



## STEVE SINNOTT FOUNDATION

MARCH 2012

**Dear Colleagues,**

The Steve Sinnott Foundation has come a long way in the last two years. Steve's legacy and goodwill across the world allowed us a distinguished start with ample support from teacher's organisations all over the world and from all political parties in the UK. We have been able to carve out a niche for ourselves in these two years. We have enabled access to education for hundreds of children in Nepal and are working with Sierra Leonean teachers to support them with their training and professional development. We have established links and partnerships between schools and children across the world. Our thriving online community has more than 1000 members now and hosts 160 projects. Your support has been instrumental in our success and we hope that you will continue to stand by the cause in the long run. 67 million children in the world are still out of school and more than 30% of enrolled children are dropping out. The challenge is not just access but quality of education as well and we are working hard to address both. This year will see a number of new developments, including a wider schools engagement programme and new projects. Please register on [www.stevesinnottfoundation.org.uk](http://www.stevesinnottfoundation.org.uk)

### PROJECTS

#### NEPAL

The first phase of our project in Nepal has been extremely successful in addressing the basic barriers to school attendance for children from some of the poorest families in the remote western district-Palpa. In the first phase, we helped refurbish four schools. Children now not only have strong school building & classrooms but also ample reading and learning resources, qualified teachers, water & electricity, medical care, toilets and afternoon meals. We feel that any attempt at learning is futile unless these basic





needs have been looked after. The children in this part of Nepal had none of these to begin with.

## **SIERRA LEONE**

Aimed at supporting teachers in Sierra Leone with training and professional development, we had a one-week training session with thirteen Sierra Leonean teachers in London, who trained as 'trainers' to help many more teachers in Sierra Leone, upon their return. Two training sessions have already taken place in Sierra Leone.



## **SEND MY FRIEND TO SCHOOL 2011**

As part of Send my Sister to School campaign 2011, over 600,000 young people in the UK spoke out for girls' education, from 5000 schools, further education colleges and voluntary groups. The theme for 2011 was girls' education and the collective action by the education community in the UK highlighted the fact that among the 67 million children out of school, more than half are girls.

## **FOUNDATION MAGAZINE**

The fifth edition of 'ENGAGE' is with the press now and as in the previous four issues, we have tried to bring together ideas and opinions of people as well as reported on the latest trends, news and recent developments in the international campaign to achieve the Millennium Development Goals as well as Foundation initiatives. Copies will be available at the NUT Conference in Torquay, this April. For further orders, please write to Sam at [sam.tiwari@stevesinnottfoundation.org.uk](mailto:sam.tiwari@stevesinnottfoundation.org.uk) or call on 01923431653.

## **SPEAKING AT ASSOCIATION MEETINGS & AGMs**



Several Divisions & Associations have invited the Foundation to speak to their members at meetings/AGMs. This has enabled members to fully grasp the spread and depth of the Foundation's work and understand the difference being made by the Foundation in the lives of children in various parts of the world. Members have shown interest in volunteering and engaging with the Foundation's work

in several other ways. If you'd like a representative of the Foundation to speak at your meetings, please write to Sam at [sam.tiwari@stevesinnottfoundation.org.uk](mailto:sam.tiwari@stevesinnottfoundation.org.uk) or call on 01923431653.

### **A FEW WORDS FROM NAVIDP AND YASIR, WINNERS OF THE STEVE SINNOTT YOUNG GLOBAL AMBASSADORS AWARD 2011**

"Being a global ambassador was absolutely fantastic and we cannot reiterate again how grateful we are for having such a splendid opportunity! This past year has taught us so much about not only how we can make a difference, but also how everyone else can also make a difference. It personally gave us motivation to fight for the kids in Guatemala, where we visited and even though our time as global ambassadors may end we will continue fighting for those kids. This isn't the end. Not by a long-shot. The campaign has taught us to be humbled by the simple things in life and to think about people who don't have the opportunities we have. The campaign is an eye-opener for all teenagers and it gives life more perspective. Without the campaign we don't think we would have understood how children around the world feel without an education.



Being part of this campaign has completely changed both of us; we have a drive that we never had before! It really showed us how everyone can make a difference provided they are passionate and believe in the cause. Travelling to Guatemala was an experience that we will carry with us forever and that will shape us as adults. The children we met, the stories we heard, all of it culminated into the best week we have ever had and all the campaigning after only magnified that feeling. If we could, we would do it all over again and not change a single thing!"

### **NUT CONFERENCE 2012**

We look forward to seeing many of you at the NUT conference in Torquay next month. We are at **stand 22** and we have plenty of material about our work to share with you. We'd also like to talk to you about a very exciting project that we are undertaking this year, with schools in the UK. Please drop by to say hello!

**Best wishes,**

**Sam Tiwari**

**Project Manager**