



Aasaman Nepal



✓ Education

✗ Child Labor

# ANNUAL REPORT

[www.aasamannepal.org.np](http://www.aasamannepal.org.np)



## FOREWORD BY THE CHAIRPERSON



It gives me an immense pleasure to share with you all that in the last 23 years, Aasaman Nepal has significantly contributed to achieving a more inclusive and equal society. Aasaman has served children, women, youth, and people in need from marginalized communities in education, child protection, health and nutrition, disaster risk reduction, natural resource management and livelihood, and governance.

Aasaman works on diverse issues that children and vulnerable groups face. From increased accessibility of children with a particular focus on girls, out-of-school children, and disabled children to keeping children away from violence, the organization uses multi-faceted and innovative interventions and approaches to achieve our goals.

We have implemented some of the successful and context-suited programs this year. With programs and campaigns like All children should be in a Full-Time Formal Day School, Nik Sikshya Dia, Nagrik Sakriyata, Reducing Child, Early and Forced Marriage (R-CEFM), Aarambha-Leave No Girls Behind, Economic Recovery and Psychosocial Support to Poor and Vulnerable Communities Affected by COVID 19 Pandemic, Contributing to increased access to quality health services of the most vulnerable population affected by the COVID 19 pandemic in Nepal (Health Security Project), Risk Communications and Community Engagement (RCCE) in Vaccination Centers, and other # programs implemented at the local level, we have been able to serve children and people in need.

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Thanks to the children, parents, teachers, community leaders, volunteers, government (federal, provincial, and local), development partners, and our cherished friends for their immense trust and belief in us. Our work would not have been possible without your incredible support.

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This report celebrates the stories of change and hope. Going through this report, you will find more about our initiatives and events in 2022. I am grateful for the work that we could do to support people affected by the impact of the pandemic and the global crisis. We are committed to our mission, vision, and goals and continue supporting children and people suffering for years. Thanks to the children, parents, teachers, community leaders, volunteers, government (federal, provincial, and local), development partners, and our cherished friends for their immense trust and belief in us. Our work would not have been possible without your incredible support.



## FOREWORD BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



With utmost pleasure, I present the annual report-2022 summarizing the annual journey and efforts of the organization.

The year 2022 was an incredible year for all of us. The impact of the pandemic, war, and climate change (rising cost of living and the effects of climate crisis) have hit the poorest of the poor the hardest. This has increased the inequity faced by vulnerable groups. Besides, it has threatened to reverse the progress toward equality and justice. However, even amidst the challenges, we managed to respond to the needs of the children and marginalized communities.

Despite the complexity and uncertainty we face, I am very hopeful. With strong commitment and passion for the mission, we can initiate and bring change together. The organization has exciting aspirations as it moves into a new era of development (considering the resource crisis in the post-COVID-19 pandemic). With the new strategic plan 2023-2027, we hope to bring context-suited interventions to serve our workplaces' children and people in need. Our goal for the next five years is to facilitate youth-led, evidence-based advocacy, institutionalize knowledge management and use Information Communication and Technology (ICT), ensure media engagement, facilitate linkages, coordination, and collaboration among government and development actors for joint action to create synergistic results. Moreover, increasingly frequent and intense shocks and stresses rooted in the complex problems ranging from climate change to urbanization are threatening the development and growth of

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vulnerable community. Thus, I believe a better world is possible by engaging in targeted capacity-building activities to enhance the resilience of the community for the sake of quick bounce back in the face of shocks and stresses caused by natural, and human made disaster.

I thank the government and our development partners for their long-term trust and continued support. I also thank the passion and efforts of our employees during this challenging time. Lastly, how can I forget those children and vulnerable people on the ground who are positive and hopeful for change? These individuals become a powerful local voice and stand for themselves and others. I dedicate this report to these ambassadors of change and you all!

## ACRONYMS

<b>AIP</b>	Annual Implementation Plan	<b>CRM</b>	Complaint Response Mechanism
<b>AHW</b>	Auxiliary Health Worker	<b>CSANN</b>	Civil Society Alliance for Nutrition Nepal
<b>AGM</b>	Annual General Meeting	<b>CSO</b>	Civil Society Organisation
<b>ALP</b>	Accelerated Learning Program	<b>CSS</b>	Comprehensive School Safety
<b>ANC</b>	Antenatal Care	<b>CWC</b>	Child Welfare Committee
<b>AoW</b>	Awareness on Wheels	<b>CZOP</b>	Children as Zone of Peace
<b>ASN</b>	Aasaman Nepal	<b>DAO</b>	District Administrative Office
<b>BC</b>	Birthing Centre	<b>DDMC</b>	District Disaster Management Committee
<b>BCC</b>	Behavior Change Communication	<b>DRR</b>	Disaster Risk Reduction
<b>BEONC</b>	Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care	<b>DRRM</b>	Disaster Risk Reduction Management
<b>BPP</b>	Birth Preparedness Package	<b>ECD</b>	Early Childhood Development
<b>CASA</b>	Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness Program	<b>ED</b>	Executive Director
<b>CBOs</b>	Community-Based Organizations	<b>EDD</b>	Education Development Directorate
<b>CCA</b>	Climate Change Adaptation	<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>CDCAN</b>	Central Dairy Cooperative Association Nepal	<b>FCDO</b>	Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office
<b>CDC</b>	Community Dialogue Center	<b>FCHV</b>	Female Community Health Volunteer
<b>CE</b>	Community Educator	<b>FI</b>	Food Item
<b>CEDAW</b>	Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women	<b>FWD</b>	Family Welfare Division
<b>CEFM</b>	Child Early Forced Marriages	<b>GBV</b>	Gender-Based Violence
<b>CEHRD</b>	Centre for Education and Human Resource Development	<b>GCP</b>	Ground Crossing Points
<b>CF</b>	Community Facilitator	<b>GEC</b>	Girls Education Challenges
<b>CLC</b>	Community Learning Centre	<b>GESI</b>	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
<b>CRC</b>	Convention on the Rights of the Child	<b>GEDSI</b>	Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion
<b>CRFM</b>	Complaint Response and Feedback Mechanism	<b>GIEN</b>	Girls' and Inclusive Education Network
		<b>GMP</b>	Good Manufacturing Practice
		<b>GoN</b>	Government of Nepal
		<b>HFOMC</b>	Health Facility Operational Management Committee
		<b>HH</b>	Household

