



Preschool class in the village of "Hauze Khoshk", Yakawlang district, province of Bamyan.

"I was not interested in education for girls. We always tasked our children to do heavy and hard work, but now I learned - through this project - that it is important to talk about the rights of children with many other villagers to protect and respect our children. We must not engage them in child labor. I appreciate such a project and the fact that it made us aware of children's rights".

Shir Hussain, 52 years old (an elder of village)

About the awareness project on Child Right Convention in partnership with UNICEF

A word from the president



I am very proud to have had the honour to lead the Nai Qala Association for yet another beautiful year. 2019 was a year of many wonderful achievements. It is to Afghans that I credit these achievements because this success would not have been possible without such a committed team at the Nai Qala Association office and the support of all the interlocutors involved and stakeholders in Afghanistan who have a strong spirit of resilience and strive towards a different future, in spite of the continued difficult situation of Afghanistan. This strengthens my belief that through this spirit of hope, Afghans are going to help and heal the soul of the country. I believe such a spirit is going to bring deep changes.

Thanks to our trusted donors, we were able to successfully complete beautiful projects in one of the most remote regions of central Afghanistan. In the province of Bamyan we inaugurated our 10th school for over 300 girls and opened 14 new pre-school classes in the surrounding villages for over 500 children between 4 and 6 years old. Through such a project, we wish to ensure quality education to prepare children for formal school.

This year was also marked by our partnership with UNICEF in Afghanistan on the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the child in the province of Bamyan in central Afghanistan. We are proud of this positive sign of trust that we have gained over these past years. We learned from this experience and increased our self-confidence.

I wish once again to express my heartfelt gratitude to all Nai Qala Association volunteer members who continue to put their kind efforts towards making sure all our objectives are completed as planned. I am grateful for their humanity and generosity.

Thanks to your support I look forward to our continued accomplishments in the years ahead.

With sincere gratitude,

Taiba Rahim
President
Nai Qala Association

Nai Qala Association's Highlights for 2019

10 School teachers who increased their capacity in specific subjects and pedagogy.

15 New pre-school teachers who received a training to teach in one of the newly opened class.

30 University girls who attended an extra English and IT course

300 Children who will benefit from the 10th brand new school built by Nai Qala Association, bringing to more than 8'500 the number of schoolchildren benefiting from appropriate learning environment.

500 Children who attend daily one of the 24 pre-school classes Nai Qala runs in Ghazni and Bamyan province.

12'500 Schoolchildren who got familiar with children's rights.

A new school for better opportunities

Nai Qala Association's 10th school will improve learning conditions for 300 children.



On November 23rd, 2019 the keys of Anda school were officially handed over to the school principal. Nai Qala's objective to provide the community with a new, properly equipped school thus promoting access to quality education and improving learning opportunities for over 300 girls and boys of school age has been fully accomplished.

The new school in the village of Anda will enable teachers and students to enjoy appropriate facilities and equipment that create a working and recreational environment conducive to the study and personal development of each child.

A direct impact on the curriculum

In the mountainous regions of central Afghanistan, open-air schools are obliged to close early and for long periods due to heavy snow or rainfall, thus compromising the completion of the annual school program. In Afghanistan, school usually starts in April and ends in November but for many schools that do not have a proper building the program may start only in May or sometimes even in June. The same will happen at the end of the year, if winter arrives

earlier than usual, these schools will close as early as October, making it very hard for teachers and students to complete the yearly curriculum. The new Anda school is ready to be used by children who have been studying in rain, snow, hot sun or in the wind, sitting on often damp ground. The new building with its 6 classrooms will ensure that the annual education plan can be respected regardless of the weather.



Anda school was inaugurated in November 2019 in the presence of hundreds of students, teachers, parents, school authorities.

The school in Anda brought together a very traditional and divided community that has never been able to benefit from a concrete development project.

For a year, Nai Qala actively engaged with them, empowered them and encouraged them. For the first time since long, the community of Anda worked together on a common goal where everyone could benefit before, during and after the construction work.

A big draw for other education initiatives

A school building represents an opening for new opportunities for the community in Anda. With a proper construction, the community can confidently ask the government and NGOs for educational support. A building is an insurance that material can be carefully kept and maintained. NGOs and the government are more likely to contribute more books, stationery, science materials or equipment. Experience in other schools has also demonstrated that a new school is not only encouraging for children but also for teachers, who without a proper school show high absenteeism and a tendency to leave their jobs. A well-established school is thus a motivation for governmental and non-governmental organizations to include it in their development programs and ensure teacher training and support.

The sustainability of the school depends on the involvement of all stakeholders, regional authorities, community, parents, teachers and students. Anda's school is now an integral part of the national education plan and will benefit, in the future, from management within the framework of the standard defined by the Ministry of Education.



