of the TOR.

First a brief description of the political situation in Nepal right now (6th of October).

2.0 Situation in Nepal

2.1 The national situation

The situation in Nepal has the last years become more and more complex and difficult. The Maoist organization, opposing the democratic elected government, has gained more and more momentum and their attacks on police and military has become very bloody, with the loss of many nepali lives on both sides. The political system has had many problems dealing with this beside the many other problems a poor country like Nepal faces. Fighting between different political parties and within the parties has more or less made the shifting governments unable to govern, and the frequent cases of fraud and misuse of power has not made the situation better.

Nearly a year ago the Maoists pulled out of negotiations with the government, as they did not think there was any progress. They made some bloody attacks on police-stations and district-headquarters, among them in Salleri, and the government decided to declare emergency situations in the whole country, and the military was put in to help the badly equipped police force. This emergency situation was in force for 9 months until it was lifted a couple of months ago when it was not renewed, due to a sudden call for election. The prime minister Deuba had difficulties within his own party, Nepali Congress, about the prolonging of emergency, and having no other option (than resigning) he send the parliament members home and made election on the 13th of November.

The security situation because of Maoist activities has continued to deteriorate, and even if the Election Committee decided to hold the election in 6 phases, it seemed likely to everybody, that the Maoists probably were able to stop this election, at least in many remote parts of the country. Deuba together with the other political parties therefore decided to postpone the elections with more than a year and asked the King implement this. To the surprise of nearly everybody, the King chose to use his right in the Constitution to take power in a crisis situation, and he sacked Deuba and his government the 4th of October. He has called for all political parties to propose (clean) members to an interim government, which should govern until elections can be held. Most of the population seem to accept the Kings decision as they had grown quite tired of the politicians. The coming weeks will show if the King is able to form an acceptable interim government able to function, and it is also very important how the Maoists will react. Hopefully this is a situation which might create new possibilities and give a more peaceful Nepal.

2.2 The situation in Solukhumbu

The assessment group had prior to their arrival in Kathmandu planned a trip to Salleri, not so much because there were much work to be done here as YSC had come to Kathmandu before our arrival, but because Ib Schou, who is responsible in the Nepal-group for implementing the local-radio component, would like to see the project area. Before our arrival YSC had expressed some concern on our idea of visiting Salleri. We asked them if there were any security problem in such a visit, and there did not seem to be any such problem, except if we happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time, meaning if the military and Maoists were having a fight! Four different companies are flying to Phaplu (the local airport for Salleri) each day, if the weather permits and tourists are also getting in and out. The concern of YSC was mostly about keeping "low profile". A lot of people (and ofcourse also the Maoists) know about the coming project and asks questions about it. The arrival of two westerners from DIALOGOS, maybe meeting some prominent people, would create a lot of rumo urs, as it is a very small community, where everybody knows what is happening. YSC would prefer to "roll out" the project slowly and not creating too much attention at the moment. Because of this and the very cloudy weather, making the return of a trip to Salleri a bit indefinite, we decided to stay in Kathmandu. YSC described the situation in the district:

Since the attack by the Maoists on the police station and the DDC-office about a year ago, a situation which among other incidents led to the declaration of an emergency situation in the country (the emergency situation has recently been lifted because of the forthcoming

election), the situation in Salleri and surrounding VDC`s has been quite nervous and tense. There are quite many Maoists in the district and the military is engaged in finding them. A difficult situation for the local inhabitants and they all try to keep a "low profile" in order not to offend neither the Maoists nor the military/police.

The telephone-tower was damaged by the attack and had not been repaired since. Recently a 4-line radio-communication telephone has been installed with one line for public use. So it is now possible to get a message through to Salleri without sending a mail with an aeroplane.

One of the electricity-generators at the Solu-river has been slightly damaged by the Maoists, and the Board controlling the electricity-production had decided to stop production and not repair in order to protect the plant. It could quite easily be started again, but they will only do it if the political and security situation improves (Bhuddi is member of the board). The electricity-grid in Salleri is not connected to the National electricity grid.

The hospital is working and Doctor Mingma Sherpa, District Development Officer, whom we have had some contact with, is still there.

All the other District level offices are also working, but on a lower level (if possible).

The two big hotels near Phaplu is closed, and nobody goes out in the night-time.

The election-period for the political chiefs of the DDC and VDC`s have run out, and they are now run by bureaucrat and secretaries (this sometimes makes the decisions easier).

The 3 health-posts in the 3 VDC`s are functioning (especially the bigger one in Gora is working fine due to the health-worker placed here).

There is quite a lot of Maoist activity in the 3 VDC`s, especially Taping and Gora. Because of their remoteness and dense forests, the area is used by the Maoists as a corridor between the surrounding districts.

YSC has continued our pilot-project with Non Formal Education for 6 women-groups together with the District Education Office, and they continue to have contact with the groups and have also helped to repair the small hydropower-plant in Lapscha, and helped setting up some small solar-electricity-units. Bhuddi himself has worked many times in the area in his job as water supply surveyor. The Maoists have had no objections to these activities.

YSC think that there will be no major problem working in the area with NFE and women-groups and other low-level activities.

3.0 Outcome of the visit

We have made a daily report, describing all meetings where it is possible to find a more detailed picture than in this report. The daily report is enclosed (**attachment 2**).

3.1 Project implementation

3.1.1. General project implementation

On the basis of the political situation as already described, we have discussed with the partner YSC, the possibilities of a successful implementation of the project in both short and long term run.

YSC finds it possible to work with low-level (profile) activities. According to the project-document the first 9-12 months is mainly centred upon NFE-education, women-groups and planning and start-up of local-radio. All of these works YSC think can be done without much problem. But the political and security situation should have improved before the project can go on from this initial phase. It would not be fair towards Nepal, the target population in the project area or the partner YSC to postpone or stop the project at this point, but on the other hand the situation might escalate making it impossible to implement this project. In this case most development work would be affected.

We will therefore recommend to start implementation of the project with a project start of 1th of November 2002. YSC and DIALOGOS should after 6 months (1th of May) evaluate the political and security situation and the possibilities of a successful implementation.

If the situation after this period has improved there should be no political problem in implementing the rest of the project in accordance with the project document.

We have together worked out a detailed monthly budget for the period Oct-2002 to Apr-2003 (see attachment 6).

After an initial phase of organizing, the NFE-work will start up with a household survey and mobilization as described in the project document. This survey is based on the questionnaire used by Women Development Section, but should contain other questions for use in baseline and monitoring of the project. The questionnaire should also contain questions for a survey and monitoring of the local radio component. DIALOGOS Nepal-group should quickly discuss and formulate these questions.

3.1.2. Radio

Based on the activities discussed and agreed upon with YSC, a meeting with Communication Corner (Gopal) was held.

The policy and objectives of the project were explained to CC. So was the framework in which the two organizations are expected to co-operate. It was made clear that it is YSC that is the implementing body but also that a partnership between YSC and CC will be the ideal situation (CC is not just "consultants".)

Gopal agreed to the set up with a 6 month "initial low-profile" phase -as it is also a possibility to see how the partnership will develop.