<b>HMG</b>	Health Mother Group	<b>LWR</b>	Lutheran World Relief
<b>HMIS</b>	Health Management Information System	<b>MAM</b>	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
<b>ICT</b>	Information Communication and Technology	<b>MCHN</b>	Mother and Child Health and Nutrition
<b>IEC</b>	Information Education and Communication	<b>MDDW</b>	Minimum Nutritional Diversity of women of Reproductive age
<b>IOM</b>	International Organization for Migration	<b>MEHS</b>	Member of Emergency and Humanitarian Setting
<b>IMAM</b>	Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition	<b>MHM</b>	Menstrual Health Management
<b>IPC</b>	Informative Infection Prevention and Control	<b>MNH-CoC</b>	Maternal and Newborn Health Continuum of Care
<b>IPCC</b>	Interpersonal Communication Change	<b>MOOS</b>	Married Out of School
<b>KDDC</b>	Kamdhenu Dairy Development Co-Operative	<b>MoEST</b>	Ministry of Education Science and Technology
<b>KG</b>	Kilogram	<b>MOHP</b>	Ministry of Health and Population
<b>KNH</b>	Kindernothilfe	<b>MPAC</b>	Municipal Public Accounts Committee
<b>LANN</b>	Linking Agriculture and Natural Resource Management towards Nutrition Security	<b>MUAC</b>	Mid-Upper Arm Circumference
<b>LCRC</b>	Local Level Child Rights Committee	<b>M/VEC</b>	Municipal/Village Education Committee
<b>LDMC</b>	Local Disaster Management Committee	<b>NACCFL</b>	Nepal Agriculture Co-Operative Central Federation Limited
<b>LDRC</b>	Local Disaster Response Committees	<b>NCPA</b>	National Child Protection Alliance
<b>LG</b>	Local Government	<b>NDs</b>	Nepal Dairy Pvt Ltd
<b>LGoA</b>	Local Government Operation Act	<b>NERP</b>	Nutrition Education and Rehabilitation Program
<b>LICED</b>	Local Initiative for Community Empowerment & Development Project	<b>NFI</b>	Non-food Item
<b>LNGB</b>	Leave No Girl Behind	<b>NGO</b>	Non-Government Organization
<b>LWF</b>	Lutheran World Federation	<b>NNGS</b>	Nepal National Governance Survey
		<b>NSD</b>	Nik Shikshya Dia
		<b>NuTeC</b>	Nutrition Technical Committee
		<b>OOS</b>	Out of School

<b>ORC</b>	Outreach Clinic	<b>SGBV</b>	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
<b>OTC</b>	Outreach Therapeutic Centre	<b>SHG</b>	Self Help Group
<b>PAN</b>	Permanent Account Number	<b>SIFS</b>	Sustainable Integrated Farming System
<b>PBW</b>	Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women and Girls	<b>SIP</b>	School Improvement Plan
<b>PFA</b>	Psychosocial First Aid	<b>SMC</b>	School Management Committee
<b>PLA</b>	Participatory Learning and Action	<b>SOP</b>	Victim Support Standard Operating Procedure
<b>PM-AMP</b>	Prime Minister Agriculture Modernization Project	<b>SRHR</b>	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
<b>PNC</b>	Postnatal Care	<b>SUN</b>	Scaling up Nutrition
<b>POCAP</b>	Participatory Organizational Capacity Assessment Process	<b>SZOP</b>	School as Zone of Peace
<b>PPP</b>	Participatory Planning Process	<b>TaRL</b>	Teaching at the Right level
<b>PTA</b>	Parents Teacher Association	<b>TLC</b>	Temporary Learning Centre
<b>PSA</b>	Public Service Announcements	<b>ToT</b>	Training of Trainers
<b>PSI</b>	Population Service International	<b>TVET</b>	Technical and Vocational Education Training
<b>PwD</b>	People with Disability	<b>TV</b>	Television
<b>PWG</b>	Pregnant Women Group	<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
<b>QA</b>	Quality Assurance	<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
<b>RCCE</b>	Risk Communications and Community Engagement in Vaccination Centers	<b>USD</b>	United States Dollar
<b>RCCEA</b>	Risk Communication and Community Engagement and Accountability	<b>VAC</b>	Violence against Children
<b>RCEFM</b>	Reducing Child Forced Marriage	<b>VSO</b>	Volunteer Service Overseas
<b>RCS</b>	Red Cross Society	<b>SWC</b>	Social Welfare Council
<b>RM</b>	Rural Municipality	<b>WCRC</b>	Ward-level Child Rights Committee
<b>RTI</b>	Right to Information	<b>WASH</b>	Water, Sanitation & Hygiene
<b>RUMS</b>	Rastriya Mushar Utthan Samaj	<b>WFP</b>	World Food Programme
<b>RUTF</b>	Ready-to-use Therapeutic Food	<b>WHH</b>	Welthungerhilfe
<b>SAM</b>	Severe Acute Malnutrition	<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goal	<b>WRA</b>	Women of Reproductive Age
<b>SFN</b>	Start Fund Nepal	<b>YEP</b>	Youth Employment Project

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The year highlights the remarkable efforts, achievements, and impact of the organization. Aasaman Nepal (ASN) remains committed to its mission of empowering marginalized communities, particularly children, women, and vulnerable groups, by providing access to education, healthcare, livelihood opportunities, and social protection. The annual report reflects the organization's dedication to sustainable development and its response to challenges brought by the ongoing global pandemic. Some of the key achievements of the organization include the following:

ASN continued its commitment to quality education. The organization's initiatives reached thousands of children, ensuring they received a comprehensive and inclusive education. Teacher training programs, increased access to educational resources, non-formal classes conducted at the community level targeting out-of-school children and girls, and school infrastructure improvements were pivotal in advancing the educational landscape. ASN reached out to one hundred local governments in the Madhesh Province through its various programs and the campaign "All Children Should be in a Full-Time Formal Day School".



*The ED then highlighted the need for campaigns at the local level. He then stressed the campaign launched by ASN that prioritizes the participation of adolescents and youth groups.*



The health and nutrition programs conducted by ASN in 2022 made a tangible difference in all its working areas. Through health camps, awareness campaigns, and community engagement, the organization facilitated better healthcare access and knowledge, ultimately contributing to the improved well-being of 31,298 households (HHs). Further, 179 youth health champions were empowered to take control of their own health and make informed decisions. Further, the youth champions have helped raise awareness about the importance of adolescent reproductive health, sexual and reproductive health, and rights, reduce stigma surrounding health issues, and promote access to appropriate resources for all.

The livelihood programs empowered 13,500 SMEs, agribusiness, smallholders, and business groups to increase productivity and access to markets. The programs also helped strengthen the labor market by using modern research-based information technology and creating suitable opportunities to support the preparation of a knowledge- and skill-based labor force targeting unemployed youth, returnee migrants, and women. By promoting sustainable agricultural practices and supporting small businesses, ASN contributed to economic growth and self-reliance.

ASN remained dedicated to promoting gender equality and social inclusion. Programs designed to empower women, girls, and marginalized groups were expanded, fostering social equity and empowering beneficiaries to become agents of change. ASN directly reached out to 9761 women, young mothers, and newlywed girls

through its women's empowerment and other projects and initiatives. The targeted interventions have helped ensure a dignified living standard for women through positive shifts in societal attitudes and behaviors.