Decent learning environment for Anda students

Pre-school project

In 2019 we were very proud to expand our pre-school program from 10 to 24 classes for over 500 children aged between 4 to 6 in 2 provinces. It is just beautiful to see how the children's self-confidence grows as they learn many basic but important matters from a very young age.



Preschool class in the village of Mailour, Qara Bagh district, province of Ghazni.



Preschool class in the village of Doum-Dasht, district of Yakawlang, province of Bamyan.

Including parents as key partners for the program

It is very impressive to see how such classes also influence the parents and their lives, through parent meetings. They realize how they can play a role in their children's education. They see for themselves the results of this program on the behaviour of their own children in their home. This encourages them to be part of such a project and helps them support further children's education.



Parents are part our preschool project, by observing how their children learn and develop their skill...



As part of our preschool project, parent joins their children for a meal to create a social moment...



The participation of parents in their children's learning is a key element for Nai Qala's preschool program.



A proud girl is showing to her classmates how she can identify and write letters.

Partnership with UNICEF

Partnership on Celebrating 30 years of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

As the Nai Qala Association acknowledges children are the future actors for change, it is Nai Qala's priority to support their rights. The Nai Qala Association was therefore greatly honoured to partner with UNICEF in the province of Bamyan to celebrate 30 years of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Overview of the project

Nai Qala project officers were in charge of explaining children's right to schoolchildren from grades 7 to 9, of distributing brochures and organizing quizzes in schools. The program was successfully implemented in 8 districts, covering 25 public schools and 6 accelerated learning centers for children between the ages of 13 to 15. An information booklet explaining children's rights was distributed to children who were the direct beneficiaries. Furthermore, each booklet was taken home by students to their families, increasing the circle of indirect beneficiaries. For the duration of the project, an estimated total of 12'500 students learned about the convention. Overall, more than 30'000 people were made aware directly or indirectly of children's rights.

"I learned that anyone under 18 is a child and that my opinion must be listened to. I learned that we, children, must not be forced to do hard labor and that boys and girls should be treated the same. Finally, I visited Bamyan city for the first time to attend the event. It was great to get to know the capital of our province."

Rajab, 14 years old

Nai Qala is very proud to have successfully implemented the project and was especially pleased to honour it on World Children's day, in Bamyan, where the finals of the children's right quiz were held during a high-profile event in the presence of many respected UNICEF representatives and the local authorities and most importantly over 400 children, parents, teachers and school directors from one of the most remote regions of the country.



Over 400 people travelled from one of the most remote part of the province to take part in the event in Bamyan.



Left: An estimated total of 12'500 students learned about the convention.



Right: Very proud final 3 winners of quiz contest

Women Empowerment

Improve the chances of employment for girls graduated from Nai Qala schools.

For the past 10 years, the Nai Qala Association has been working in the education sector with school constructions, tutoring programs (university *Kankor* preparation), capacity building for teachers and facilitated preschool primary education. Some of the students who completed their high school education in schools constructed and supported by the Nai Qala Association successfully enrolled into university. In order to further support talented young women, Nai Qala funded IT and English courses for 30 female university students during one semester in Bamyan city.



With such an initiative the Nai Qala Association expands the scope of its education projects, from pre-primary to high school education, to university students graduated from the school Nai Qala built and supports female students' qualifications, in order to increase their chances for future employment. Women are the driving force for change and such an extra push will help lift them, their families and communities out of poverty.

Pedagogical training for teachers

Ten teachers from two Nai Qala schools have been invited to take part in a training organised in partnership with the French NGO Afrane.

The course focused on languages (Dari, English), fundamental sciences (mathematics, physics) and IT, while allowing exchanges between teachers from several schools. Obtaining a quality education is the foundation to creating sustainable learning conditions, that is why increasing the number of qualified teachers remains one of Nai Qala priority. Thanks to this training, more than 750 students from Dewan and Safed Ghaow schools will benefit from better learning conditions each year.



Teachers from Dewan and Safed Ghaow schools in Waras district, province of Bamyan.

Actions aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals

Nai Qala's initiatives contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. Indeed:



SDG 4 – Education: a proper school building increases school attendance and lowers drop-out rate; e.g. at opening of Sokhtagi school building, new registrations increased by 20%, while registration to catch up classes represents 25% of currently attending schoolchildren. Furthermore, the attendance to pre-school programs increases children retention in government run primary schools.



SDG 1 – No Poverty: the construction of community infrastructures provides improved livelihoods for thousands of families thanks to income, new skills and better business opportunities. Further, graduated students of Nai Qala's schools get more job opportunities; e.g. 15 former students got teaching positions in their region.



SDG 5 – Gender equality: the empowerment of women through increased education opportunities and creation of jobs.