3.1.2.1 Radio license process

The perspective of getting a license was discussed thoroughly: IF the situation improves in general a license could be obtained in a relatively short period (1 month), IF the minister grants the permission.

In the current situation it's impossible to foreseen the chances of getting a license, but it is believed possible to obtain a license within a 6 month period.

There is a lot of "IF"s, but it has always been like that and we knew it from the very beginning of the project, so it was decided to start the application process, which at least will cost 50.000 Npr in a fee to the ministry.

The license application process will be started right away as there is a lot of preliminary paperwork to be done. Gopal will take care of getting all data for the application and fill in the formats needed.

Gopal will - when provided with relevant material from YSC - ensure that the license application is with the ministry before November 2002.

3.1.2.2 Organisational set up

The application process is slightly changed as the original intention was to form an independent NGO that would apply for the license. But taking the time frame into consideration it was agreed upon from all parties that YSC should be the applying institution, but ensure - in cooperation with Communication Corner - that an independent steering body is set up. This board should consist of people from interest groups (ie. farmers, wholesalers, women groups, unemployed...and so on).

Complaints regarding the broadcasting or management of the radio will also be dealt with from this independent body.

Based on the experiences from Radio Sagarmatha the need for the radio to be an autonomous institution, was stressed by Gopal.

It was decided to get the process started by having YSC be the applying organization and evaluate if this creates any problems. The organisational set up should anyway be discussed after 2 years with the objective of phasing the YSC involvement out (unless all parties at that time can fully back up behind letting YSC having the official ownership of the station.

3.1.2.3 Broadcasting training

Under the conditions described above it was agreed that 2 basic “barefoot” training could start from next year in March, but already in November, when the new project manager is in place, a one day session for board members and other decision makers should be conducted.

The objective of this first “Radio Management-workshop” is to give board members a background for discussing the radio project with stakeholders and YSC-members and to ensure that they from the very beginning are active participants in the discussions on the program content, management and resource control. The session will include - but not necessarily be limited to the following issues: Mobilisation, level of voluntarism, ethics in broadcasting, management, program formats, organization, income generating activities.

The two mentioned “Barefoot Journalism”-trainings will be held in March and April as two 10 day long sessions.

The first session in March will have potential new broadcasters as a target group. This means it probably will mostly be people from YSC in Salleri. This group will consist of 12 - 15 people who at the end of the training can work as facilitators and mobilizers and will have basic understanding of ethics in journalism, formats, broadcasting editing, interview technique, writing for radio.

In order to ensure that they can USE what they actually have learned 2 tape-recorders will be purchased and the trained persons will produce small features on demand to Communication Corners very popular national programme, Haka Haki, broadcasted through Radio Nepal. (The program has more than 200 active listener clubs and is probably the most listened program in Nepal).

The second planned workshop will take place in April for a group of 15 - 18 women from the women’s groups (and 3 so called “communicators” already appointed within YSC)

Participants will mainly be from the 3 VDC’s and the objective is to train the women as “barefoot journalists”. This means that they will try to do a taped interview, they will understand basic structure of a program, have knowledge about anchoring and writing for radio. The training will also give them the background for participating more actively in the discussions about the future plans for the radio. When/if the “initial low profile” period is extended, another training for the rest of the women’s groups should be conducted.

An exchange program for 1 -2 persons is planned to take place after these initial trainings allowing the selected persons to stay in Kathmandu and work with the production team at Communication Corner for a period of approximately 2 month each. This will give the exchange students a thorough background and understanding and will ease the implementation of the next phase of the project.

3.1.2.4 Network with radiostations

2 community stations in Saptha Khosi and Khosi are good possibilities for getting airtime which will reach part of Solu Khumbu.

Although the programs will not reach all the households in the YSC project, the programs MIGHT be listened by a reasonable number. If this is the case the broadcasting and network with the 2 already established radio stations is a possibility for getting trained people from YSC to use their skills and exercise and prepare themselves.

In the case the application process is extended to a longer period the co-broadcasting solution might also be considered.

The possibilities of broadcasting programs targeted people in Solu Khumbu area from other radio stations reaching partly in the area, BEFORE the station in Salleri is established, will be investigated by Gopal.

3.1.2.5 Purchase of radio equipment

The purchase of equipment will be kept at a minimum in the “initial low profile” period, but a DIGITAL production facility is foreseen.

There are mainly two reasons for choosing the digital solution: Cost and positive technical side effects.

The price for digital radio equipment is considerable lower than “old” analogue (tape). There are only a need for computers and no daily running costs for tape.

The positive side effect is that the computers can be used for all other purposes also when not in use as a production facility. Furthermore the computers can - in case the radio station has to close - be used for other purposes.

Although this digital development is foreseen, the two recorders that will be purchased will be traditional cassette recorders. This due to the fact that they are easier to operate than digital Mini Disc's and are needed anyway for the studio in order to be able to play some of the still very popular cassettes available on the nepali market.

Purchase of equipment will be done by Communication Corner on behalf of YSC. 3 liable quotations should be presented before any purchase.

3.1.2.6 Support for application process

The application process is complicated and needs a lot of lobbyism from everyone involved, but of course especially YSC. Communication Corner will assist in the application process in all manners, but first of all from a practical, technical point of view.

This means that the contract with Communication Corner will include a provision for assistance to YSC regarding the application process.

3.1.2.7 Deurali subscription

For more than 10 years a very well reputed weekly magazine, produced by RDP in Tansen/Palpa has been published for newly, literate adults. The objective of the magazine is to give the target group an opportunity to use their new skills.

Through basic journalism training courses of two weeks length, the target group learns how to write for a magazine like this. The issues chosen are therefore relevant to the target group and reading the magazine gives people empowerment and useful information.

The editor in charge is an international awarded journalist and the organization is supported by MS in Nepal.

As a support to the NFE literacy classes a subscription for the magazine will be made, so at least all women groups receive their own copy.

3.2 Partnership relationship

The original contract between Young Star Club and DIALOGOS made two years ago is still valid, but some new stipulations in the contract between DANIDA and DIALOGOS regarding this project, made it necessary to make an amendment to the contract. The stipulations was about posts should be announced public, all contracts should contain clause of annulment and exclusion in case of fraud and finally Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Danish Auditor General and Public Accounts Committee should have full access.

An amendment has been made and signed by YSC and us (see attachment 3).

We have visited MS/Nepal's office in Dillibazar and had a meeting with Nina Ellinger, who is in charge here. DIALOGOS has made the Agreement of Cooperation with MS together with her, when she was in Copenhagen, so there was not much discussion about the contract.

We agreed on the following:

Nina Ellinger will herself be contact person both for DIALOGOS, Denmark as well as with YSC, as she is the person who is most often at the office in Kathmandu.

Nina Ellinger, MS/Nepal, G.P.O.Box 4010, Dillibazar, Kathmandu, Nepal

Phone: 00 977 1 434040/ 1 433742, Fax: 00 977 1 433651, E-mail: nina@msnepal.org.np

YSC will be invited to join the meetings for MS/Nepal's nepali partner NGO's. First meeting will be in February.

MS/Nepal would provide assistance with contracts and other problems when they arise.