Recognizing the region's vulnerability to flood, fire, heat, and cold waves, ASN conducted disaster preparedness and response initiatives. Overall, the organization's efforts ensured that communities were better equipped to handle emergencies and mitigate the impact of disasters. Training sessions, early warning systems, and disaster relief efforts played a pivotal role in minimizing the impact of natural disasters and the health consequences of the pandemic. The DRR initiatives directly benefitted 11,437 individuals in its working areas.

### **The 21st Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

The 21st AGM was held on September 28 and 29, 2022, in the presence of the chief guest, Mr. Rajnandan Mandal, the District Coordination Committee (DCC), Dhanusha, Madhesh Province, board members, general members, and project leads from ASN, along with other various government and non-government organizations. The chief guest and other guests appreciated the efforts of the organization and how ASN has reached out to the poor and marginalized communities (Dalits, Janajatis, Muslims, and women) and channeled their effort into empowering them through education projects, nutrition initiatives, livelihood, disaster risk reduction, and climate change awareness programs.

The Executive Director (ED), Mr. Nawal Kishor Yadav, shared that ASN is present across all the local levels of the Madhesh Province, reaching out to 267 schools, more than 8000 children, more than 2100 members of the school management committee, 82000 mothers, 5627 children under age five, 2625 married women, and more than 2500 local representatives. He further shared that the organization employed 337 full-time staff and 600 volunteers, with local offices in 15 different places. He also shared that ASN has contributed to SDG goals 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, and 11. The ED then highlighted the need for campaigns at the local level. He then stressed the campaign launched by ASN that prioritizes the participation of

adolescents and youth groups. The campaign is that all children should be in a full-time, formal day school. Furthermore, he stated that concerned stakeholders should design, plan, and implement projects and interventions focusing on adolescent girls who, by any means, have dropped out of school or are not attending school and are unaware of the significance of the consequences of remaining uneducated, getting married early, bearing a child at an early age, and taking on the responsibilities of a mother.

The ED also asserted that the advocacy, campaigns, and interventions focusing on girls and adolescent girls becoming victims of socio-cultural practices should be continued. Mr. Yadav stressed that ASN has been able to conduct the executive council meeting regularly, make M&E compulsory in each project, collaborate with local government and representatives in child protection, promote girls and women in various projects such as Big Sisters, Change Agents/Champions, Homework Facilitators, and CLC Facilitators, and aid in the overall development of youths through various programs. Finally, he concluded his speech by pointing out that ASN has been able to establish a niche as an NGO and has been at its best in every eight districts

of the Madhesh Province, along with other provinces in the country.

The existing executive committee was dissolved, and a new committee of nine members was formed by the AGM. As per the provision of oath taking in legislation, the newly formed executive committee formally took oath for their tenure. The AGM acknowledged the contributions of the previous executive committee and members and welcomed the new committee with best wishes for their successful tenure.

Despite the achievements, the organization encountered challenges due to the evolving dynamics of the pandemic. However, the organization's resilience and adaptability allowed it to continue serving people and communities as ever. This annual report reflects a year of dedication, progress, and impact, along with the organization's commitment to its mission. ASN envisions a stronger presence in its working areas with a focus on collaborating with local communities, government bodies, and other stakeholders for sustainable development, improved healthcare access, enhanced educational outcomes, and greater empowerment.



▶ A student sharing her views

# [A] WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

## Aasaman Nepal at a Glance

Aasaman Nepal (ASN) is a national-level, not-for-profit organization established in 1999 AD. It is registered with the District Administration Office (DAO) – R. No: 693/055/056, affiliated with the Social Welfare Council (SWC) Affiliation No: 10365, Inland Revenue Office, Kathmandu – PAN No: 301419332. ASN has strong foundations at the local level with marginalized people and their institutions, including the child rights forum. It has shown its impact on rights holders and authorities in child rights, child protection, quality education, maternal and child health nutrition, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), women empowerment, and livelihood support. Furthermore, to achieve its mission, the organization has been working with the spirit of its values: Trust in People’s Power & Participatory Approach; Reflect on Local Culture & Community; No to All Forms of Discrimination; and Human Rights

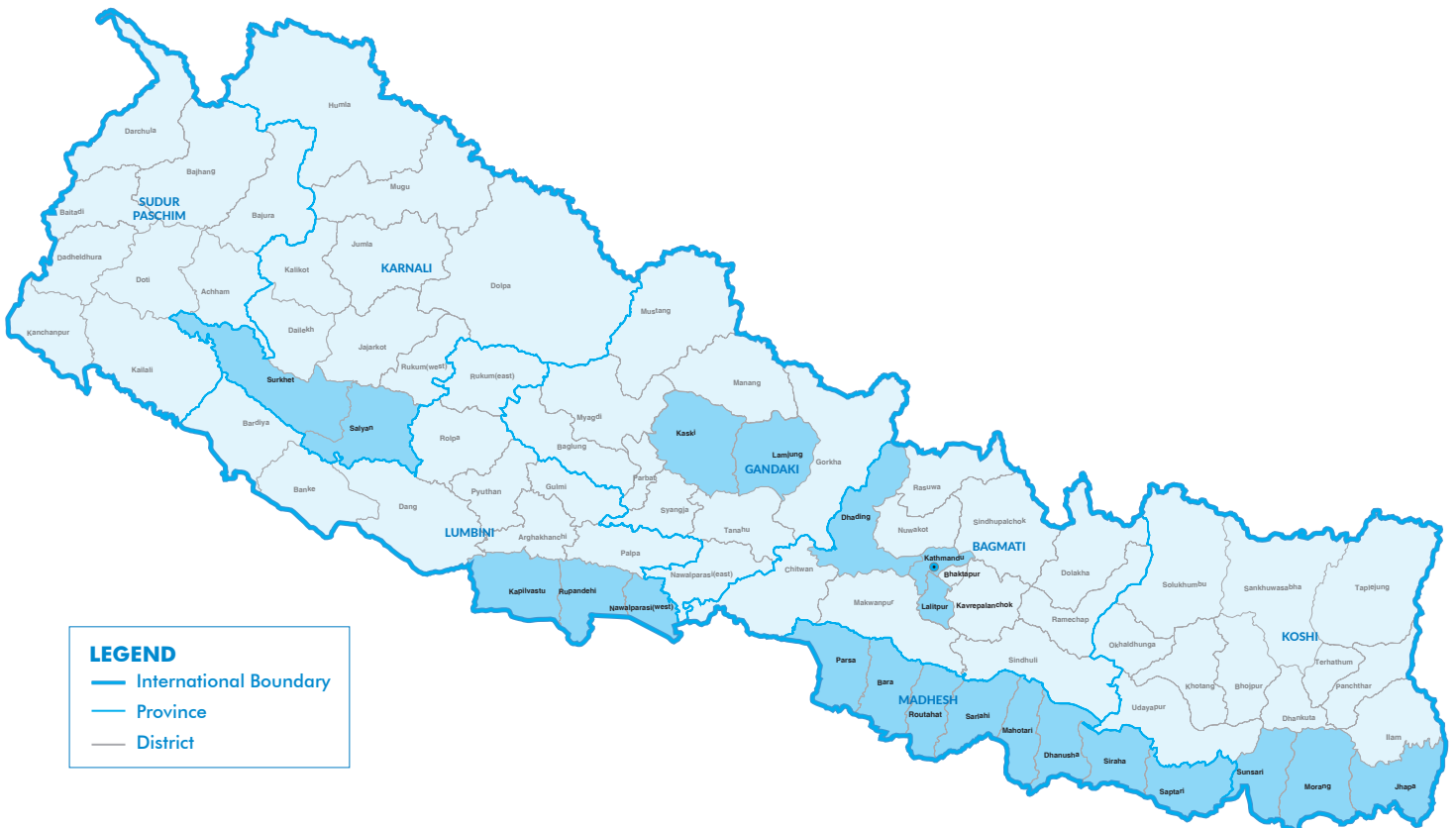
Based Approach to Development. For the last 23 years, ASN has worked for the overall well-being of underprivileged children, girls, youth –Dalits (Mushar), Janajatis, Muslims, women, & community people.