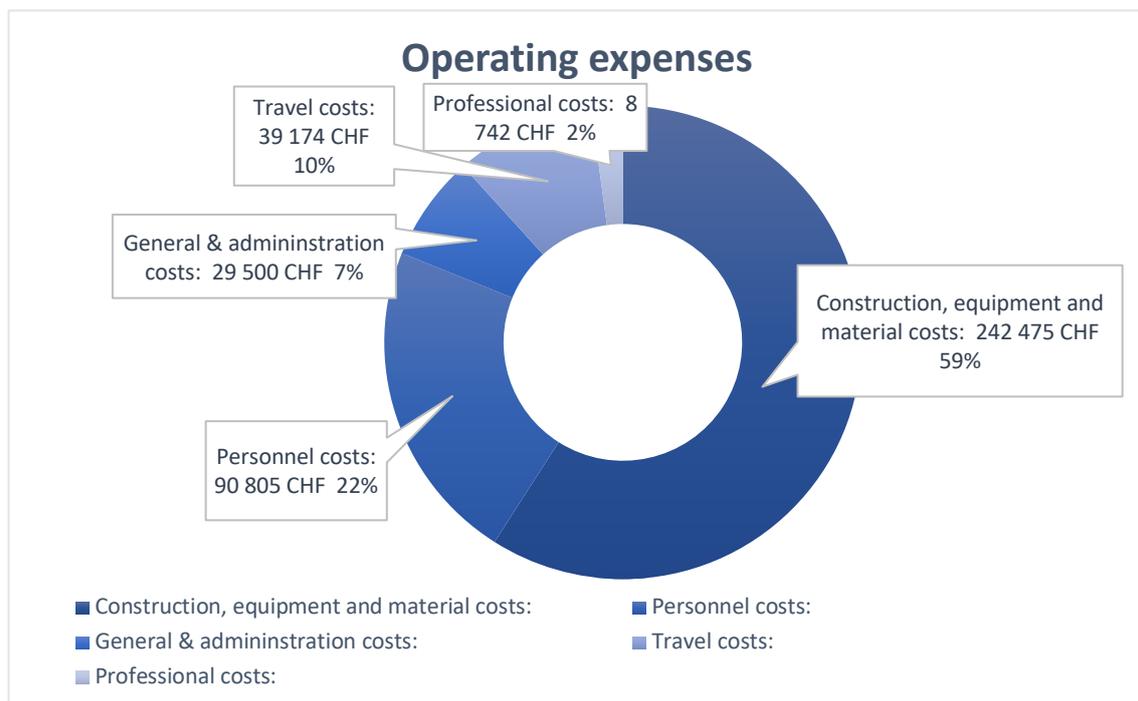
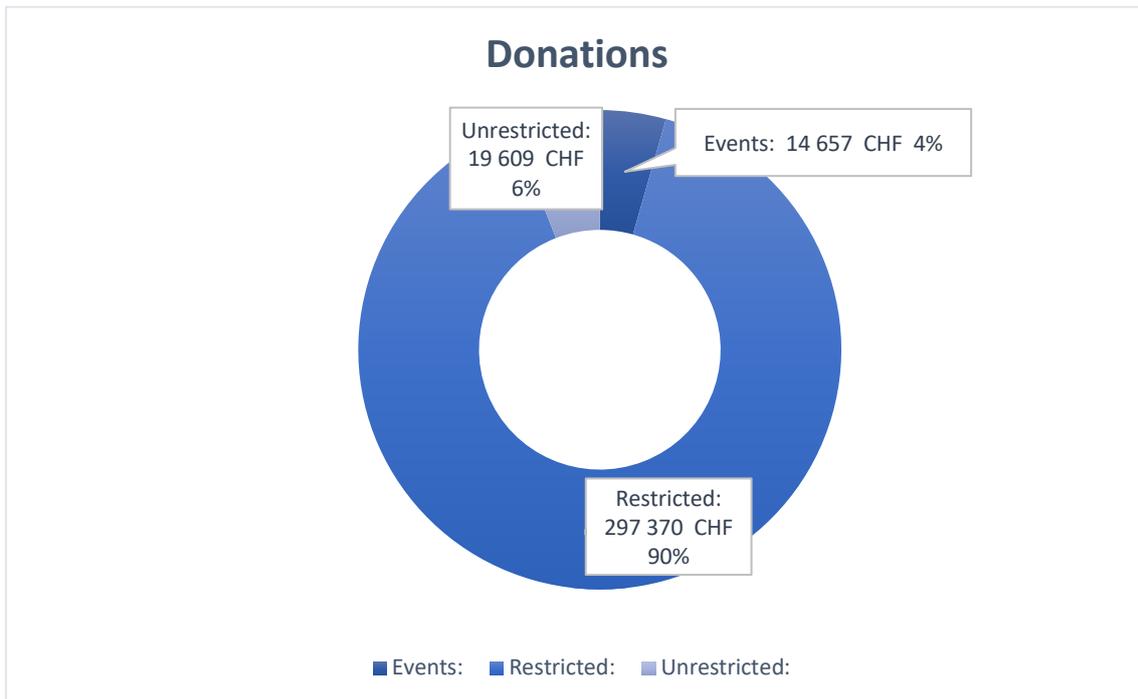


