



**TARA BODONG**

Help make a difference in the Himalayan region.

## **Tara Bodong Foundation (Netherlands)**

### **Lumla Bodong Nunnery/Girls' School Lumla, Arunachal Pradesh, India**

#### **Sponsorship Programme**

This Sponsorship Programme is operated by the Tara Bodong Foundation (Netherlands), registered in the Netherlands as Stichting Tara Bodong (NL). The goal of the Foundation is to support small-scale humanitarian projects in India and Nepal.

*The purpose of the Lumla Bodong Nunnery/Girls' School is to help educate girls in the region so they could improve their local communities for generations to come.*

This Sponsorship Programme aims to finance the operational needs of the facility in a sustainable manner and provide an education in basic academics and life sciences, including hygiene. Afterwards, the girls will be encouraged to return to their villages to share their knowledge, in an effort to improve general living standards and help end ill-health and poverty in the region.

#### **Two Sponsorship Options**

- 1) Individual Girl Sponsorship – to support the living and education expenses of one girl.
- 2) General Sponsorship – to support the general upkeep and maintenance of the facility.

## Individual Girl Sponsorship

Sponsoring a child can change your life by giving you an opportunity to make an immediate impact on the life of the child you are assisting. Through the exchange of letters and photos, you will have the chance to see how your girl's world is changing. Therefore, sponsorship provides much more than the satisfaction that comes with just helping these children, it delivers an extraordinary opportunity to witness their young lives being enriched over time.

Your sponsorship provides a connection with an individual girl. This allows you, as an individual sponsor to establish a friendship with her that will carry a special meaning for you both. To help the development of this relationship, each year you will receive:

- A Status Report on your girl's progress, including a summary of her academic performance
- An updated photo plus drawings or artwork (if available)
- Optional email updates on our projects

### How much does Individual Girl Sponsorship cost?

For only €45 a month — about 1.50 a day — you can sponsor a girl and help improve her quality of life through education, housing and healthy meals. We hope that you will support us for many years to come. The Lumla Bodong Nunnery girls are depending on you!

### How will my Individual Girl Sponsorship contribution be spent?

The Lumla Bodong Nunnery/ Girls' School Sponsoring Program aims to create a sustainable program focusing on the development, health, nutrition and education of all children in our program! The best way of achieving this is to pool your sponsorship money with those of other sponsors. Thus, your sponsorship contribution of €45,00 per month, will not given directly to an individual child. This ensures that all children at the Lumla Nunnery/ Girls' School, including those who may not yet, or may never have the opportunity to secure a sponsor of their own, will still benefit from our sponsorship program. On request, we can provide you with the accounts of the Nunnery to give you a better insight into how your money is being used. Our accounts are also published annually on our website [www.tarabodong.org](http://www.tarabodong.org). You can be assured that your contribution will be spent wisely. One of the priorities of the Tara Bodong (Netherlands) Foundation is to make sure that every Euro contributed to the Lumla Bodong Nunnery/ Girls' School is allocated 100% towards the maximum benefit of the girls in our care. This includes the operating costs of the facility, the needs of the girls, as well as staff and security.

### Getting to Know Your Sponsored Girl

The relationship between you and your child starts with a photograph and a biography of your child. It continues and strengthens with annual progress reports, and although communication links are sporadic and unreliable in this region of the Himalayas, we hope to also include letters and pictures. This is a unique opportunity to get to know each other better and develop a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by these girls and their families through their own words and experiences. It is also meant to provide a window into the girls' daily struggles and joys through their own pictures and words.

## General Sponsorship

For those sponsors who do not wish to support an individual girl, there is the option to support the operations of the Lumla Bodong Nunnery/ Girls' School as a whole, with any amount you choose. This General Sponsorship provides the satisfaction of helping all children at the school, and delivers the same rewarding opportunity to witness the development and improvement of these young lives over time. Your contributions will go towards the overall expenses necessary to ensure the financial viability of the facility. This will also ensure that the children who may not yet, or may never have the opportunity to acquire a sponsor of their own, can still benefit.