### Thematic Coverage:

ASN has six thematic working areas that include Education and Child Protection; Health and Nutrition; DRR, Emergency Response & Humanitarian Action; Good Governance; Natural Resource Management & Livelihood; and Women Empowerment. The crosscutting areas are Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI), Human Rights, and Climate Change.

### Geographic Coverage:

ASN reached out to 21 districts of six provinces in 2022 with different projects/programs



ASN not only promotes gender equality, disability, and social inclusion across all levels and sectors of its programs but also ensures better GEDSI status in its governing body and staff portfolio. Six of nine ASN executive board members are women, and five represent minority groups. Of them, three members come from Dalit background, One from Janajati, and one from the Muslim community.

Similarly, of 458 full-time staff employed in 2022, 53 % are female, 16% Dalits, 12% Janjati, 2% Muslim, and 1% are disabled. Also, 750+ volunteers are mobilized at the field level to conduct community-level campaigns, activities, and awareness-raising sessions on various themes. The most crucial one is sending children mandatorily to full-time formal day school.

**Organizational policies, procedures, regulations, guidelines, and manuals that supports the smooth execution of everyday organizational activities:**

ASN Statute, Logistic and Procurement Policy; Financial and Administrative Manual; Accounting and Administrative Manual; Internal Control and Financial Operation Manual; Common Cost Policy; Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI) Regulation; Child Protection Policy; Code-of-Conduct and Conflict of Interest Regulation; Sexual Harassment Exploitation and Discrimination Policy; Zero Tolerance Policy; Safeguarding Policy; Human Resource Policy; Policy on Whistleblowing, Fraud, and Corruption; Complaints Response and Feedback Mechanism (CRFM); Victim Support Standard Operating

Procedure (SOP); Emergency/Disaster Risk Reduction Policy; Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan; Aasaman Health & Safety procedure for COVID-19; Aasaman Internship/Trainee Policy; ASN Strategic Plan 2023-2027.

**Membership and Network:**

ASN holds active membership in networks like the NGO Federation of Nepal (NFN), SMC Federation, National Child Protection Alliance (NCPA), Children Zone of Peace (CZOP) National Network, , Girls and Inclusive Education Network (GIEN), National Campaign for Education, Education Watch Group, Destination Unknown Children on the Move (DUCOM) Campaign, Rashtriya Mushar Utthan Samaj (RMUS), Reproductive Health Coordination Committee, Emergency cluster, i.e., Education, Disaster Risk Reduction, Health and Nutrition, Emergency in Humanitarian Setting (with WHH) , and Start Fund Nepal (SFN), Nutrition Technical Committee (NuTeC), Scaling up Nutrition (SUN), Civil Society Alliance for Nutrition Nepal (CSANN), and Civil Society Forum for SDG 8.7.

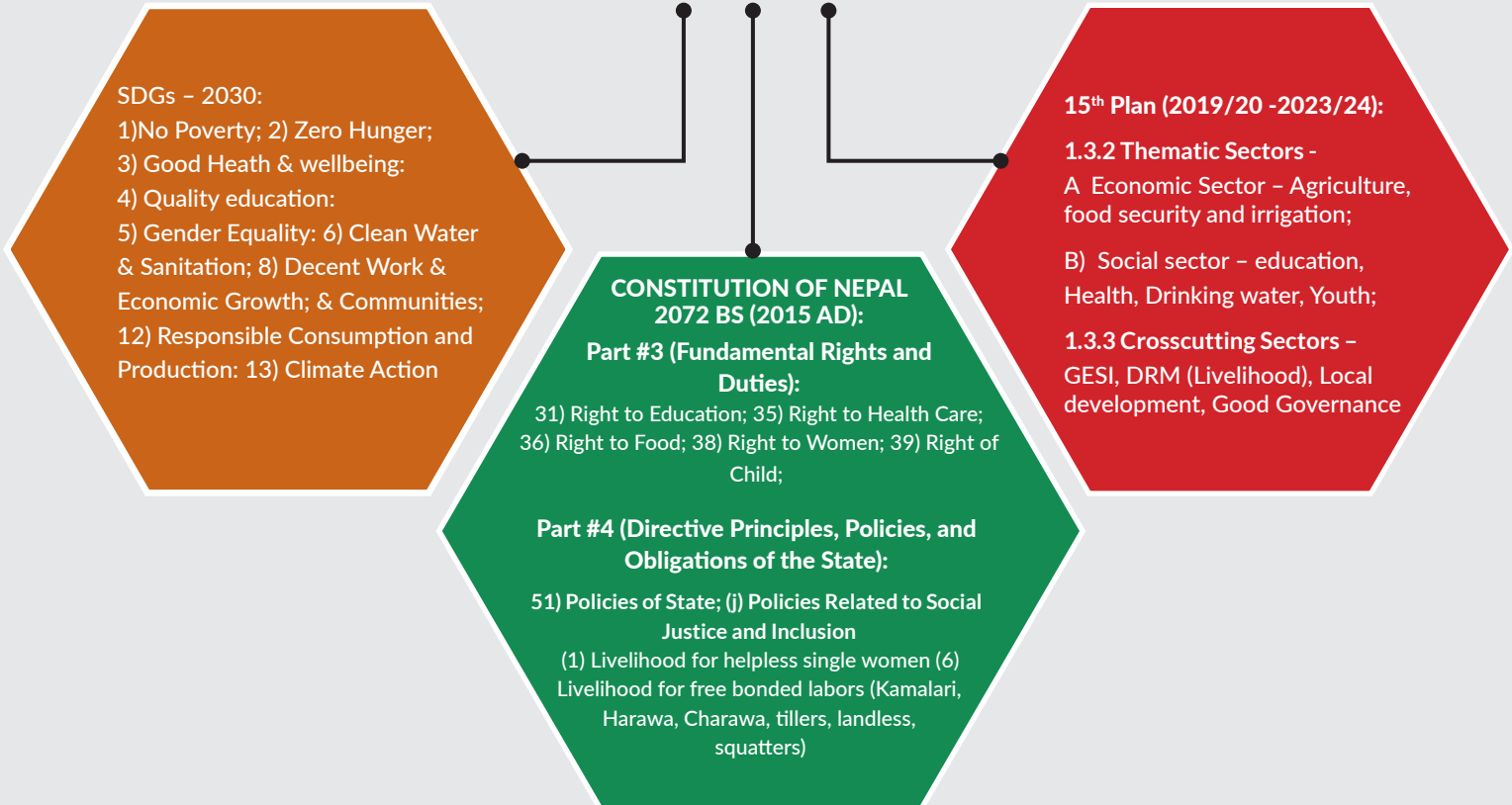
ASN conducts its field-level interventions in close coordination, consultation, and partnership with the local, provincial, and federal government, development partners, community-based organizations (CBOs), civil society organizations (CSOs), like-minded organizations, and other relevant Stakeholders. Through its various projects/programs, campaigns, and field-level interventions, ASN has contributed to the national priorities and goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030.