We have discussed with YSC the possible ways of transferring money to them, and we have agreed on the following:

YSC will make a new account in Rastriya Rastra Bank in Kathmandu only to be used for the transfer of money every three months from DIALOGOS, Denmark. From here YSC will transfer money for shorter periods to their account in the Salleri department of the same bank. The account should be open for transfer shortly after the festival of Dashain (ultimo October).

3.3 Monitoring and evaluation

The auditor of DIALOGOS, KPMG in Aarhus, had in accordance with auditing rules from DANIDA, prior to our arrival contacted their local representative, T. Upadhy & Co. and arranged a meeting. Together with YSC we had a meeting with Tirth Upadhy from the company, and he orientated about his company and auditing in Nepal, and we told about the project and YSC. We discussed the start of his auditing, the project start in November 2002 with only two months in the calendar-year and the possibility of a pre-auditing visit.

We agreed that further contact and necessary document would come from our auditor in Denmark.

We agreed, if accepted by DANIDA and our auditor in Denmark, to include the two months of 2002 in the accounts for 2003, if the auditor made a pre-auditing visit, checking the accounts and the accounting system, after 6 months.

DIALOGOS will provide YSC with a format for accounting as well as a format for reporting.

3.4 Contracting

3.4.1 Project-manager

According to the Terms of Reference the assessment-group should together with YSC identify and contract a project-manager. In order to get good candidates and fulfil DANIDA-rules on public advertising of vacant jobs, we made an advertisement in Kathmandu Post on the 13, 14 and 15th of September prior to our arrival in Kathmandu (see attachment 4). Candidates had to apply before 23rd of September and we got more than 100 applications. Together with YSC we looked them all through. There were many very qualified candidates (also too qualified making it improbable they would live and work in a very remote area as Salleri). Together we chose 3, whom we called in for an interview on the 30th of September. YSC and we found them all very qualified, but we managed to make a priority list of the 3 candidates.

Number 1: Ngima Tamang Pakhrin, 2. Madha Prasad Khanal, 3. Durga Adhikari.

We agreed to offer the job to Ngima Tamang Pakhrin at a wage of 25.000 Nrs/month, insurance included, and he has accepted this.

A contract between him and YSC should be made in accordance with nepali law. The contract will have a 3 month test-period and will contain a clause saying the contract can be terminated in case the situation makes implementation of the project impossible.

MS-Nepal has promised to help with an example of such a contract, but we have not received this information before writing this report.

The contract and a job-description will be worked out very soon.

3.4.2 Contract with CC and YSC and budget for local radio

A draft for a contract has been discussed and negotiated with CC. (see attachment 5)

The budget for the local-radio component is attached (see attachment 6)

The philosophy behind the agreement is to ensure that YSC has a part-time working person in KTM placed at CC, who will assist and guide YSC and function as a trainer during the above mentioned trainings.

During the trainings CC will be paid a remuneration for a consultant.

Furthermore some money has been set aside for travel expenditures.

How easiest to account and get the money was discussed, without getting to a final decision. CC will contact YSC and discuss different proposed models. Nevertheless it was made clear that YSC is accounting for the total money transferred and responsible for a proper account book is kept.

The outcome of the initiatives started and paid for should be evaluated by the next DIALOGOS Team to visit Nepal.

4.0 List of attachments

- 1. Terms of Reference**
- 2. Daily Report**
- 3. Amendment to contract between YSC and DIALOGOS**
- 4. Advertisement for Project-manager**
- 5. Contract with Communication Corner**
- 6. Budget for the period October 2002 to April 2003**

Kathmandu the 6th of October 2002

Ib Scou and Torkil Dantzer

Attachment 1

Terms of Reference (TOR) for

Assessment trip to Nepal

September /October 2002

for the project
 Solukhumbu Edu- Communication
 Young Star Club/Dialogos 2002 - 2006

1. 0 Background:

Dialogos Nepal group have worked with the Nepal Health and Communication project for more than 3 years, since June 1999.

After the final project proposal was developed more than 1 1/2 year was spent on the funding process.

This process was slowed by change of Government in Denmark which caused that Danida was not able to give "Go ahead" before July 2002.

Furthermore Nepal has experienced serious interior problems with change of ruling monarch and rioting Maoists.

An election for the Parliament in Nepal is going to take place in November 2002 and might hamper the positive implementation of the project.

It is therefore felt that an initial assessment trip is needed in order to check up on the actual situation and possibilities and challenges raised for the implementation since it was described and finally developed 2 years ago.

The background for the project is described in detail in the project document. The timetable in the document had originally 1st of January 2002 as starting point, and needs a revision both due to the later start and the change in the political situation.

2.0 Purpose:

The purpose of the assessment trip is to find out about the actual political, sociological and demographic situation in Nepal as such and Solu Kumbu especially. Furthermore the team should invest in Government-, stakeholder- and beneficiary-support and evaluate the problems in implementing the different elements of the project, and propose necessary changes due to the changed situation. Together with the partner discuss and review the timetable.

The team will consist of 2 experts with a thorough background on working in Nepal.

The duration is fixed to 10 days.

1 expert is expected to specially focus on the actual situation in Solu Kumbu while the other expert will evaluate and - if possible - initiate the radio-license application process.

Research will be drawn from radio stations, partner NGOs and local government, health workers active in health care. Existing documentation will be examined, and gaps in knowledge identified.

3.0 Expected outcomes

A report describing and outlining an implementation of the project with a new timetable, should be presented for the background group not later than 20th of October 2002.

.1 Project implementation

The report should be presented in such a way that it can be the background for the Plan of Action which the Nepal Background group together with the partner will develop before November 2002.

Therefore - following analysis of the data - the team should set indicators for short and longer term implementation and impact of the intervention:

- 6-18 months
- 18-48 months

.2 Partner relationship

- The Partnership agreement should be discussed with local partner, Young Star Club, and necessary changes made. If possible sign the new agreement, together with the stakeholders in Solu Khumbu
- Working relationships with MS (Danish Association for International Cooperation) in Nepal should be established and described.
- An effective and reliable Bank able to transfer money for the Partner organization should be identified.

. 3 Monitoring and evaluation

A further important outcome will be describing how needs assessment, monitoring and evaluation systems can be developed in cooperation the local capacity.

- Proposals for external auditing should be suggested and initial contact made with reliable external auditors, in cooperation with the Danish auditor of Dialogos.
- A proper practice for accounting, in accordance with Danida rules, should be discussed and agreed by the partner-organization (Young Star).

.4 Contracting

- A local manager should be identified and contracted by the team. His/hers responsibilities will be clearly defined and described and agreed by the implementing organization (Young Star Club).
- Implementation and training needs for “barefoot” radio-journalists should be described together with local training institution (ie Gopal “Communication Corner). A contract for the implementation should be signed.

4 Contractual conditions for the assessment team

The experts will be paid a compensation for the work (10 days) during the stay and travel to Nepal. This is fixed as a proportion of the monthly rate stipulated in the budget.

For time spent in Denmark before and after the trip for development of report or TOR, there will be no compensation. Only minor actual expenditures for (ie photocopies, paper) will be reimbursed.

