



Our International Development Approach

You may have heard us refer to what Give Freedom does as international development work, but what does this mean and what are the core principles guiding our decisions?

International development refers to the collective efforts made by countries, organisations and individuals to improve the quality of life and enhance the socio-economic conditions of less developed regions.

While economic growth is a crucial component of this, international development emphasises the need for sustainable and inclusive progress that prioritises the wellbeing of all individuals, particularly the most vulnerable.



At the heart of international development is the United Nations **17 Sustainable Development Goals**, which aim to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring no one is left behind.



Best Practice

The world of international development has evolved and been adapted over the years to include a set of guidelines intrinsic to the sector and recognised by many charities.

These guidelines shape best practice and involve community led interventions that are evidence based, and informed by research and experience. Our expertise in international development means that best practice sits at the heart of everything we do.



Participation: The Pokhara Project is locally inspired and specifically designed with the community in mind. From start to finish, the project consults community representatives and stakeholders, including 3 Angels Nepal and local experts, to ensure the build is relevant, sustainable and able to meet the community's needs.



Adaptability: In a crucial shift toward self-sufficiency, The Pokhara Project diligently addresses the new and changing needs of 3 Angels Nepal, and will be continuously evaluated and improved based on feedback and evidence.



Sustainability: The Pokhara Project has been engineered to withstand Nepal's destructive earthquakes and monsoons. The design also incorporates passive solar principles to make heating and cooling affordable. The build, once complete, will be owned by our Field Partner, empowering them to be self-sufficient long into the future.



Transparency and accountability: As a charity, Give Freedom represents industry excellence and greatly values transparency and accountability. From fit-for-purpose accounting systems to dedicated operational and program bank accounts, we ensure that the journey of every dollar from our supporters to the field can be traced.



Evidence-based decision making: The concept of the Pokhara Project has been shaped by tried and tested principles identified and employed by 3 Angels Nepal for over a decade—from the need for broad security measures and vocational training facilities, to the presence of an on-site medical centre. It is also informed by trusted experts who have addressed our Field Partner's needs through customised engineering and considered design.



Cross-sectoral collaboration: Several professionals and stakeholders from multiple sectors were invited to address the complex, interconnected challenges facing the Pokhara community. They included hydro-engineers to prevent erosion of the land by stabilising the Seti River, seismic engineers to earthquake-proof the new build, construction experts, local security experts and more.

Partnership

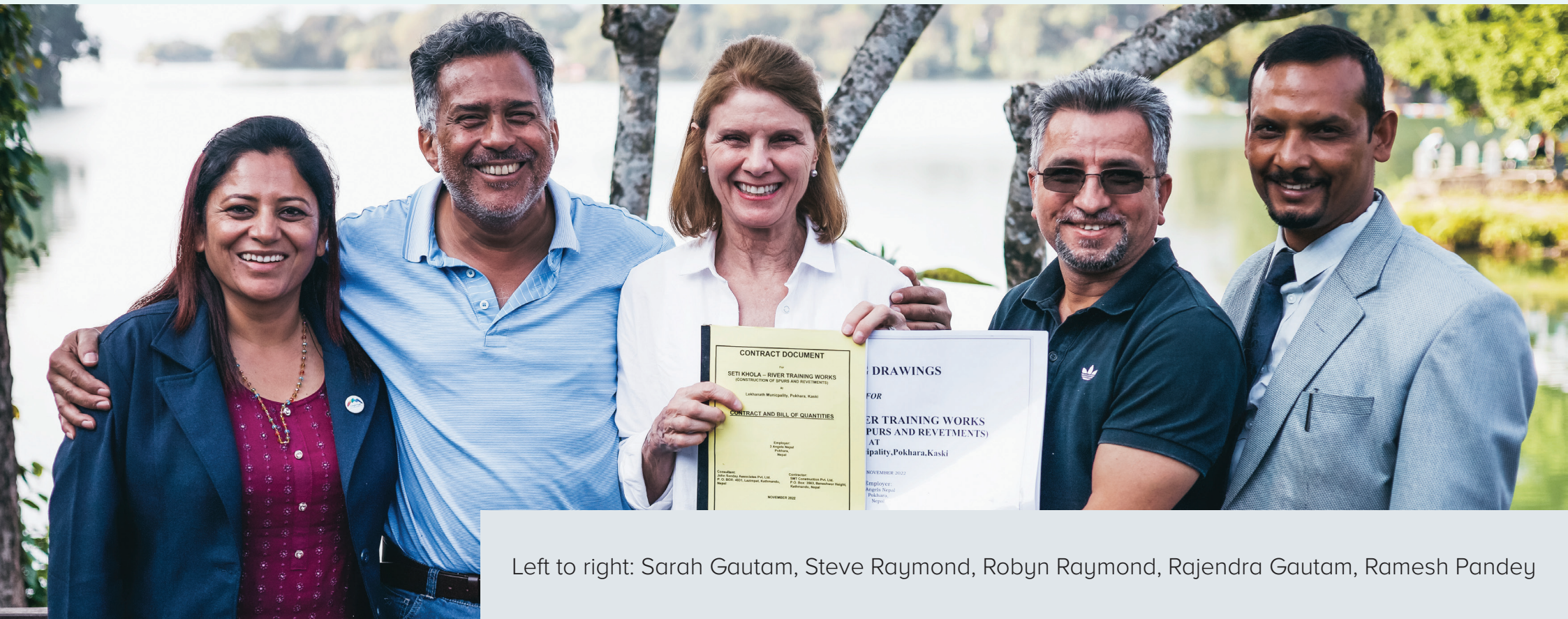
At Give Freedom, we believe long-term positive change comes from community focused solutions. These solutions must not be created by us, rather, borne through the local community identifying their needs and designing interventions to address these in a sustainable way.

Our focus is on building the capacity of our Field Partner who, in turn, is owning and driving their future development. The true success of the partnership between us and our Field Partner lies in understanding the power of their voice, and recognising the valuable knowledge and insight they have.

Flexibility

International development projects are dynamic and ever changing. The economic and political landscape in which they operate pose risks and challenges not faced in countries like Australia, and a degree of flexibility is required when navigating these.

Cultural orientations can and do differ which means behaviours, attitudes and practices will be different. Give Freedom is mindful of these differences and flexible in our approach.



Left to right: Sarah Gautam, Steve Raymond, Robyn Raymond, Rajendra Gautam, Ramesh Pandey