



Project Funding Proposal

Wood Stove Distribution in Pawakhola, Nepal

April - June 2026

1. Introduction and Objectives of the Proposal

SEED of LIGHT is a non-profit association founded in July 2025 by three young adults with the aim of promoting humanitarian and sustainable development projects in vulnerable communities worldwide. The association focuses on environmentally sustainable initiatives, carried out in collaboration with local populations and based on their expressed needs. This proposal outlines a wood stove distribution project for the village of Pawakhola, Nepal, which has already benefited from our previous electrification initiative. The project aims to improve the health and safety conditions of the inhabitants by replacing open indoor fires with enclosed stoves equipped with a chimney. The total estimated budget is CHF 6'300, and we are seeking financial support to cover the full implementation cost.

2. Background and Motivation

Pawakhola is a remote village in the Sankhuwasabha District of eastern Nepal, with 104 inhabitants and 21 households. By the end of 2025, our association successfully completed a 2 kW micro-hydropower plant that brought clean, stable electricity to the entire village – a transformative intervention for the community. During our visits to the village, however, we identified another critical issue: the homes of Pawakhola are built from sheet metal and wood, and the traditional heating system consists of an open fire lit directly inside the house, with no smoke extraction system. This practice poses severe health risks for the inhabitants, who live, cook, and sleep in environments constantly filled with smoke. Children and the elderly are most vulnerable to chronic smoke inhalation, with documented effects on lung function, respiratory health, and eyesight. In addition to the health risk, open fires pose a constant fire hazard in highly flammable structures. The community of Pawakhola has expressed the need for safer heating systems, and in response to this need, SEED of LIGHT proposes to distribute wood stoves with chimneys to all 21 families in the village.



Figure 1: Traditional cooking on an open fire inside a Pawakhola home.



Figure 2: The wood-burning stove that will replace open fires in each Pawakhola household.

3. Technical Description

The planned stoves are wood-burning units equipped with a main body and a chimney flue, made of [MATERIAL: iron/steel – to be confirmed with the supplier]. The chimney system channels combustion gases outside the dwelling, eliminating indoor air pollution and drastically reducing associated health risks. The stoves will be supplied by [SUPPLIER NAME – to be confirmed], which will also manage logistics to the road head at the entrance to the valley. Transport from the valley floor up to the village will be organized by the inhabitants of Pawakhola themselves, ensuring the direct involvement of the community in the project. The weight of each stove is [WEIGHT – to be confirmed with the supplier]. Each stove will be personalized with a metal plaque bearing the donor’s name (“Donated by [DONOR]”), permanently affixed to the unit as a mark of recognition and transparency toward benefactors. The installation of the stoves within the homes will be carried out by the villagers themselves, who will adapt their dwellings to accommodate the chimney. Our local partner will manage the entire logistics chain, from receiving the stoves at the road head to distributing them to all 21 families.

4. Estimated Project Cost

Budget Item	Amount (CHF)	Amount (NPR)
Stoves (21 units $\times$ CHF 285)	5'985.00	$\approx$ 1'129'095.36
Donor personalized plaques (21 $\times$ CHF 15)	315.00	$\approx$ 59'426.07
Transportation to road head (included)	0.00	—
Total	6'300.00	$\approx$ 1'188'521.44

Table 1: Project budget summary

The cost per stove is CHF 285, plus CHF 15 for the personalized donor plaque, totalling CHF 300 per family. With 21 families, the overall project cost amounts to CHF 6'300.

Payment terms will be defined in agreement with the stove supplier and the local logistics partner.

5. Deliverables and Goals

The primary goal of the project is to improve the health and safety conditions of the inhabitants of Pawakhola by replacing open fires with safe, enclosed heating systems.

Specific goals include:

- Eliminate exposure to indoor smoke from open fires for 104 inhabitants, with direct benefits to respiratory health.
- Reduce the risk of house fires in dwellings built from highly flammable materials.
- Improve daily living conditions for 21 families through a safe and efficient heating system.
- Actively involve the local community in transportation and installation, strengthening the village’s autonomous capacity.

Project deliverables at the end of the implementation phase:

- 21 wood-burning stoves with chimney flues installed, one per family in Pawakhola.
- Elimination of open fire as the sole domestic heating system.
- Reduction of indoor air pollution in village homes.
- Continuation of the trust-based relationship between SEED of LIGHT and the Pawakhola community.

6. Conclusion and Funding Request

This project represents the natural continuation of the electrification work already carried out by SEED of LIGHT in Pawakhola, and responds to a concrete and urgent need expressed by the community itself. For an investment of CHF 300 per family, it is possible to eliminate one of the primary health and safety risks faced by the village's inhabitants. Logistics are being finalized with our local partner, who will manage the entire operational chain on the ground. What remains is the financial support needed to launch and complete the project. Through this proposal, we formally request your contribution to cover the full project cost, or to fund one or more stoves (CHF 300 each). This project is structured as an individual donation campaign, titled "A Warm Home for Pawakhola": each contribution of CHF 300 fully covers the cost of one stove for one family. The personalized donor plaque, permanently affixed to the stove, creates a tangible and lasting link between the benefactor and the beneficiary. Your contribution will bring warmth, health, and safety to a community that has already demonstrated extraordinary resilience and a sincere desire for progress.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss this proposal further and provide any additional information.

Contacts

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