A two way economy class ticket with a trusted aircompany will be paid by Dialogos

During the trip the experts will be paid per diem and have all expenditures related to accommodation and transport paid.

Dialogos will sign a health insurance with a trustworthy company.

Dialogos can not be made responsible for any claim apart from what is described above.

Ib Schou

On behalf of Dialogos 26.08.2002

Attachment 2**Daily report for Assessmenttrip to Nepal
September/oktober 2002****Thursday the 26th of September**

We had arranged meeting at Boudhnath with YSC at 10.30. YSC was represented by President Bhuddi, Vicepresident Hari (working in Lalitpur DDC, Kathmandu as accountant, and is contact-person for YSC in Kathmandu) and Babu (Bhuddis brother having a small company engaged in development in Kathmandu, he has participated in meetings before and we have used him as a way of communicating with YSC since the telephone-lines to Salleri was destroyed).

We started the meeting by presenting ourself for each other, and then we asked YSC to describe the situation in Solukhumbu:

Since the attack by the Maoists on the police-station and the DDC-office about 9 months ago, a situation which among other incidents led to the declaration of emergency situation in the country (the emergency situation has recently been lifted because of the forthcoming election), the situation in Salleri and surrounding VDC`s has been quite nervous and tense. There are quite many Maoists in the district and the military is engaged in finding them. A difficult situation for the local inhabitants and they all try to keep a "low profile" in order not to offend neither the Maoists nor the military/police.

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Before our arrival YSC had expressed some concern about our idea to visit Salleri. We would have liked to visit the area, not so much because we had work to do there, but mostly because Ib never had been there, and he wanted to have his own impression of the area. We asked if there would be any security-problems in such a visit, and there did not seem to be any such problem, except if we happened to be in the wrong place on the wrong time, meaning if the military and Maoists had a fight. Four different aeroplane-companies are flying to Phaplu each day (if the weather permits) and tourists are also getting in and out without problems. The concern of YSC was mostly about keeping “low profile”. A lot of people (and the Maoists) know about the coming project and ask questions about it. The arrival of two westerners from DIALOGOS, maybe meeting a lot of prominent people, would create a lot of rumours (it is a small place, everybody knows what is happening) and speculations and YSC would prefer to “roll out” the project slowly. We both got quite convinced with these answers, and together with the facts that we had lost two days in Qatar, not had any actual work to do there, and the weather was quite unusual with a lot of rain and very cloudy making the return-flight from Salleri quite uncertain, we decided to stay in Kathmandu. Bhuddi could also stay and all our work could be done here.

We talked about the time-line for the start of the project. The forthcoming election planned to the 13th of November (but maybe in 5 or 7 phases with 10 days between, meaning that the election in Solukhumbu could be anywhere between primo November to primo January!!) could cause some problem for the project, but as long as we only started with NFE, women-groups and other low-level activities, and ofcourse planning and training of people, it should be possible to keep working.

The general political situation in Nepali is quite bad. You don't feel it Kathmandu (except in the night time were the military are present as numerous road-stops, but towards us they are very friendly), we don't feel any anxiety walking round in the night-time and there are still tourists, but not as many as before. But this conflict is very much an internal affair, Nepal has never been colonised, and westerners are not a goal, and until now no single westerner has been harmed. But many Nepalis have been killed and injured! The Maoists are very active as well as the Military and Police with numerous attacks on each other. The Maoists try to put pressure on the local population by killings and extorsions and the Military tries to find the Maoists by all means, putting the ordinary nepalis in a very difficult and uncertain situation. During a dispute about ending the emergency situation in the Parliament the Prime Minister Deuba dissolved the parliament and made election in November. These elections the Maoists have threatened to stop. Making election in the geographically very complex Nepal has always been a very difficult task, and it seems likely that the Maoists can disrupt these elections leaving Nepal without a government. Both the military but especially the Maoists have suffered hard in the latest clashed. The time is near where all the parties in the conflict realises that they cannot win this battle, and the efforts for making a cease-fire and start talks has risen considerable in the lasts weeks, making it quite possible that some kind of peace could come to Nepal in the near future.

In light of all this information and discussions we all came to the conclusion that we could be able to start the project. In the next 6 months we would only be implementing low-level activities, planning and training, but this would more or less also be in accordance with our activity-plan in the Project-document.

This meeting ended at 12.30. Hari and Babu went for their jobs, while we together with Bhuddi went to Park Village in Budhanilkantha to meet Gopal Guragain, our Nepalese radio-expert, who was conducting a workshop here about Human Rights and Problems about Torture for 8 community radio stations. We was introduced and participated a little in the meeting. We got all the written application for our advertisement for a Project Manager from Gopal, who had helped with this work. Together we opened them, sorted them and went together through the most interesting applications. There were more than 80 applications! Some of them was from young newly educated people, but quite many was from highly qualified persons (some of them was over-qualified for this job in a very remote area with a very basic project-work, making it highly unlikely that they could stay and work in Salleri and the 3 VDC's). We ended up with choosing 3 applicants, among them Ngima Tamang Pakhrin, which we all know from his assistance with our investigation-trips to the area. We called the two others to an interview.

Hari and Babu came back and we all had dinner together with Gopal.

Friday the 27th of September

We had arranged meeting with Bhuddi at 10.00 and later Gopal would arrive from another meeting. We had planned together with Bhuddi to discuss the activities in the 3 VDC's for the first 6 months taking the political situation into consideration. When we had some kind of activity-plan we could continue with Gopal and discuss the plan of action for the community radio and how it fitted into the other plans.

Bhuddi came with some outlines for the activities and through discussions we came to the following conclusions:

Project-manager should be employed from the 1th of November

The planning and setting up office could also start from 1th of November

Training (9 days) for facilitators for NFE could start end of November

Household-survey (baseline) could take place the two first weeks of December

Non Formal Education of the planned 42 groups (800- 1.000 people) could start middle of December

Women group formation (formal formation with chairman etc. of a responsible group) could start in February

All training of staff and volunteers could take place, especially if it could happen in Salleri

The application process for a radio-license could start right now.

This range of activities do not differ very much from the original activity-scheme in the Project-document, when we change the time-plan due to the very delayed project-start. The original plan had the 1th of January as start date, later the 1th of June, but due to DANIDA's late accept of project-contract and transfer of project-money, we were not able to send a team to Nepal before September, and the real project-start will therefore be October/November.

In order to start the project we agreed that the following was necessary:

Make the necessary changes in the Project Document

Make minor changes in the Agreement between YSC and DIALOGOS (changes demanded in contract between DANIDA and DIALOGOS)

YSC should make a new bank account for use only for transfer of money from DIALOGOS (YSC would provide the necessary 5.000 rps for making the account and take them back later)

DIALOGOS would provide YSC with an accounting plan

YSC and Torkil would together take a meeting with the proposed auditor from KPMG in order to fulfil the new DANIDA rules

YSC would make a budget for the first 2 3-month periods (6 months) and when approved DIALOGOS would transfer money for the first 3 month period

YSC had put up many small solar-electricity-units for household lightning, especially after the shut-down of the electricity. These small units costed around 8.000 rps. Bhuddi proposed that we did set up a unit for each group formed. We would save the cost of kerosene-lamps, kerosene and carrying-costs for this. Later we would also save the planned cost for windable-radios to these listener-groups, as these small units could provide electricity for a normal battery radio. It could also serve as a "charging-

station” for batteries providing a small income for the group, and at the same time making it cheaper for other radio-listeners. We all thought that this would be a great idea, and agreed to find some more figures so we could see if we could fit it into the budget.