*ASN not only promotes gender equality, disability, and social inclusion across all levels and sectors of its programs but also ensures better GEDSI status in its governing body and staff portfolio. Six of nine ASN executive board members are women, and five represent minority groups.*



## Contribution to National Priorities and Goals



### Organizational Strengths:

- ▶ Twenty-four years of experience of working for the overall well-being of underprivileged children, girls, and youths – Dalits (Mushar), Janajatis, Muslims, women, & local community throughout the Madhesh province.
- ▶ Promotes strong involvement of local communities with confirmed active commitment, and interest.
- ▶ Good rapport and coordination with government actors, CSOs, & CBOs at the local and provincial levels, thereby building coalitions for change.
- ▶ Operationalization of Community Management Committees (formed locally) as monitoring units, ensuring project effectiveness at ground level and increasing ownership amongst working groups.
- ▶ Inclusive team of dedicated professional staffs holding expertise in their relevant sectors – comprising of female, Dalit, Janajati, Muslim, & Disabled individuals primarily coming from the same community.
- ▶ Extensive experience in prioritizing volunteers' development ensuring they are professionally developed, socially empowered, and are provided with employment opportunities within the organization & beyond.

## Vision, Mission and Goal



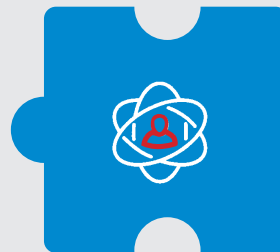
### VISION

ASN envisages a society where all children are grown up in an enabling environment enjoying all of their rights so as to achieve their full potential.



### MISSION

ASN facilitates a process in creating an enabling society that respects, protects, promotes, and fulfills the rights of children where all children equally enjoy all of their basic rights.



### GOAL

ASN empowers marginalized communities and key stakeholders towards creating inclusive, responsible and accountable governance mechanism to ensure rights of all children as enshrined in the legal and policy frameworks are respected, protected, promoted and fulfilled.

### Principles (Non-Negotiable):

ASN strongly believes and advocates the following principles to eradicate child labor & ensure that every child attends Full Day-Full Time-Formal School:

- ▶ All children should be enabled to attend formal day schools full-time. Children's attending night schools or non-formal education centers is defined as child labor.
- ▶ Every out of schoolchild is a child laborer. The definition of child labor therefore encompasses every non-school going child of school age, irrespective of whether the child is engaged in wage or non-wage work, working for the family or for others, employed in hazardous occupations, employed on daily wages, or on a contract basis as bonded labor.
- ▶ All work/labor that a child is engaged with is hazardous as it harms their overall growth and development.

- ▶ There must be total abolition of child labor. Any legal and policy framework that supports continuing child labor is completely unacceptable.
- ▶ Any justification perpetuating the existence of child labor must be condemned. Any arguments intending to justify, for whatever reason, the existence and/or continuation of child labor in any form are all anti-children.

### Core Values:

- ▶ Trust in people's power and participatory approach: ASN believes in the capacity of marginalized communities, including poor and other social categories, to determine their own destiny provided that they are given with the opportunity, encouragement, and tools.
- ▶ Respect for local culture and communities: ASN believes development efforts should be culture-sensitive and gaining the respect and trust



*ASN strongly believes and advocates the following principles to eradicate child labor & ensure that every child attends Full Day-Full Time-Formal School.*



of local communities is a reciprocal process. Hence, ASN encourages and promotes open and empathetic dialogue between its staff and the communities it aims to serve as a means of gaining local trust and respect, and promoting participation and equity.

- ▶ **No to all forms of discrimination:** ASN condemns discrimination and make a conscious effort to eradicate all forms of discrimination based on caste/ ethnicity, gender, economic status, and/or political ideology, among others.
- ▶ **Human Right-based Approach to Development:** ASN see the basic needs of people, for which the state has an obligation, as their fundamental rights and makes a conscious effort to mainstream a human rights-based approach to all its program and projects.

## Our Role as an Organisation

- ▶ **Facilitator/Mobiliser:** ASN does not create structures parallel to existing government structures. The organisation works as a facilitator and organizer. It works closely with the local communities.
- ▶ **Capacity Builder:** ASN builds the capacity of the communities and service providers particularly VDCs, wards, and line agency staff in understanding various issues concerning child labor, good governance, health, GESI, CSS/DRR, and education for all. The stakeholders are thoroughly oriented on the harms of child labor for children, families, and society at large. Capacity building processes lead to the sustainability of activities and programs.
- ▶ **Advocator:** ASN has been and will continue to be a strong advocate of the protection and fulfillment of child rights. Based on its grassroots experience, it advocates the issues not only at the community and district levels but also at the national level. By advocating at the national level it wishes to bring about policy changes in regards to teachers' accountability, enrolment of students throughout the year, reduction in the administrative procedures in enrolment, increase in the number of female teachers in schools, and reduction in the hidden costs.
- ▶ **Promoter:** ASN works as a promoter of good practices, wherever they may happen. It shares and promotes the activities, strategies, processes, or events that it believes should be replicated in other places. It also learns from the experiences of other institutions and adopts them in its context.

## [B] KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND LEARNINGS

### Education and Child Protection

Education and Child Protection is one of the key thematic areas of ASN. Aligned with the organizational goal, and the strategic plan (2018-2022), ASN has prioritized the inclusion of marginalized, socially excluded, and vulnerable children in full-time formal day school. ASN has primarily worked to improve children's access to education, increasing enrollment rates, promoting retention, and reducing the gender gap.