Naturally, we will strive to keep you regularly informed on the Nunnery's development and the progress of the children. Each year you will receive:

- An annual summary of the nunnery's progress and accomplishments
- General updates about the children
- Optional email updates on our projects

### How will my General Sponsorship contribution be spent?

The Lumla Bodong Nunnery/ Girls' School Sponsoring Programme aims to create a sustainable program focusing on the development, health, nutrition and education of all children in our program! The best way of achieving this is to pool all donations received. This ensures that all children at the Lumla Bodong Nunnery/ Girls' School, including those who may not yet, or may never have the opportunity to secure a sponsor of their own, will still benefit from our sponsorship program. Upon request, we can provide you with the accounts of the Nunnery to give you a better insight into how your money is being used. Our accounts are also published annually on our website [www.tarabodong.org](http://www.tarabodong.org).

You can be assured that your contribution will be spent wisely. One of the priorities of the Tara Bodong (Netherlands) Foundation is to make sure that every Euro contributed to the Lumla Bodong Nunnery/ Girls' School is allocated 100% towards the maximum benefit of the girls in our care. This includes the operating costs of the facility, the needs of the girls, as well as staff and security.

## FAQ

*Are my contributions tax deductible?*

Yes. Tara Bodong Netherlands is registered with the Dutch Tax Authority as a Public Benefit Organisation or Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling (ANBI). ANBI status allows your contribution to be tax deductible.

*How long will my sponsorship last?*

Sponsorship is a voluntary, ongoing contribution. How long you wish to provide sponsorship is entirely up to you. However, we hope that you will support the Lumla Bodong Nunnery/ Girls' School for many years to come.

**More questions about sponsorship?** You may email [info@tarabodong.org](mailto:info@tarabodong.org).

## **Child Safety Policy**

The Tara Bodong Foundation and the staff of the Lumla Bodong Nunnery/ Girls' School are deeply committed to conducting its sponsorship program in a manner that is safe for the children we serve and to protecting the children with whom we are in contact. As a humanitarian foundation, we believe that all children have the right to live free of the fear or reality of any form of abuse or exploitation, and we are obliged to create and maintain an environment that aims to prevent these circumstances and promote the implementation of our child safety policy. We are confident that our sponsors will join us in upholding this policy so that, together, we can do our best to ensure that the children we help remain safe.

## **Staff and Supervision**

The day-to-day supervision of the nunnery/ school is carried out by the Lumla Bodong Tashi Choeling Charitable Organisation, which is a Lumla based committee comprising local community leaders and teachers who have been involved in the project from its inception. The girls are cared for by two fulltime female staff members, who grew up within the Lumla community. Geshe Pema Dorjee and Siri Weirum visit Lumla at least once a year (April, May) to inspect the project and deal with outstanding matters.

## **Visits**

While the vast majority of individuals have good intentions, we must safeguard against the few who do not. We are sure you understand the need to protect the wellbeing of the children we help. Visits to Lumla Bodong Nunnery/ Girls' School are encouraged, however in keeping with our commitment to child safety, all visits must be coordinated with Tara Bodong (Netherlands) Foundation in advance. Unannounced visits are not acceptable. Please note that the option to "meet" a sponsored child is only available to individual (one-to-one) child sponsors. Prior to visiting a sponsored child, an application and release forms will be required. We hope you understand that these steps are necessary to ensure the safety of our children and their families, and that these measures will not discourage you from visiting our programs. Visits can be truly rewarding and life-changing experiences.

## **Correspondence (for Individual Girl Sponsors only)**

In our efforts to keep children safe, we also monitor the letters and packages sent to sponsored children. Please note that the exchange of correspondence is only available to individual child sponsors. As you can understand, we take any breach of these policies very seriously and, in the unfortunate circumstance that one should occur we will end the sponsorship relationship. Thank you for helping is to keep the girls at the Lumla Bodong Nunnery' Girls' School safe by respecting our child safety policy.



## Tara Bodong Foundation (Netherlands)

### Registration Form

#### Lumla Bodong Nunnery/ Girls' School Sponsorship Programme

**Sponsors in Europe:** please refer also to the Standing Order Mandate for bank deductions which must be submitted with this registration form. A cancellation form has also been included should you wish to cancel your sponsorship at any time.

**Sponsors outside of Europe:** we recommend payments via Paypal in the name of 'Stichting Tara Bodong (Netherlands)'. See our website [www.tarabodong.org/how-to-give](http://www.tarabodong.org/how-to-give) for a direct link.

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Programme (choose one)

- Individual Girl Sponsorship – living and education expenses for one girl.
- General Sponsorship – general upkeep and maintenance of the facility.

**Authorisation:** *I give Stichting Tara Bodong (Netherlands) permission to send me e-mails.*

#### Banking Information

IBAN number: \_\_\_\_\_

Account name: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature Main Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_