

**SOS Children's Villages Switzerland**  
**(SOS-Kinderdorf Schweiz / SOS Villages d'Enfants Suisse)**

- Social & Political Situation: 2
- Challenging Physical Environment: 3
- Complexity: including cultural complexity, level of project structure, and untested, breakthrough initiatives: 2
- Level of individual initiative: 3
- Group or individual based: G

**Project: Making Impact Visible**



SOS Children's Villages started working in Nepal in the late 1960s, a diverse nation in the heart of the Himalayas. For about 55 years, we have been giving children without parental care a loving home. In addition, we strengthen vulnerable families, so that their children can grow up in a stable, caring environment. Our teams work with children and families at ten locations throughout the country.

To promote our work, we rely on up-to-date material that showcases what we do on-site. Testimonials from coworkers and beneficiaries in Nepal, reports, and images are vital to inform current and potential donors about how their contributions are used, and to ensure their future support. "Making Impact Visible" is a rare opportunity for students to make a hands-on contribution to the work of an international non-governmental organization – and the lives of vulnerable children. By creating photos and videos to share with our supporters, you will experience up-close how we implement programs for children, youth and families, ranging from alternative care to education, medical, and income-strengthening measures.

At least three Laidlaw scholars will work closely with our program team in Nepal to produce a wide array of photos, videos and short reports to promote their work (scroll to the end for an example of the type of work you'll do and read about the experience of Sadbh, Luke and Catherine who joined this project in the summer of 2024). You will spend approximately four weeks in Nepal and up to another two weeks editing and finalizing your work after your return. During the project you will be accompanied, supported and counselled both by the program team in Nepal and SOS Children's

Villages Switzerland. Collaborating on this project with our staff in Nepal and Switzerland will help you enhance the leadership skills you need for your professional development.

**SDG focus of this project:**

1 – no poverty, 3 – good health, 4 – quality education, 8 – decent work, 10 – reduced inequalities

**Project locations:**

Nepal, project locations tbd

<https://www.sos-childrensvillages.org/where-we-help/asia/nepal>

**Impressions from Itahari and Pokhara, two of our program locations:**



**Living conditions:** You will be staying at hotels in the vicinity of the SOS Children’s Villages infrastructure in Nepal. Conditions are simple but clean and comfortable.

**Transportation:** SOS Children's Villages has its own fleet of vehicles and trained drivers. For shorter trips, you will be on foot or have the use of a bicycle.

**Project date:** Summer 2026 (exact dates in July and August to follow but ideally one week in late July and three weeks in August. The other two weeks for editing.)

**Requirements for application:**

- Proven experience in either photography or video production and editing (ideally both)
- Experience in VR-compatible video production is an advantage
- Police certificate of good conduct
- Fluency in English
- Interest in children's rights

**Expectations for applications:**

Letter of motivation, based on:

- Why are you interested in this project?
- What do you expect from your participation?
- From your perspective, what is important in the work of a children's aid organization; particularly regarding photographing/filming children and young people in the context of humanitarian aid

Work samples:

- Required:
  - o Photography (maximum 10 photos depicting people in a manner that triggers empathy or conveys a story)
  - o Videos (max. 2 videos, each of max. 2 minutes in length)
- Optional:
  - o Writing (a report, max. 1 page, that demonstrates your ability to capture a situation)

Please send your application to [david.becker@sos-kinderdorf.ch](mailto:david.becker@sos-kinderdorf.ch) by 5th December 2025

**Sadbh, Luke and Catherine's LiA experience with SOS Children's Villages in 2024:**

We highly recommend this project if you are interested in photography or videography and in learning (hands-on!) how to dedicate these creative mediums to support a meaningful cause. In this case, to support an organisation that positively changes the quality of children's lives in Nepal!

Before the start of the project, we were given a content brief, detailing what videos we were to produce in each location and had several zoom meetings with many of the different people involved to prepare us for the journey and the work ahead. We spent our first week in Kathmandu, working at the Sanothimi Village, where we began filming and photographing daily life. From there, we travelled to Pokhara, visiting two different villages - one of which was run by Tibetan refugees (it was so cool to meet people from Tibet, and hear about their experiences and culture!).

After Pokhara, we spent a week in Itahari, before travelling further south to Lahan and Karjanha, where we learned about two community projects that SOS is developing in the south of Nepal.

In each location, we met and collaborated with staff at SOS Children's Villages, learned more about their roles, and gained insight into how the villages and many community projects are run. It is a fully Nepalese-run organization. Much of our filming involved capturing people speaking in Nepali, and we worked closely with the SOS communications team to translate and transcribe their stories accurately.

We got to meet and spend time with the children: helping with activities, learning how to make Nepali dumplings, joining in on football games, and dancing with caregivers and staff. Overall, we had a really wonderful experience. We also had some chances to explore the region ourselves in our free time and the SOS staff was very kind and showed us around their local area.

Check out this video on Catherine’s experience in Nepal:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RFmA3X717\\_Q&t=7s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RFmA3X717_Q&t=7s)

Examples of photos and videos we produced during our project to support SOS Children’s Villages “Making Impact Visible” mission:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ybKfM-HDQo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mG0otuc3eWQ>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hnIICDtuhZY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CQsQURPvCWl>