SDG 3 – Good Health and well-being: thanks to our pre-school program, washing hands and other basic hygiene rules are becoming a habit in hundreds of families. Not to mention the basic health centre built in 2014 that still allows, year after year, a good vaccination coverage and the safe deliveries of hundreds of babies.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Financial Report 2019



These are final figures based on accounting books. All donations are tax deductible in Switzerland.

Thanks to our Donors

We are proud of our partnership with hundreds of donors who have placed their trust in us, many of them on regular and repeated basis: We herewith express our sincere gratitude to them for the generous support and exemplary trust they have placed in the commitment and projects of our Association, and in the concrete results we have achieved in favour of the Afghan people ever since 2007. The list of our main donors can be found on our website www.nai-qala.org.

Every year we organize a fundraising event in the Geneva Lake region of Switzerland, with a strong involvement of local communities. It is a moment to thank the hundreds of people who believe in our work and to update them on our projects. We are grateful that over 80% of the participants have been loyal participants for 10 years. This is a great moment for cultural exchange between Switzerland and Afghanistan that is being bridged by the Nai Qala Association.

Hope for a dignified future

Nai Qala is working in one of the most isolated and remote regions in order to give hope and make people feel that they have their rightful place in this world too.



Let us together give children an opportunity to explore their talent, prove their capacity by becoming a teacher, a doctor, an engineer or any other job that would help to improve the situation in Afghanistan. These should be opportunities for life, not just for the short term. By building new facilities and improving access to education, we wish to give them the possibility to influence the future of their community. Investing in them means investing in their families, their communities and the future of the country.

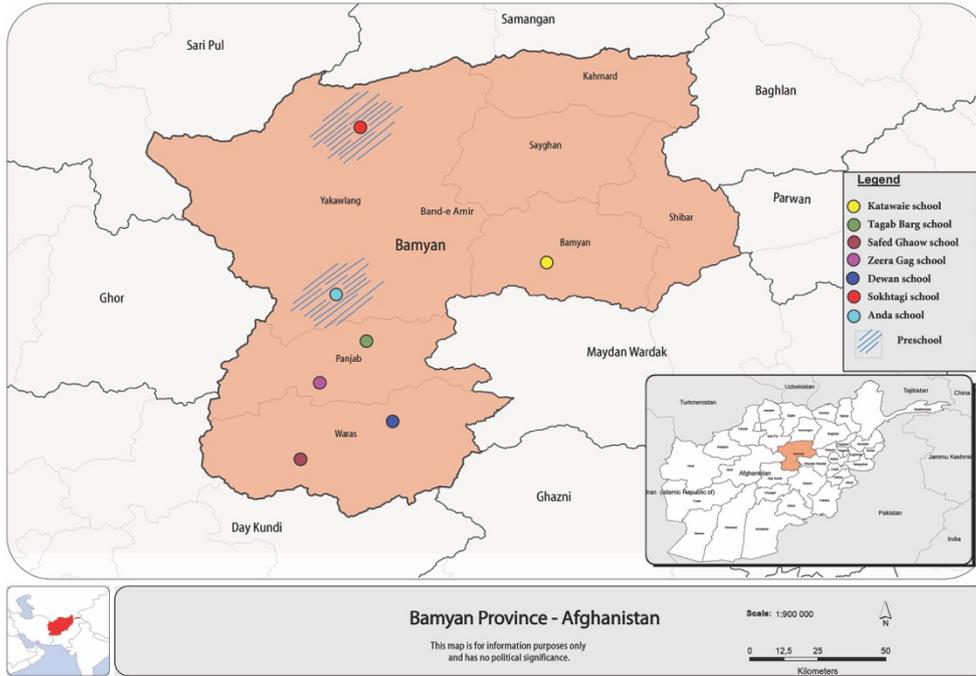
Join us for an educated, healthy and balanced society for rural Afghanistan
Support our mission

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Geographical coverage

Nai Qala operates in the provinces of Bamyan and Ghazni, mountainous regions of central Afghanistan.

Bamyan Province: 7 schools, 14 pre-school classes



Province of Ghazni: 3 schools, 10 pre-school classes, 1 health center