ASN, through its 16 education and child protection projects in 2022, facilitated the following: increased access of children to school, promoted school enrollment and retention, increased learning achievement, Early Childhood Development (ECD), literacy, and numeracy classes with a focus on out-of-school adolescents, mainly focusing on girls coming from marginalized communities, teachers professional development and capacity building of school stakeholders (School Management Committee-SMC, Parent Teacher Association-PTA, and Teachers) on relevant topics (Teaching at the Right level-TaRL, classroom management, lesson plan, ECD management, School Improvement Plan-SIP, Gender Equality, and Social Inclusion- GESI, School WASH, Menstrual Health Management- MHM, school safety, and Violence against Children-VAC, with a high focus on reducing child/early marriage). The organization has also focused on educational governance (context-suited policy re/formulation and implementation, school administration, school management, and social audit).

One of the non-negotiable principles of the organization is that every out-of-school children is a child laborer. To promote the full constitutional rights of children, in terms of education and learning, and its quest to ensure the right to education, ASN, on December 05, 2021, launched the campaign "All children should be in a full-time formal day school". Since then, ASN has consulted with a range of

stakeholders [local government, schools, civil society organizations, community-level support structures (mothers group, youth group, girls' network, religious leaders), head teachers, SMC, PTA, and children) to make a substantial contribution to nation-building by investing in child education. The campaign, in particular, promotes SDGs goal 4 and the citizens' educational rights as enshrined in the Constitution of Nepal 2072 BS Part 3 (Article 31). The contextual scenario of the province is such that socio-cultural and gender-based discrimination prevents girls from attaining and completing their schooling.

Further, discrimination and violence against women and girls persist despite forward-looking national laws and strategies. Consequently, a significant number of girls drop out of school as they are subjected to early and forced marriage. Thus, child marriage has negatively impacted the achievement of girls' education. So, gender equality is still an outlying goal, negatively affecting girls' and women's educational rights. Through its various projects, advocacy, campaigns, and field level interventions in 2022, ASN has directed its effort to ensure inclusive access to quality education for all children, particularly those left behind. It has also facilitated the recovery from the impacts of COVID-19.



*The organization has also focused on educational governance (context-suited policy re/formulation and implementation, school administration, school management, and social audit).*



## Bridge the Learning GAP: Leave No Girl Behind and Empowering Out of School Girls through Education, Development Partner: Captivating International Foundation and Global Development Group

The project supports 278 out-of-school girls in Parsa and 355 in Sarahi districts. These girls from marginalized communities and underprivileged backgrounds had to quit schooling for various reasons. The project provides six months of non-formal classes to bridge the learning gap and life skill sessions to facilitate a smooth transition to school. Educating out-of-school girls ensures equal access to education and fulfills their fundamental right to learn and develop. Girls not of school-going age are provided with entrepreneurship development training. The training enables them to earn a living for themselves.

The project empowers young/adolescent girls who are at the risk of early marriage, married early and out of school for various reasons (socio-cultural barriers, illiteracy, lack of education awareness for girls among parents, and poverty). Through non-formal classes conducted at the community learning centres, technical and vocational training, and life skill sessions, these girls are equipped with the required knowledge, skills, and attitude to live a dignified life- where one is aware of their rights and responsibilities. Gender transformative workshops are also conducted for social and religious leaders, school teachers, and the community, enabling them to work at the forefront as change champions. These change champions promote girls' education and advocate against social malpractices/norms like early marriage and gender-responsive parenting. Under the overarching purpose

of empowering the female population and breaking the cycle of cultural repression, the projects prioritizes the (re)integration of young girls and women into education by promoting the development of basic academic skills and establishing employment skills enhancement sessions. This will encourage enrolment and employment for better livelihoods, thus propelling girls towards socio-economic empowerment.



► Out-of-school girls at the ALP Centre



► Hopeful faces-LNGB Project, Barhathawa, Sarlahi

## Promoting Quality Education for Girls and Marginalized Children of Dhanusha, Terai, Nepal (Nik Siksha Dia), Development Partner: The Royal Norwegian Embassy

With a strong component of community-led interventions, the project mobilized 30 Big Sisters, 300 youth volunteers, 44 Mother's Group, 44 Girls Network, and 92 Child Clubs members in leading the awareness activities and monitoring. The advocacy conducted by the project has brought attention to the need and importance of full-time formal day school. The project also created a favorable environment for girls, disabled, and marginalized children to attend school. The project has invested in building the capacity of Child Clubs, Girls Network, and Mothers Group. Their contribution to the project's success is also vital and applauded by stakeholders. Their constant engagement has contributed to the significant achievement of parents' awareness and engagement in school governance mechanisms such as PTA and Mother's Group and school monitoring.



▶ Marking the houses to identify whether all children are at school or not (green tick mark for houses with all children attending school, red cross mark for houses from which any one children is not attending school)

- ▶ Supporting schools to develop infrastructure and install basic facilities such as classrooms and teaching-learning materials and installing WASH facilities were also helpful in creating a conducive environment.
- ▶ Creating a conducive environment also includes GESI sensitization that resulted in the reduction of anti-discriminatory practices, and the promotion of child-friendly pedagogy in schools through capacity building of teachers.
- ▶ 88.04% of schools were supported by building toilets and installing drinking water pumps that helped retain students in schools.
- ▶ 69% of schools were supported with first aid kits, and 28% of schools have started annual health checkups, which was found to motivate the students.
- ▶ 46.7% of schools to develop child-friendly classrooms, particularly ECD classrooms with proper seating arrangements, wall paintings, provisions of whiteboards, etc. in coordination with ECD facilitators and school administration.
- ▶ 19% of out-of-school children from marginalized communities (including 31% girls, 27% Dalits, and 60% differently abled) identified.
- ▶ 66.5% Dalits and 57.4% differently abled children were supported to get enrolled at ECD and early grades.
- ▶ The project team facilitated to conduct social audits as per MoEST Social Audit Guideline 2071 (first amendment) & 2078 (Samajik Parikhsan Mapdand) in the schools in its working areas.

The project also supported to the local government in strengthening education governance and institutionalizing accountability mechanisms. As a set of process outcomes, the project helped form the Municipal/Village Education Committee M/VEC (Nagar/Gau Sikshya Samiti), prepare the Palika education plan, orient M/VEC on the Palika education plan, and then facilitate them to approve the plan, formulation of School Improvement Plan (SIP), and review & update SIP to prepare Annual Implementation



▶ Team NE interacting with the child club at school in Dhanusha



▶ Norwegian Ambassador to Nepal, H.E Ms. Torun Dramdal sharing her remarks on the NSD project during the provincial level dissemination event

Plan (AIP), and facilitation of social audit. Similarly, the project team supported the implementation of various plans and policies including education policy, child rights, and child protection policy, school management policy (Karyabidhi), teaching-learning in the local language (promotion), and GESI policy. During the pandemic, the project conducted different campaigns/activities to break the 'interruptions to education' and continue learning in its working area.