12:00 Meeting with YSC and Communication Corner (Buddhi and Gopal Guragain)

Based on the activities discussed and agreed upon earlier this morning with YSC, a meeting with Communication Corner (Gopal) was held.

The policy and objectives of the project was presented to CC. So was the framework in which the two organizations are expected to co-operate. It was made clear that it is YSC that is the implementing body but also that a partnership between YSC and CC will be the ideal situation (CC is not just “consultants”.)

Gopal agreed to the set up with a 6 month “initial low-profile” phase - it is also a possibility to see how the partnership will develop.

Radio license process

The perspective of getting a license was discussed thoroughly: IF the situation improves in general a license could be obtained in a relatively short period (1 month), IF the minister grants the permission.

In the current situation it’s impossible to foresee the chances of getting a license, but IF elections are held and IF CPN UML wins the elections as everyone seems to expect, THEN there should be a fair chance, that we can have a license within the 6 month period. (Gopal has assisted UML in writing their 20 years communication strategy to be launched during the election campaign and YSC has the expectation to get a member elected as Parliament Member for UML. UML very much focuses on the need for using media for development and their strategy has focus on community radio development. There is a lot of “IF”’s, but it has always been like that and we knew it from the very beginning of the project. But there is also a fair good chance to get a license within a reasonable period and hopefully within the “initial low profile” period, so it was decided to start the application process, which at least will cost 50,000 Npr in a fee to the ministry.

The license application process will be started right away as there is a lot of preliminary paperwork to be done. Gopal will take care of getting all data for the application and fill in the formats needed.

Gopal will - when provided with relevant material from YSC - ensure that the license application is with the ministry before November.

Organisational set up

The application process is slightly changed as the original intention was to form an independent NGO that would apply for the license. But taking the time frame into consideration it was agreed upon from all parties, that YSC should be the applying institution, but ensure - in cooperation with Communication Corner - that an independent steering body is set up. This board should consist of people from interest groups (ie. farmers, wholesalers, women groups, unemployed...and so on). Complaints regarding the broadcasting or management of the radio will also be dealt with from this independent body.

Based on the experiences from Radio Sagarmatha the need for the radio to be an autonomous institution, was stressed by Gopal.

It was decided to get the process started by having YSC be the applying organization and evaluate if this creates any problems. The organisational set up should anyway be discussed after 2 years with the objective of phasing the YSC involvement out (unless all parties at that time can fully back up behind letting YSC having the official ownership of the station.

Broadcasting training

Under the conditions described above it was agreed that 2 basic “barefoot” training could start from next year in March, but already in November, when the new project manager is in place, a one day session for board members and other decision makers should be conducted. The objective of this first

“Radio Management-workshop” is to give board members a background for discussing the radio project with stakeholders and YSC-members and to ensure that they from the very beginning are active participants in the discussions on the program content, management and resource control. The session will include - but not necessary be limited to the following issues: Mobilisation, level of voluntarism, ethics in broadcasting, management, program formats, organization, income generating activities.

The two mentioned “Barefoot Journalism”-trainings will be held in March and April as two 10 day long sessions.

The first session in March will have potential new broadcasters as a target group. This means it probably will mostly be people from YSC in Salleri. This group will consist of 12 - 15 people who at the end of the training can work as facilitators and mobilizers and will have basic understanding of ethics in journalism, formats, broadcasting editing, interview technique, writing for radio.

They will not be fully educated broadcasters after the training, but they will have “hands on” experience and hopefully enthusiastic about learning more.

In order to ensure that they can USE what they actually have learned 2 tape-recorders will be purchased and the trained persons will produce small features on demand to Commu nication Corners very popular national programme, Khoj Kaabar, broadcasted through Radio Nepal. (The program has more than 200 active listener clubs and is probably the most listened program in Nepal).

The second planned workshop will take place in April for a group of 15 - 18 women from the women’s groups (and 3 so called “communicators” already appointed within YSC)

Participants will mainly be from the 3 VDC’s and the objective is to train the women as “barefoot journalists”. This means that they will tried to do an taped interview, they will understand basic structure of a program, have knowledge about anchoring and writing for radio. The training will also give them the background for participating more actively in the discussions about the future plans for the radio.

When/if the “initial low profile” period is extended another training for the rest of the women’s groups should be conducted.

An exchange program for 1 -2 persons is planned to take place after these initial trainings allowing the selected persons to stay in Kathmandu and work with the production team at Communication Corner for a period of approximately 2 month each. This will give the exchange students a thorough background and understanding and will easy the implementation of the next phase of the project.

Network with radiostations

2 community stations in Saptha Khosi and Khosi are positive possibilities for getting airtime which will reach part of Solu Khumbu.

Although the programs will not reach all the households in the YSC project the programs MIGHT be listened by a reasonable number. If this is the case the broadcasting and network with the 2 already established radio stations is a possibility for getting trained people from YSC to use their skills and exercise and prepare themselves.

In the case the application process is extended to a longer period the co-broadcasting solution might also be considered.

The possibilities of broadcasting programs targeted people in Solu Khumbu area from other radio stations reaching partly in the area, BEFORE the station in Salleri is established, will be investigated by Gopal.

Purchase of radio equipment

The purchase of equipment will be kept at a minimum in the “initial low profile” period, but a DIGITAL production facility is foreseen.

There are mainly two reasons for choosing the digital solution: Cost and Positive side effects.

The price for digital radio equipment is considerable lower than “old” analogue (tape). There are only a need for computers and no daily running costs for tape.

The positive side effect is that the computers can be used for all other purposes also when not in use as a production facility. Furthermore the computers can - in case the radio station has to close - be used for other purposes.

Although this digital development is foreseen, the 2 recorders that will be purchased will be traditional cassette recorders. This due to the fact that they are easier to operate than digital Mine Disc's and are needed anyway for the studio in order to be able to play some of the still very popular cassettes available on the nepali market.

Purchase of equipment will be done by Communication Corner on behalf of YSC. 3 liable quotations should be presented before any purchase.

Support for application process

The application process is complicated and needs a lot of lobbyism from everyone involved, but of course especially YSC. Communication Corner will assist in the application process in all manners, but first of all from a practical, technical point of view.

This means that the contract with Communication Corner will include a provision for support to assistance to YSC regarding the application process.

Deurali subscription

For more than 10 years a very well reputed weekly magazine, produced by RDP in Tansen/Palpa has been published for newly, literate adults. The objective of the magazine is to give the target group an opportunity to use their new skills.

Through basic journalism training courses of 2 weeks length, the target group learns how to write for a magazine like this. The issues chosen are therefore relevant to the target group and reading the magazine gives people empowerment and useful information.

