



Policy Plan 2022-2025

Debbie Middendorp and Gita Pelinck • September 2022



What we do

- We empower marginalised women in Chitwan, Nepal by providing opportunities for a better quality of life and financial independence.
- We set up small businesses and organise comprehensive training programmes to ensure success in the long term.
- We were established in 2017 and have an international team of volunteers who support us.
- We believe in working together with other (business) partners as together we are stronger.
- We work with local partners as they know best and to support and promote local ownership.



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ANBI

To achieve these objectives, 6° Network offers the following services:



Business Services

1. Start-up blueprint, market research, business plan and funding.
2. Project management and quality control.
3. Business skills toolkit to set up and run a business.
4. Ongoing support and guidance.
5. Matchmaking between value aligned partners who want to jointly create social impact for marginalised women.

[Learn More →](#)



Skills Development Services

1. Candidate selection and profiling.
2. Customised training toolkits.
3. Motivational and personal development skills training.
4. Pay-it-Forward principle.

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Social Engagements

1. Organise grassroots community get togethers to raise awareness on women empowerment.
2. Encourage the growth of the 6° network within the community.
3. Collect small donations from our candidates to help fund future projects.

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Social Engagements

1. Emergency relief efforts.
2. Donation collection and support mobilisation to the effected communities.

[Learn More →](#)

Our Organisation

6° Network for Women is made up of 2 legal entities:

- Through our foundation 6° Academy we offer customised training programmes and toolkits.
- 6° Ventures is a social enterprise that provides consulting services, funding and ongoing support to marginalised women who want to set up small businesses. The income generated from 6° Ventures is reinvested to fund new projects or used to fund other not for profit operations of 6° Network for Women.

Organisation

6 Degrees Academy for Women

Chamber of Commerce: 70311781
RSIN Number: 858253653
Address: Spotvogellaan 56, 2566 PM, Den Haag
Website: www.6dnfw.org
E-mail: info@6dnfw.org

6 Degrees Ventures

Chamber of Commerce: 83396330
RSIN Number: 862858173

Board

The board of 6° Degrees Academy for Women is governed by a one tier board with two executive directors and two non-executive directors.

Chairperson: Gita Pelinck (founder)
Co-Chair: Debbie Middendorp (founder)
Board Member: Amrit Thapa
Board Member: Margreet Rijken

The chairperson and co-chair are responsible for the daily operations.
The board is unsalaried.

Staff

The foundation does not have employees and is made up of a team of volunteers.

Accounts and Reporting

The accounts are published and reported according to the applicable legal requirements.

Fundraising

The projects will be financed through fundraising activities and contributions from donors, social (corporate) investors, charity desks and investment funds.

Donors and strategic partners are kept informed through our website, social media, newsletters and during meetings.

Asset Management and Use

6° Academy for Women aims to build up sufficient reserves and to manage it prudently in order to safeguard the continuity of the foundation.

Context Nepal

Geography

- Landlocked between China and India, situated in the Himalayas.
- 4 times larger than The Netherlands.
- Diverse geography: highest mountains in the world - Mount Everest - to fertile plains.
- Largest cities are Kathmandu, Pokhara, and Patan.

Demographics

- Population - 29,877,798
- Chitwan District - 579,984
- Nepal has a host of ethnicities, 14 official languages and 7 religions.
- Literacy rate of only 63.49% of which 76.4% are males and 53.1% are females.

Economy

- GDP per capita \$1,236 (2021)
- Tourism is the largest industry followed by agriculture
- 22.5% of Nepal's current GDP is made up of remittances from Nepali workers abroad.
- Rate of unemployment exceeds half of working-age population
- For every 100 working age males there are 125 women of which only 59 (47%) are employed.

Society

- Nepal's society is defined by a caste system.
- Multi-generational patriarchal joint family system.
- Arranged marriages and child marriages still common.
- Dalits - the lowest caste - to which the Musahar women belong to - are one the most marginalised castes in Nepal.



SWOT Analysis

Strengths

- Local value aligned partners and experts
- Local 6° supervisor
- Local government and key stakeholder support
- Expertise and robust business experience and skills of founders
- Big international networks
- Multi-country, multi-cultural team with different expertise

Weaknesses

- Language barriers
- Cultural barriers
- Social barriers

Opportunities

- Market potential locally, nationally and internationally
- Hygiene is still high on the WHO agenda
- Breaking through social and cultural and economic barriers