▶ 950 radio listener groups and television audience groups to help them learn through the radio program 'Pathashala Apana Ghareme' (school at home), and the TV program 'Ghrame Padhab' (Learn at home). However, not all children had access to the internet, network, and resources. Therefore, in close coordination and consultation with the local government, the project team implemented the campaign 'Each One Teach Five'. The youth/volunteer, teachers, Early Childhood Development (ECD) facilitators, field supervisors, and big sisters supervised at least five children



▶ Interacting with child club

residing nearby their locality. The campaign benefitted seven thousand children. The project has supplemented and complemented government programs and policies. It has successfully delivered most of the planned results. Empowering the community, engaging them in educational activities and accountability mechanisms, supporting schools in creating child-friendly and inclusive learning environments, and meaningful engagement with LGs and government entities helped the project achieve those results. However, there is a need for



▶ Girls Network Formation

continuous engagement with local governments to ensure children have access to education as their right. Further, capacity building and mobilization of Big Sisters, Mothers' groups, Girls Networks, Youth volunteers, and volunteer teachers helped the project achieve results efficiently and the value for money.

Despite various educational reforms and improvements such as infrastructures, logistic support, alteration of curricula, and training for teachers and officials, access to education for girls has not improved much in Madhesh province. Access to schooling for girls still hinges on social acceptance and approval. The situation will not improve until society embarks on a new thought process to change the underlying social structure and until leadership strives to replace the negative reinforcement with positive reinforcement. A large



► PGESI focal teacher training

number of the female population remaining illiterate in the province would lead to consequences like child marriage, dowry, disproportionate access to health and education & an increased rate of child labor, fostering various prevailing societal prejudices against women.

## Leave No Girls' Behind (Aarambha), Development Partner: People-in-Need /Girls' Education Challenge-FCDO



► Parents supported girls for their formal education by investing in bicycles through cash grant supported to girls

The project intends to support 8,500 married/unmarried, out-of-school adolescent girls from Rautahat and Bara districts. The project aims to tackle the problems of girls' disadvantaged social position, which is the main obstacle affecting their overall safety, health, and education. For this, the project is enhancing their educational achievements by utilizing formal and informal educational approaches. The project delivers over 250 hours of literacy and numeracy instruction per student, which equates to one grade-equivalent. Besides, the project also empowers the girls on sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), sexual and reproductive health and

menstrual hygiene management. Most importantly, to promote the inclusion and retention of girls at school, the project trains the schoolteachers on GESI, gender-sensitive teaching-learning practices, non-violent class management, and additional needs of married, out-of-school girls. Further, the project has also conducted community-level dialogues, involving the presence and leadership of change champions (religious leaders, mothers groups, youth groups, girls networks) to reduce community barriers and challenge harmful social norms and practices affecting girls



► Married Out of school girls practicing embroidery within the TVET program



► Health Camp for Girls with disabilities

(early marriage, gender-based discrimination, and early school dropout). The project's relentless effort and facilitation has supported to achieve the following:

5304 (2529 from Cohort-III and 2775 from Cohort-IV) out-of-school girls enrolled under community learning centers for eight months of non-formal education classes including literacy, numeracy and life skill sessions. Throughout the continuous education, the learning progress seems quite impressive. The girls have highly enhanced their learning. Out of the 64% of those scoring D in the pre-test, 49% scored A+, and 28% scored A. Multilevel multigrade approach is newly adopted in the project, that increased girls' interest in learning and active participation.

After completing the non-formal education package, girls prepared for their next move to either school enrollment or Technical & Vocational Education Training. 4338 girls were provided with cash grants to support them in executing their life plans.

The project supported 252 girls with disability. To ease their daily life and promote learning, the project conducted health camps in coordination with the district-disabled center, the provincial hospital of working palikas, and guardians/ parents of the OOS girls. Further, the project has also been advocating with the local government for services like disability

identity cards, health services, education services, and employment opportunities for girls with disability.

Around 2600 out-of-school adolescent girls from 135 community-learning centers enrolled in Cohort 4 were provided winterization support during the cold wave. The project supported warm clothes for CLCs and OOS girls to keep them warm and support them to continue learning during the freezing winter. A woolen shawl and a pair of socks were provided to each girl, whereas four blankets were provided to every CLC so that OOS girls could use them to keep themselves warm during the class.



► A girl after receiving the winterization support



*Multilevel multigrade approach is newly adopted in the project, that increased girls' interest in learning and active participation.*



## Girls and Inclusive Education Network (GIEN) Scale-up

The project is working on the extension and strengthening of Girls and Inclusive Education Network in all three government-tier, i.e., Federal, Provincial, and Local levels, for a sustainable impact on girls' education. The project, along with ASN, is working with 50 Palikas of Dhanusha, Mahottari, Siraha, Saptari, and Sunsari districts for the same.

### Key interventions of Girls and Inclusive Education Network component:

The project has initiated the facilitation for forming/reforming the GIEN at different level, which supports communities in their efforts to combat harmful traditional practices like early marriage and facilitating the enrollment of children, especially girls, marginalized children and children with disabilities into education, working closely with local governments and schools. The network sensitizes communities to the barriers that girls face in accessing education. At the municipal level, they collaborate with local representatives, with the Mayor/Deputy Mayor leading the committee and Education section chief holds the position of secretariat member. This collaboration aims to bridge the gap

between the voices of girls, children with disabilities, and marginalized children and the development of policies that address education and protection against gender-based violence. Following the Formation of GIEN, the project will strengthen the network through various Capacity building trainings on School Zone of Peace, Literate local level declaration, child marriage, Climate Change Adaptation (CCA), Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), and Complaint Response Mechanism (CRM), promotion of advocacy campaign for girls education, . The project in collaboration with Center for Education and Human Resource Development (CEHRD) provides technical support for development and endorsement of GIEN formation and mobilization guideline at local government and its publication on municipal gazette (Rajpatra).

As a result of the project's advocacy and community-level dialogue, orientations conducted with local community and religious leaders, 63 temples and mosques in Bara and Rautahat are airing messages on the importance of education, child protection, and why child/early marriage should be prevented, including gender-based



► Temple, Gadhimai Municipality, Rautahat with loudspeakers airing messages to promote girls education



► Mosque, Simraungadh Municipality, Bara with loudspeakers airing messages to promote girls education

violence, domestic violence and social malpractices that hinders girls' education. These messages are broadcasted three times a day. The initiative focuses on raising awareness and changing cultural beliefs among excluded communities, promoting the legal age of marriage and the importance of girls' education. Due to this, the regularity of girls in learning centers has been comparatively improved, and their attendance has increased from 10-20% on average.