The editor in charge is an international awarded journalist and the organization is supported by MS in Nepal.

As a support to the NFE literacy classes a subscription for the magazine will be made, so at least all women groups receive their own copy.

Saturday the 28th of September

Visit Communication Corner and interview Danish Broadcasting Corporation

History of Communication Corner

Communication Corner is the partner for all questions related to the implementation of the Radio Station.

Communication Corner (CC) is a production and training institute and they network with 8 local, community stations in Nepal. All of whom they have assisted in the establishment.

CC does not broadcast from their own transmitter/station, but they are producing the most popular program about development, Haka Haki, for more than 5 years.

Haka Haki is broadcasted 5 times a week and has 200 listenerclubs all over the country. The popularity of the program is enormous and hundreds of letters are received everyday from listeners.

CC also produces a daily program from Kathmandu distributed on cd's for the networking community stations

They are the production house for a UNDP-project on Aids and produce a radio-drama serial for the project.

In the support for the newly liberated Kamaiya's they are also crucial as they are producing a program 3 times a week for them. The program is broadcasted from Radio Nepal locally in the area where the affected people live.

Communication Corner is established by Gopal Guragain, a well reputed journalist. The support comes from sources like PANOS International, SNV, UNDP and MS Nepal. Gopal is chairperson for the “board” of MS Nepal and has visited Denmark and participated in MS Denmark’s annual board meeting.

Communication Corner has gone through an amazing development during the last 5 years since it was established. From a relatively small free-lance office with some committed journalists Gopal have had success in developing the company into an effective communication partner for community based development.

Today a small well equipped studio is set up and there are editing facilities in the room next to the studio. All productions are digital, but there are facilities for analogue production.

Although there are a few other well trained and committed radio broadcasters doing the same as CC, there are no other capable of assisting in the same way and as effective.

Social mobilisation and active participation of the population and ownership to the radio are not only keywords to Gopal - it’s the justification and rationale behind their work.

Detailed plan for implementation of Solukumbu Radio

The implementation plan and budget for the trainings and management session was discussed in details.

CC will get quotations for transmitters and tape-recorders (including mic’s)

The trainings and management sessions will be developed according to the TOR, that DIALOGOS has to provide a draft for and then submitted to CC by YSC.

Sunday the 29th of September

YSC and DIALOGOS had Thursday elected three candidates among the many applicants for the job as Project Manager:

Madhan Prasad Khanal
Durga Adhikari
Ngima Tamang Pakhrin

Ngima Tamang is for the moment in New York and could therefore not come for an interview, but he and his CV is well known to all the involved in the election of candidate. The two other candidates had been told to come to Gopal’s office in Communication Corner in Kupondole sunday at 13.00, where we could borrow an office room. YSC was represented by Bhuddi, president and Hari, vicepresident and Ib and Torkil from DIALOGOS.

We had planned that the interviews started with a short briefing about YSC from Bhuddi, Torkil told about the history behind the project and the perspectives seen from DIALOGOS point of view, and Ib finished telling about the local radio component. After this we put questions to the candidate about his work and experience and his thoughts about the project. We asked about his possibilities to start quickly and his opinion that it could be necessary to review the project after 6 months if the political situation continued to deteriorate. It could therefore be necessary to terminate the contract.

The first candidate was Madhan, a younger (26 years) Bhutanese nepali, presently working as project supervisor for Himalayan Trust. He is working in the northern part of Solukhumbu, mainly with schools and training of teachers. He was a bit nervous in the start but gained some confidence during the session. He has very fine papers from Tribhuvan University (bachelor of education in English), He has a quite good English and answered all our questions very well.

His advantages is : good English, 5 year experience with project work and report writing, YSC knows him and says his training-sessions are very good, he knows the district and the local people, he is accustomed to living in Salleri (but not with his family).

His disadvantages is: He is a bit too young for this responsibility, his experience lays very much within the core-competence of YSC, he works now for Himalayan Trust, the only other NGO in the area, and an NGO we would like to cooperate with

The second candidate was Durga. A middle aged man (40 years) with a very good English. He has very much experience in working with project development as he has been working for Red Cross for many years. He had been working in the field with a lot of different projects around health and sanitation in many parts of Nepal but works now with project supervision for Red Cross. He is from Okaldhunga the district laying south of Solukhumbu, and knows very well Salleri and the surrounding areas. His advantages are: Very good English, very high level of experience, he knows the area and the local population.

His disadvantages: has worked many years in a very big organization.

Ngima is well known to all of us, as he has been with on our pre-investigation trips and has participated in all negotiations between YSC and DIALOGOS both as interpreter and communicator. He is 33 years old and has a bachelor degree from Tribhuvan University in business administration and a lot of experience with accounting.

His advantages is: he is from the area (Gora VDC) and has a very detailed knowledge to the whole area and its people, he speaks some of the local languages, he speaks and writes English fluent and is very experienced with computers, he is willing to settle in the area.

His disadvantages are: his experience with project administration is small.

We thanked both the candidates and told them we would let them know our decision in a couple of days.

Now the four of us discussed the three candidates. We agreed that they all were very competent and probably all could be used for the job, but both Bhuddi and Hari said that they would prefer Ngima as they know him well, trusted him and meant that he would be the right person to motivate the local people, volunteers and staff. Both Ib and Torkil said all candidates would be good but as it was YSC which in reality should employ the Project Manager and work together with him daily we would accept the decision of YSC, and we therefore agreed as Ngima as number one, and start negotiations with him about a contract. But in case he could not come we had to talk about whom we considered as number two. It was a bit difficult to agree on this. YSC was more inclined to elect Madhan while Ib and Torkil thought Durga was slightly better. We did not decide immediately, but thought about it until we would meet again Tuesday for a discussion on contract for manager and the budget for the coming 6 month. Here it was decided that Madhan would be second if Ngima couldn't come. Durga would be third (in case none of the two could start) but YSC wanted to talk with him more and maybe have a talk with his present employer before employing him.

Monday the 30th of September

We had not planned any meetings for this day, as most of our contact persons were engaged elsewhere, so we used the day partly to write some of the daily reports and discuss the progress until now. Later in the day we did put in some culture and took a trip round in the town before we returned to Ib's flat to write a little more.

Tuesday the 1th of October

Bhuddi arrived at 12.00 as agreed as well as the Nepalese auditor, Tirth R. Upadhyya, appointed by DIALOGOS auditor KPMG in Denmark. Bhuddi told him about YSC and we told him about DIALOGOS and the project. He told about his company with around 25 employees, and he is the senior partner (the company has his name). They had made a lot of big auditing jobs and worked for many different INGO's and NGO's, and he gave us a quite impressive list of reference. He told us about some of the work and problems auditing Nepalese NGO's. He said that there were irregularities in more than 30% of the cases and told about some of the fraud-stories.

As the project starts in November we found it a bit waste of money to make accounts for only two months, and discussed to put these two months together with next year, but we probably have to discuss this further both with DANIDA and our auditor in Denmark. Upadahya said that it could be a

long time if his first visit should be after ending the accounts for 2003, maybe in January 2004 and proposed a pre-auditing visit when the new accountant have had some time to make the accounting work. In January or February he could visit the office, look through the accounting, see if they were in accordance with our project budgets and forms provided, and propose changes. We would think about this.

