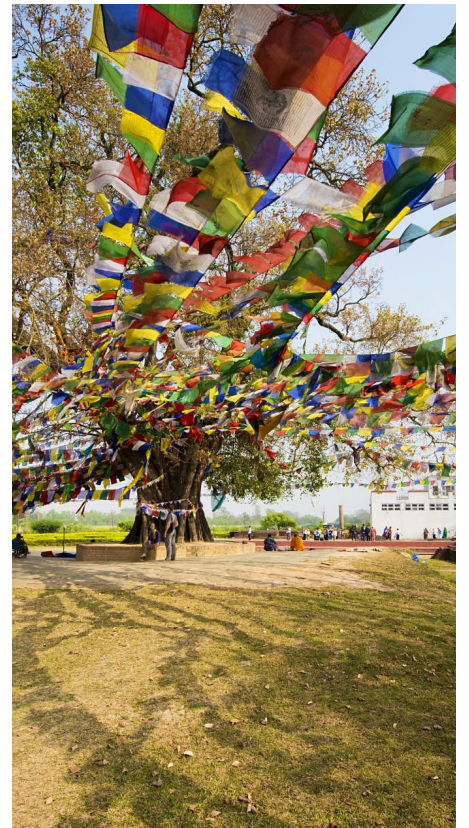


# NEPAL



BOOSTING COMMUNITY-BASED TOURISM  
AND YOUTH WORK FOR GLOBAL  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



# 1 month d u r a t i o n



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## LOCATION

Lumbini is the birthplace of Gautam Buddha. It is located in the Tarai plains, Rupandehi district of province No. 5 southern part of Nepal.

## THEME OF YOUR CBT VOLUNTEERING EXPERIENCE

Local development of Lumbini as a spiritual touristic destination



## CONTEXT

Lumbini is a Buddhist pilgrimage site in the Rupandehi District of Province No. 5 in Nepal. It is 20 Km from the Gautam Buddha airport, Siddhartha Nagar and 27 km from the border with India. The area still lacks proper vision, commitment and implementation to develop it as an attractive tourist destination. It may add a pearl to the glory of Lumbini. Similarly, the local community should be hitched in for village-based tourism and cultural activities. A cultural and drama centre is aimed to be established at Lumbini where drama and cultural activities depicting the life of Buddha could be witnessed on a regular basis. The place could potentially be developed into a venue where visitors can experience the Buddha-era civilization, culture and heritage.

The Lumbini development project has been mired in numerous political controversies and the goal to develop it as an international pilgrimage destination has not been realized yet due to various obstacles and difficulties in agreeing and executing a strategy and implementation plan.

You as a volunteer could have a significant role in the organisation and facilitation of public discourse and community initiatives for the promotion, planning and realization of this great potential of Lumbini.



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## PURPOSE OF YOUR CBT VOLUNTEERING PROJECT:

Development, realization and promotion of the 'Lumbini development project' – the birthplace of Gautam Buddha –, offering a well-managed, attractive community-based tourist destination for spiritually and culturally interested visitors.

## ACTIVITIES YOU CAN BE ENGAGED IN - BASED ON YOUR INTERESTS AND SKILLS:

Lumbini the birthplace of Lord Buddha holds significant and a special place in the heart of every Buddhist. Finally, Buddha has given us the message of kindness, non-violence, world peace, human rights, co-existence, sacrifice and meditation and the place could support the adaptation of this message and core principles in the life of visitors. We need to practice the real essence of Buddhism so that we can truly identify the nation as the land where the Buddha was born. The volunteer will be involved giving the message to the local people and focus ing on protection, promotion and development of Lumbini

## INTERCULTURAL EXPERIENCE YOU WILL BE PART OF:

- Traditional folk songs and dances such as Biraha. The Biraha folk songs' mood is based around the sorrow caused by separation of family members, especially the lover and his beloved. The locals in Lumbini have connected the Biraha culture with the history and life of Lord Sakyamuni Buddha. The artists also sing the tragedy songs on the separation of Princess Yasodhara with her husband Prince Siddhartha and King Suddhodhana with his beloved son. You will be able to experience and understand the meaning and role of these songs and dances.
- Joining meditation practices of local people
- Observing and participating in the daily and periodic rituals of the locals including wedding and birth celebrations



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## FACULTATIVE TRIPS YOU CAN CHOOSE FROM:

There are several historical/cultural and spiritual attractions you can visit in Lumbini, such as:

- Maya Devi temple
- Ashokan pillar
- Myanmar Golden Temple
- World Peace Pagoda
- Dharma swami Maharaja Buddha Vihar
- China temple
- Lumbini Museum



## YOU WILL BE HOSTED AT:

The name of the home stay is Green House homestay at Tilottama 6, Rupandehi nearby Lumbini. Home stay owner will provide food, accommodation and internet facility. You need to share room and bathroom for two volunteers.



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