Orphans In Nepal Gain Practical Skills Training



Photo: Hallu Chaudhary/Program Officer World Education International

Kalchu Chaudhary repairs a bicycle at his new shop in Naukhari, Kanchanpur district

Kalchu Chaudhary was 17-years-old when he and his father were freed from bonded labor in Far Western Nepal. In February 2002, at the age of 18, Kalchu was orphaned when his father was killed by the Security Forces in Nepal. Kalchu could not support himself and did not have adequate food or shelter. In June 2003, he was given the opportunity to participate in bicycle repair training funded by USAID. This program identifies children affected by the conflict and provides them with trauma, health, and educational counseling as well as vocational skills training. Older children, like Kalchu, who have lost a parent in the conflict receive practical skills training and assistance in finding employment. Upon completing his training, USAID provided Kalchu with approximately \$60 to open his own bicycle repair shop in his home district. Kalchu started his business in October 2003, makes a profit of approximately \$2.50 per day, and plans to expand his business in the near future.