We did not provide Upadahya with project-document our other materials, as it was better this went through our auditor in Denmark, KPMG in Aarhus. We finished the meeting with Upadahya around 13.00 and we continued the meeting with Bhuddi.

First we discussed the contract for the Program Manager, and we quickly found out that it would be easier if we could get a copy of a contract which was in accordance with nepali law. We would try to get that from MS/Nepal.

We had earlier agreed to start the project for a 6 month period, and then evaluate the political situation again. If the situation at that time had deteriorated further it might be necessary to terminate the project. As mentioned earlier the project in the 6 months period would also be kept low profile. These things taken into consideration we agreed to make a rather precise budget for the 6 months. We went through all the different budget-lines in the project-document and discussed what was needed in each of the coming months.

Investment

As mentioned earlier there is no electricity right now in Salleri, so a electricity generator is very important. With electricity YSC could again start up office, computers etc. A 4 KW generator would cost 70.000 rps.

Their old copymachine is not working very well any more and YSC has a very high need for copying especially material for the NFE. We discussed the price. Bhuddi meant 125-150.000 rps for a good one, a price we found a bit to high. Bhuddi meant they could get some money for the old and we agreed on 100.000 rps.

There was a need for new furniture, revolving chairs for the new staff and some minor chair for meeting, as many of their old chairs was broken. We agreed on 75.000 rps.

Bhuddi said they need a machine for binding the back of reports etc., and we made a line for small equipment for 20.000 rps.

As mentioned before we have had a discussion of putting up small solar-lightning for the women-groups instead of using the traditional kerosene-lamps. We first tried to calculate the two alternatives in order to decide what was most economically:

In the budget lines for NFE is included costs of 2 lamps pr group and kerosene for them, ½ liter pr lamp pr day, the education takes 6 months, half of the groups continue for 3 months more. The use of kerosene is the 2 lamps x ½ litre x 30 days x 7,5 month x 42 groups = 9.450 litre of kerosene!

The total cost will be for the whole period:

Cost of lamps 84 x 300 rps	25.200 rps
Cost of kerosene in Jiri 30 rps/l	283.500 rps
Cost of transportation, porter 3 days 40 rps/l	378.000 rps

Total cost in budget	686.700 rps

YSC have already put up quite many small solar lightning systems, and are quite experienced in installing and maintaining these systems and they are agent for Alternative Energy in Baluwater in Kathmandu (Ib and Torkil has later passed the shop, seen the products and talked with the manager). Three YSC members has been attending training in Kathmandu. DANIDA has a program in Nepal subsidizing the installation of these units depending on how remote the house is. As our area is considered very remote they will provide a subsidy of 50%. The price of a 12W solar panel with voltage regulator and battery and light enough for a women-group would fully installed be 12.000 rps., and for 42 groups this would give a price of 504.000 rps. This is already less than the cost of running kerosene-lamps for 7,5 months, and the solar panels would provide light for the group (and the household where the groups has meeting place) for 2 years before the battery needed change. The lifetime for solar panel and installation is probably more than 10 years.

Another aspect is the possibility to charge batteries from this system. When the radio starts we had planned to provide rather costly windable radios (3000 rps each) to the women-groups but it is now only necessary with a normal radio (300 rps) and a charger for batteries (500 rps). We could save some money here, and at the same time the women-group could charge some extra batteries to them selves or others and might get a small income from this.

So everything put together it was quite easy to decide to invest in solar panels instead. YSC should try to get a very good price and we did put 500.000 rps in the budget for this

Local staff

We had advertised for a Project Manager in the range of 20-25.000 rps/month range. According to DANIDA rules and local custom we have to provide health insurance for staff. We agreed to budget with 25.000 rps/month in wage for manager insurance included. YSC would find out where to get the insurance and the cost. We also agree that we had to provide insurance for other staff as well as long as the wage was higher than 5000 rps/month. Temp orarily employed facilitators etc. would not get insurance coverage. Project manager would start 1th of November.

Also 1th of November an accountant was needed, 7.000 rps/month (not full time in the beginning), an coordinator and assistant for NFE with a wage for 9.000 rps/month and 8.000 rps/month respectively insurance included.

The cost of the facilitators is 56.000 rps/month, and the training of the facilitators with cost for trainers, per diem and materials are 114.000 rps.

As there is no telephone-communication for the moment except 1 public phone at DDC, we need to have some help in Kathmandu with an e-mail connection to take care of the communication between YSC and DIALOGOS, as well as assist with sending things to Salleri. We put in 2.000 rps a month in the beginning and 1.000 rps/month later.

Other budget lines

Other budget lines just followed the already agreed budget. That was:

Training of staff	20.000 rps/month
Travel staff	15.000 rps/month
Materials NFE	70.000 rps/month
Materials for training and transportation	20.000 rps/month
Office, maintenance communication etc.	18.000 rps/month

YSC is a volunteer organization and its 11 member board does not get any compensation for their work. Bhuddi meant that this could be a little difficult in the future with a project in this size, where the controlling and motivating function of the board and especially for the chairman would need much more work. We had some discussions about this, about democracy and volunteer-organizations, but we finally agreed to put in a budget line of 12.000 rps/month covering per diem, stay and transportation for board members when it was necessary for the project work either in Kathmandu or in the field. We proposed some rules and figures for this and YSC should finalize these rules and send a proposal to us.

The only budget line we could not finalize was the cost for obtaining license for the radio and radio training as these figures had to be discussed with Gopal/Communication Corner, the partner for YSC regarding the local radio component.

We finished the meeting around 17.00.

Wednesday the 2rd of October

We had arranged a meeting at the Danish Embassy in Baluwater with Knud Olander, who Ib knew from his earlier working period in Nepal. Knud is Programme Coordinator in Danida/Hugou - Human Rights & Good Governance Advisory Unit, where also the DANIDA activities around communication, journalish and radio are placed. Present were also Murari, the local communication advisor. Murari

talked about the possibilities for obtaining license for the radio, and said that the present minister of communication, Gupta (now dismissed and in police custody accused for fraud), was not very positive towards community-radio, but things could quickly change and if UML came into power at the forthcoming election, as seemed possible, it would be very much easier. But it was a good idea to use all possible political channels especially if YSC knew some high-ranking politicians.

We told them about our project which they only knew about very briefly. They got very interested in the idea of using a community-radio for project-communication, because they also worked with ideas around this. They would very much like to follow our project, and we promised to send project-document and other relevant material. We exchanged e-mail-addresses and they promised to be of assistance if we got any problems they could help with.

We talked about the security-problem in the country, they had not taken so many precautions yet, but they were following the situation closely.

Knud Olanders wife would soon come to Kathmandu. She is a nurse and has worked before in Nepal in Danida-projects. Knud thought she might be interested in the project and in helping, and we said she was most welcome to contact us. She has later done that and we have send her some documents.

After this meeting we just happened to walk by the company Alternative Energy, which YSC is agent for in Solukhumbu within solar energy. We went in and had a talk with the manager, saw the different systems and components and took some pictures.

