Like the woman above, Malati Tamang from Bhmdunga is a beneficiary of the Skills Training project. She initially took a loan of 6,000 rupees (less than $100 USD) from the Women’s Cooperative Society (WCS), a micro-credit cooperative, to buy cattle. She did so well with her cattle raising that she went back to take another loan of 400,000 rupees (around $5,500 USD) to purchase more cattle, 100 hens and 12 goats.

Today, she grosses a profit of around 50,000 rupees a year ($700 USD), which supports her family of six and has allowed her to send her daughter to Japan to study.

Established in 1995, the WCS offers support to nearly 6,000 members through 600 centers in the Kathmandu Valley. WCS’s mission is to provide poor women with ready access to financial services, to assist them in alleviating poverty through empowerment, and to raise their economic and social status.

In 2010, Shenpen Skills Training supported the work of the WCS, and Shenpen’s added value here has been to provide the basic technical and small business training to allow these women to start their own income generating activities.

In 2009/2010 Shenpen provided WCS with a total of US $2,730, which has been directed to the following areas:

- Goat raising: four courses benefitting 90 women
- Vegetable Farming: four courses benefitting 93 women
- Candle making: eight courses benefitting 239 women

Altogether, a total of 422 women have so far benefitted from the skills training initiative.

As a part of the WCS scheme, each member is also required to contribute to an educational scholarship fund for poor girls. In 2010, 65 daughters of WCS members were awarded scholarships to attend secondary school and further education.
Burns, Teeth and Needles  
-Shenpen health roundup for 2010

**Bir Hospital**
Shenpen supported disadvantaged burns patients at Bir Hospital by donating medical supplies and medication, which were vital to assisting them to heal their burns. The supplies included chlorohexidine silver sulphadizine cream, central vein catheters, and crepe and cotton bandages. The total amount given was US $1,085.

**Dr. Pandey’s Hospital**
Shenpen donated graft supplies and gave money for surgery on children for burn contractions. The total amount given was US$140 a month.

**2010 Dental / Medical Camp in Lumbini**
Shenpen sponsored bus tickets within Nepal, accommodation and food for local volunteers. Shenpen also bought non-medical supplies, including waste collection and disposal, and paid for the project to rent a generator and chairs for the camp. There were eight dentists, four doctors and a nurse from Singapore, as well as a local team of volunteer helpers and interpreters from Ka-Nying Shedrup Ling and Vajra Varahi Monasteries. Thousands of local people from ten surrounding villages took advantage of the camp. The total amount given was US$ 2,830.

**Vajra Varahi Health Center in Chapagaon**
This health center offers acupuncture and massage therapy. In order for volunteers to offer their services to the people in the surrounding villages of Chapagaon, Shenpen paid the salary of one Nepali translator for the year. This is a necessity for delivering good care. All of the volunteers are licensed acupuncturists primarily from North America. The total amount given was US $1,400.
More than 30 children, aged 2-5 years, were the beneficiaries of the first full-fledged Montessori program at Pegasus School in Jorpati, Boudha. Funded by Shenpen, the program began this spring under the supervision of Sangeeta Thapa and Tashi Lama is setting new standards in Nepali pre-primary education.

Sangeeth and Tashi were selected last year to attend a six-month training at Navadisha Montessori School in Chennai, India. During their absence, Shenpen funding paid for two Montessori teachers to train other interested staff at Pegasus School, as well as surrounding schools, in the teaching methods of Montessori. Certificates were awarded to 23 teachers who completed the six-month training offered by Dolma Gurung at Pegasus School. Sangeeta and Tashi returned in March to take charge of the Montessori program.

Despite the challenges in going from a traditional Nepali nursery program to a full-on Montessori program, it was evident that the children were enjoying their hands-on learning in the fun-filled program. Popular among the children was a large sandpit, which had a metal roof over it so they could use it even in the monsoon season. They also had work tables, a carpet, a kitchen play area, painting easels, paints, and posters. The re-painted classroom walls gave the school a fresh, alive and welcoming environment. A local artist painted three murals on the outdoor walls.

All of this was made possible by funding from C.H.A.N.C.E. for Nepal, (UK), who also funded all the Montessori trainings and the full cost of running the program, which included house rental, educational teaching supplies, drinking water and teacher salaries.
Dog Tales
-Saving lives and supporting street dog care

Two monks found the puppy Tashi in the garbage. He must have lain there with his injured leg for about two weeks. Rangjung Yeshe Shenpen Animal Project, which aims to save the lives of injured or severely sick street animals, then took over. Fortunately, Tashi’s leg didn’t have to be amputated. After surgery and four weeks of good care, Tashi can now walk again and seems to be as happy as puppies should be. The Animal Project has so far been able to benefit 20 animals like Tashi.

Tiger was found at Boudha Gate and was probably run over by a car. He had surgery, and after about three months of recovery time it was thought his leg could be saved. Unfortunately, it got badly infected. An American woman offered to adopt him, and provide advanced medical treatment and all future care needed in her home country.

Through the kind sponsorship of Mr. Bill Warren, Tiger flew to the United States. His leg was amputated but otherwise Tiger is in good health. Tiger is known as, “The happy three-legged dog” on this YouTube video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YKjY11Plq6c

Apart from the Animal Project, Shenpen Animals is also involved in street dog care, benefitting 55 dogs in the last ten months. With the kind support of C.H.A.N.C.E. for Nepal,(UK), Street Dog Care was able to rent the Dog Care Center for one year, construct the roof to cover the dog cages, plant grass and close one wall with netting. In addition, they were also able to buy new medical supplies for the clinic. All the dogs of Boudha thank Shenpen for their help and support!
### Distribution of Income and Expenses 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>$12,568.00</td>
<td>$9,158.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>$18,321.00</td>
<td>$14,191.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Street Children</td>
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<td>$5,753.00</td>
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<td>Animals</td>
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<td>Skills Training</td>
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<td>Project Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>$34,868.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All differences are carried over to 2011 Income and Expenses.

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**SHENPEN NEWSLETTER**

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