From <u>Langtang Earthquake Appeal</u> have organized a solidarity trip to Langtang to help return tourism to the area. Here you can read a text about what they found once there:

The most amazing thing about our volunteer trek at the end of last year was seeing the transformation of the Langtang Valley from the previous year.

When we arrived in Langtang at the start November 2015 the village had been totally destroyed. There were only a handful of villagers trying to rebuild and virtually no tourists what so ever.

By contrast in 2016 there were plenty of new houses and lodges, many villagers were working on rebuilding their homes and plenty of trekkers had returned.

There was a general feeling of hope.

It was obvious to us that within the last year much work had been carried out and many items donated by charities and NGOs. Villagers had wood to rebuild with, new clothes, solar power, new wood stoves, pots, pans and many other vitally needed supplies.

The relief effort had been massive since November 2015.



Many of the villagers were unsure from where most of the items and support had come from but 3 main organisations stood out to us and many of the villagers we spoke to.

## Om Nepal

## Samaritans Purse

Kadoori and The Gurkha Welfare Scheme



Om Nepal, working with Samaritans Purse had been building new homes for those worst hit by the disaster, cutting wood at a saw mill they had brought in to donate wood for rebuilding to every family. Everyone we spoke to could not praise these 2 organisations enough. The level of support they were providing up and down the Langtang Valley was amazing

The other organisation that had been doing a lot was Kadoori and The Gurkha Welfare Scheme. They had built a new bridge into Kangjin Gompa and were busy ferrying pipes by helicopter for a major new hydro power scheme at Kangjin.



I cannot recommend the work that all the above organisations have been doing and if anyone is thinking that they would like to donate money to help out with the rebuilding of Langtang then there can be few better places to send it to. It was also obvious from talking to the villagers that many other organisations and individuals had been helping out and they were very grateful for every thing that had been done no matter how small. It had all gone towards the huge change that could be seen within the last year

The other organisation that has been very active was The <u>Langtang Management and Reconstruction</u> <u>Committee</u>. On our trek back to Kathmandu we bumped into Temba accompanied by a group of surveyors. He was pleased to tell us that they were involved with surveying the state of the paths in the area with a view to repair and upgrade wherever necessary. Many villagers we had spoken to had mentioned that Temba and the committee had been very involved with the reconstruction during the previous year.

Much has been achieved with much still left to do but..... there is hope once again in the Langtang Valley