Later in the afternoon we had arranged a meeting with MS/Nepal with whom we have made a contract of cooperation. Nina Ellinger, who had helped formulating our project and with whom we together had made our contract, is know chief for MS/Nepal office in Dillibazar. We orientated her about how far we had reached with the start-up of the project, and she said that MS/Nepal offcourse would full-fill the contract she herself had worked out, but they were also very busy for the moment. They were planning to move the office to a new place and DANIDA had planned a review of all MS in the next 5 months beside all their normal work.

She would send an invitation to YSC to join the partnership meetings for their Nepalese partner NGO`s. She would mail us a copy of a manager contract which was in accordance with Nepalese law and customs, so we could use this to make a draft for a contract to our project manager.

She would herself be the contact person both for YSC and DIALOGOS, as she was the person who did spend most time in office in Kathmandu, while others were travelling a lot to their project areas in the west.

We promised to send her a copy of the final project document.

Thursday 3rd of October

The morning went with writing an amendment to our original contract with YSC, made necessary to changes demanded by DANIDA in their contract to DIALOGOS. We had arranged meeting and dhalbhat later with YSC and wanted this amendment signed here. We also wrote a monthly budget with all the figures we had discussed last Tuesday, so we together could look it through.

At 12.00 we went to the sister of Bhuddi, where he was staying, and together with Babu went the papers through and signed the amendment. We had a good dhalbhat together and said goodbye, because Bhuddi would the following day return to Salleri.

We took a taxi to Communication Corner where we had a meeting with Gopal, who had just returned from a communication workshop in Butwal. He presented us for a preliminary budget, which we discussed.

Later we all went to his home, where we met his family and once more had dhalbhat. The dhalhat is very good, but two times a day is too much!

Attachment 3

**Amendment
to
Contract
between
Young Star Club
and
DIALOGOS**

The two partner organizations Young Star Club (YSC), Salleri, Nepal and DIALOGOS, Denmark has finally got their joint project, Solukhumbu Edu-Communication Project, approved and funded by DANIDA in Denmark. The project will be implemented by YSC in the period October 2002 to October 2006 with guidance and monitoring by DIALOGOS.

The cooperation will follow the original contract between the two partners signed in 2000 and the implementation will follow the Project document Solukhumbu Edu-communication. The contract between the funding organization DANIDA and DIALOGOS has some supplementary stipulations which in accordance with article 13 in the original contract hereby is accepted by all parties:

ensure that all posts and vacancies financed by DANIDA funding are announced in open, public adverts, and that the selection of candidates does not discriminate against race, sex, or political and religious affiliation.

insert in all contracts and agreements with partners and suppliers the standard DANIDA clause of annulment and exclusion in case of corrupt or fraudulent conduct.

allow and facilitate any inspection of project activities, reports, accounts, documents, inventory etc. which might be desired by the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Danish Auditor General and the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament.

Due to the difficult political situation in Nepal we have agreed to re-evaluate the possibilities of a successful implementation after 6 months after October 2002. This amendment is after signature of the partners part of the original contract.

Salleri, the / -2002

Kathmandu, the / -2002

Bhuddi Narayan Shrestha
Chairman, YSC

Torkil Dantzer
Treasurer, DIALOGOS

Attachment 4
Projectmanager
Solukhumbu

The two organisations Young Star Club, YSC, Salleri, Solukhumbu and DIALOGOS, Denmark will in cooperation start a health, education and communication project in Solukhumbu. A comparatively traditional health and education project with focus on women in 3 remote VDC's linked together with the establishment and operation of a basic local radiostation in Salleri. The project will start in November 2002 and run for 4 years. The project is approved and financed by DANIDA.

We attach importance to the following qualifications:

- Experience in project implementation and management (monitoring, evaluation and reportwriting), especially with a women oriented approach.
- Knowledge of the cultures in the area or native of the region.
- Knowledge about accounting and use of computers.
- Good English and Nepali skills, orally as well as in writing.
- Knowledge about radioproduction.
- Good ability in cooperation.
- Ready to live and work in Salleri, and prepared to travel in the project area, which is only accessible by foot.

The salary will be in the area 20-25.000 rps/month + insurance depending on qualifications.

Both women and men are encouraged to apply.

Applicant with the necessary qualifications can send a short written application with a short CV in English not later than 23rd of September to:

G.P.O.Box 6469, Kathmandu

or by e-mail: solu@comconnepal.com

Interviews will be conducted on the 29rd of September in Kathmandu. Only shortlisted people will be contacted.

YOUNG STAR CLUB DIALOGOS

Attachment 5

Attachment 6 Total budget

Budgetline	October 2002	November 2002	December 2002	January 2003	February 2003	March 2003	April 2003
Investments: generator copymachine furniture small equipment solarpanels for womengroups	70.000 100.000 75.000 20.000 500.000						
Local staff: PM incl. insurance Accountant insur. Coordinator insur. Assisstant insur. NFE Staff Assistance KTH	2.000	25.000 7.000 9.000 8.000 170.000 2.000	25.000 7.000 9.000 8.000 56.000 2.000	25.000 7.000 9.000 8.000 56.000 2.000	25.000 7.000 9.000 8.000 56.000 1.000	25.000 7.000 9.000 8.000 56.000 1.000	25.000 7.000 9.000 8.000 56.000 1.000
Training Staff		20.000	20.000	20.000	20.000	20.000	20.000
Travel Staff		15.000	15.000	15.000	15.000	15.000	15.000
Per diem, stay and transportation for Board members See Rules	12.000	12.000	12.000	12.000	12.000	12.000	12.000
Material NFE			70.000	70.000	70.000	70.000	70.000
Radiotraining licence, see budget		85.000	85.000	34.000	65.000	132.000	138.000
Materials for training and workshops and transportation	20.000	20.000	20.000	20.000	20.000	20.000	20.000
Office, mainten., communication etc.	18.000	18.000	18.000	18.000	18.000	18.000	18.000
SUM	817.000	391.000	347.000	296.000	326.000	393.000	399.000

All amounts in Nepalese Rps. 1000 Rps. is equivalent to 98 DKR.

Budget for local radio

Budgetline	October 2002	November 2002	December 2002	January 2003	February 2003	March 2003	April 2003
Salary assistant		15.000	15.000	15.000	15.000	15.000	15.000
Travel Assistant 1 trip + local transport		5.000	5.000	5.000	5.000	5.000	5.000
Daily allowance Assistant 10 days a 750 Npr		7.500	7.500	7.500	7.500	7.500	7.500
Stationary, communication, paper, batteries etc.		3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000
License applic.		52.000					
Expert trips 3x4.000			12.000			12.000	12.000
Daily allowance Expert a 750 Npr			2.300			9.000	9.000
Renumeration			15.000			50.000	50.000
Preparation			15.000			15.000	15.000
Import/management Administration			7.000		7.000		7.000
Secretarial assistance		3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000	3.000
Material for training						12.000	12.000
Taperecorders 2 pc.					25.000		
SUM		85.500	84.800	33.500	65.500	131.500	138.500

All amounts in Nepalese Rps. 1000 Npr is equivalent to 98 DKR.