Threats

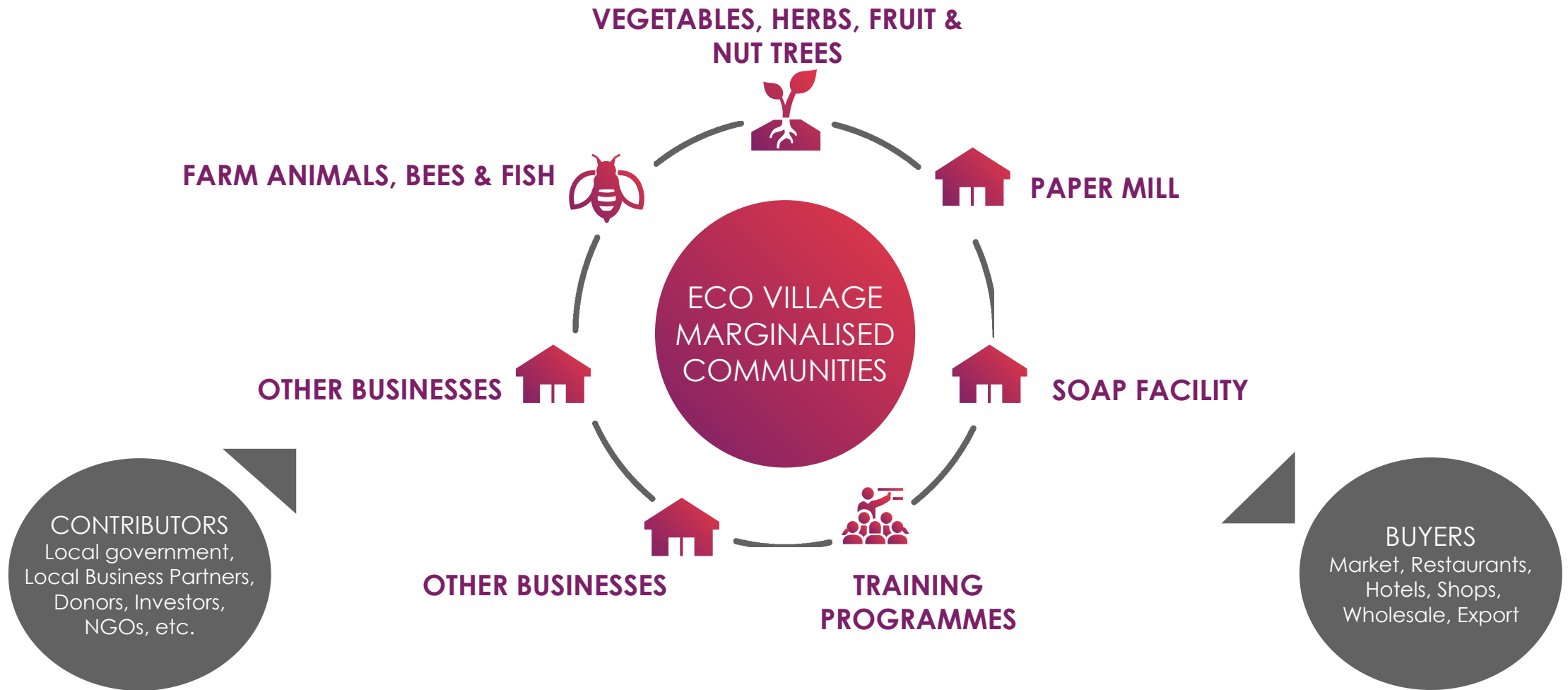
- COVID or other pandemics or natural disasters
- Potential competition locally
- Absence of commitment and drive of the Musahar women and other marginalised women communities due to past disappointments

Eco Village Concept

In Chitwan, together with local (business) partners, we are developing an Eco Village for and with marginalised communities so that they can sustain themselves, sell the products on the local market in order to generate income to support their families and communities. All the activities that make up the Eco Village form an integrated ecosystem.



6 Degrees Eco Village Plan 2021 - 2025



Total Social Impact Eco Village



Number of women candidates in training programme: **45**



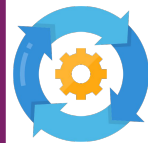
Social impact: candidates and their households: **225**



Suppliers, Construction, Trainers, Schools, Transport & Logistics, Distributors, etc.: **300**



Community Impact - including other marginalised communities around the Eco Village (Tamang, Tharu, Musahar and Magar): **514**



TOTAL DIRECT IMPACT:
1039



TOTAL POPULATION CHITWAN: 579,984

Projects and Social Engagements - Current & Completed

Name	Budget	# of Women	Timeframe
Connecting Hands Farming	€ 9,710	5	2020 - ongoing *part of the Eco Village
Chicken Farm	€ 5,000	5	2021 - stopped *part of the Eco Village
Ladies in the Front Seat	€ 14,850	9	2019-2022 - completed
Nature Guides	€ 10,875	16	2018-2019 - completed
Drivers Project Kathmandu	€ 6,000	10	2018 - completed
Connecting Hands - Emergency Relief II	€ 2,265	42 families	2021 - completed
Connecting Hands - Emergency Relief I	€ 5,290	150 families	2020 - completed
Pay-it-Forward Empowerment Campaign	€ 1,000	2 villages	2020 - completed

Project (Business) Pipeline

Name	Budget	# of Women	Timeframe	Project Structure
Paper Mill	€ 48,000	5	2022-2023	Partnership with local business partner
Soap Facility	€ 50,000	5	2023-2024	Partnership with local business partner
Connecting Hands Farming - Phase II	€ 25,000	5-10	2023-2025	Partnership with local Women's Cooperative
Felt Slipper Factory	€ 25,000	5-10	2023-2025	Partnership with local business partner

Lessons Learnt


Category	Lesson Learnt
Fail forward	We learn lessons every day. Dare to make mistakes, those are the best lessons learnt and this helps you to continuously improve for your future projects.
Team-up with like minded (business) partners	Look for and work with like minded partners who have the same DNA and truly want to create social and economic change. This way you create sustainable and lasting partnerships.
Be agile	Things hardly ever go as planned. Be flexible, adaptive, creative and be willing to make changes to your idea or concept, strategy, ways of working or even project implementation. Always be open to change.
Keep it local	Make use of local expertise, resources and knowhow. Connect and involve local businesses and stakeholders who can influence the outcomes of your initiative, project or business.



We inspire – Empower – Connect

 6dnfw.org

  [@6DegreesNetworkforWomen](https://www.instagram.com/6DegreesNetworkforWomen)

 [@6-degrees-network-for-women](https://www.linkedin.com/company/6-degrees-network-for-women)