



About KM Cares

Featured Project: Solar for Shikha

Other KM Projects

Knowledge Mosaic's ties to the "real world" are instinctive and profoundly felt, and giving back generously to our world and to our human community is deeply ingrained in our company culture.



*A classroom of students at Shikha Higher Secondary School.
Photo by Suren Gurung.*

Our guiding philosophy is to try to help and empower those who are most vulnerable. Naturally, then, we often focus on children. And helping children goes hand in hand with supporting education, which still represents the best opportunity for children to lift themselves from poverty and create new opportunities for themselves. Supporting education, in turn, often means supporting technology initiatives, which can dramatically leverage existing educational opportunities for children. Technology can transcend barriers of geography and create possibilities for global learning communities.

Our philanthropic commitment takes many forms. Each holiday season, for example, Knowledge Mosaic selects a charity to sponsor with the goal of helping people who face struggles in their lives. This annual gift communicates our gratitude

for the good fortune in our own lives and reflects our belief in the efficacious power of compassion as a force for change in the world. We also donate to causes when an acute need arises, supporting, for example, the March 2011 relief efforts on behalf of earthquake- and tsunami-ravaged Japan. Finally, as caring, engaged citizens of our local and global communities, Knowledge Mosaic employees are personally involved in many philanthropic causes; the company is often able to lend support to these individual efforts. Solar for Shikha (see left sidebar) is a great example.

Compassion opens the heart to truth and beauty. It twines us together within our company and helps us to touch, and be touched by, the needs of the vulnerable among us, in our human community.

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Knowledge is power—but for a remote village in Nepal, power is now bringing knowledge to rural school children.

Spearheaded by Tilak Pun, Knowledge Mosaic Inc. engineer, and Clif Swiggett, Chief Technology Officer, the Solar Energy for Shikha School project has brought life and 15 new laptops to a computer lab in Pun's native village. The two Knowledge Mosaic employees built a solar power prototype on the rooftop at the company's headquarters in Seattle, Washington, and traveled to Nepal this past summer to oversee the installation of ten solar panels on the Shikha school roof.

Frequent power outages had prevented more than 350 public school students in grades one through twelve at Shikha Higher Secondary School from fully utilizing donated computers in the school's computer lab. These outages often lasted for days, severely limiting options and opportunities for study. According to Pun, a reliable power source would provide access to the Internet, communication, and the outside world—critical enhancements to student learning in a community where trained, skilled teachers are not readily available.

Knowledge Mosaic Inc. and its employees were proud to lend significant support to this project.



Students at play in front of their newly charged computer lab in Shikha, Nepal. Photo by Tilak Pun.



Tilak Pun (center), Clif Swiggett (right), and Dylan Swiggett build a solar power prototype on the Knowledge Mosaic roof. Photo by Jack Swiggett.

To learn more about this project, check out the links below:

Solar for Shikha Facebook Page

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Clif's eBook

Get the full story through Clif's emails and photography.

Knowledge Mosaic Inc. Press Releases

Read about landmarks in this story in company press releases.

Blogmosaic

Get more of the story by visiting Knowledge Mosaic's company blog.





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Knowledge Mosaic is honored to lend support to the following global and local community agencies and projects:

A Life A Time Foundation (formerly the Overseas Save Chinese Children Foundation)

Providing educational support to impoverished children and orphans impacted by the earthquake

American Red Cross

Assisting in Japanese earthquake and tsunami relief efforts

DonorsChoose.org

Making science kits available to Oregon state classrooms in need

Hearing, Speech and Deafness Center

Supporting innovative and holistic services in western Washington

Heifer International

Creating self-reliance through gifts of livestock and occupational training

Himanchal Education Foundation

Implementing Internet access to schools in rural Nepal

Northwest Harvest

Supplying nutritious food to hungry kids and families in Washington state

Room to Read

Developing a habit of reading amongst primary school children in developing countries

Water 1st International

Implementing sustainable, community-managed water supply and sanitation projects

Youth Tutoring Program

Supporting after-school enrichment programs in low-income housing communities in Seattle