“Through our temple, the message about gender-based violence, child marriage, and girls' education is being aired daily in the morning and evening during Aarati time. After listening to the message, I knew that if we marry our daughter before the age of 20 years,

it is child marriage and may harm our daughter. I have also talked about this in my village that marrying our daughter before 20 years is dangerous for their overall health and is against the law. This is good for us as we learn about the negative effects of marrying our daughters early” as shared by the resident of Gadhimai Municipality, Rautahat.

“In my community, miking brought a noticeable change. People in my village are now aware of child marriage and the legal provisions against it. Due to the airing of message from the temple and mosque, the marriage of three adolescent girls was postponed in Boha Tole, and mothers realized that marrying their daughters before they are 20 is not good for their health and life”... Community change champion of Bara, Mr. Seikh Balister.

“

*The initiative focuses on raising awareness and changing cultural beliefs among excluded communities, promoting the legal age of marriage and the importance of girls' education.*

”

## Empowering a New Generation of Adolescent Girls with Education (ENGAGE) Project in Nepal, Development Partner: Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) Nepal



Empowering a New Generation of Adolescent Girls with Education in Nepal (ENGAGE) aimed to improve learning opportunities and outcomes for thousands of highly marginalized out of school girls. The project was implemented in 23 municipalities and 48 schools in Madhesh, Bagmati, Gandaki, and Karnali Provinces.

The project interventions focused on empowerment of out-of-school and marginalized girls, parental support for girls' education, improved attendance in formal and non-formal education, teaching quality, and inclusive education practice in learning facilities.

The project formed and operationalized girls' and inclusive education networks at the municipal level as per the guidelines prepared by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST), Government of Nepal. A learning/sharing session and policy advocacy workshop was conducted at the local level for GIEN endorsement. Likewise, capacity-building training and seminars were conducted for students and GIEN members. The training helped raise awareness of gender-based violence, early marriage, child protection, complaint response mechanism, and violence against women.

“

*A learning/sharing session and policy advocacy workshop was conducted at the local level for GIEN endorsement. Likewise, capacity-building training and seminars were conducted for students and GIEN members.*

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► GIEN members during the workshop

## Knowledge Hub for Uplifting Socio-economically marginalized children and families through actions in Education and Economic Empowerment (KHUSEE), Development Partner: Save the Children

KHUSEE project is implemented in Bara district. The project strengthens inclusive and quality education through sustained good governance and improved economic status of poor and marginalized families. The targeted interventions implemented at the local level helped increase the learning continuity of children from poor and marginalized families. To improve accessibility, quality education, and academic achievement of children, the project has contributed to improving school infrastructures with inclusive Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) facilities, and capacitating parents to create enabling environment at home. Until June 2023, the project supported the construction of two new school blocks with four classrooms and the renovation of 16 other classrooms. Also, five inclusive

toilets with handwashing facilities were constructed. Further, the project has supported increasing attendance of in-school children and strengthening teachers' capacities to implement the accelerated learning and remedial education programs in the Literacy Boost, Numeracy Boost. Most importantly, the project has also been working with schools to revise or develop School Improvement Plan (SIP), and increasing School Management Committees' (SMC) capacity on good school leadership and governance. The project has also coordinated and collaborated with local governments to formulate relevant policies and guidelines to address the educational needs of the children and poverty issues of poor and marginalized families.



► Construction work completed at Achyut Basic School, Mahagadhimai Municipality-02, Bara



► Toilet construction with handwashing facility at the Madarasa, Karaiyamail-04, Bara



► Toilet constructed at Nepal Basic School, Badki Phulbariya, Devtal Municipality-01

## Learn Project, Development Partner: Plan International

The Learn project is implemented in the two local governments (Bideha Municipality and Janaknandini Rural Municipality) of Dhanusha district. The project's goal is 'improved access to inclusive, quality, safe and, relevant education for girls & young women which equips them for the future they desire'. The project has implemented targeted interventions at the local level to ensure that parents are sensitized and supported to practice positive parenting. The project also supports 15 schools to practice inclusive teaching and learning

process. Also, it has helped to equip the schools with inclusive WASH and MHM facilities so that good hygiene behaviors are practiced by reducing shame and stigma around menstruation. Most importantly, the project works to

eliminate gender-based violence by promoting a gender-transformative approach at school and community.



► Low cost no cost material development training



► Educational material support to sponsored children



► STEAM club and makerspace material use training to teacher and students

## Child/Early Marriage and ASN's Initiation

Children have the right to education, regardless of gender, background, or circumstances. However, some families and communities don't see the benefits of girls getting educated. There are several reasons behind this - dowry, poverty, and son preference, among others). In the case of Madhesh Province, socio-cultural biases and traditional mindsets have become the prime reason for girls not being enrolled at school, dropping out from school when they hit puberty, and in most cases, never returning to school. Despite legal provisions and policies to protect children from discrimination, and violence, child early forced marriage (CEFM) has become a significant issue affecting the education and life of children, particularly girls. The legal age of marriage in the country is 20 years, and the country is a signatory of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). However, low levels of awareness about the negative impact of child marriage among parents, caregivers, and religious elders; poor implementation of laws and policies to protect children from child marriage; and insufficient government investments in quality education are the underlying causes of child marriage. CEFM have caused both immediate and long-term damage not only to girls but also to their families, communities, and society.

One of the reasons for the prevalence of child marriage in the Terai region is the dowry system. Parents giving dowry is considered a part of the wedding ritual. The bridegroom demands a dowry price, which is also known as Tilak. A hefty sum of money demanded by the bridegroom's family might not correspond to the economic status of the bride's family. Due to this, marrying daughters is a heavy burden for many families. The Tilak is demanded as per the academic qualification, professional engagement, and social status of the boy's family. The higher the family status and boys' qualification, the higher the Tilak amount. This is why families don't support their daughter's education (in fact, higher education). If the girl herself is well educated, the family needs to find a boy with good education, which means more Tilak. To avoid

paying high Tilak, families prefer marrying off their daughters early.

Child marriage can have numerous adverse effects on the overall well-being of a girl child who is mentally, psychologically, emotionally, or physically unprepared for marital life. Early marriage deprives her of the opportunity to start or continue her education and reduces any possibility of her developing her personality and growing professionally. Once married, she is expected to assume multiple roles - wife, daughter-in-law, housekeeper, caretaker, and mother. Deprived of her childhood and lacking the maturity and skills to handle her personal, family, economic, and social relationships, a young wife develops fears and complexes that last her whole life.

ASN has conducted a range of targeted interventions (community-level campaigns, advocacy programs, community dialogue programs to discuss the consequences, legal provisions for CEFM). Realizing the significance of social behavior change, ASN has conducted door-to-door visits, community dialogue with social, religious, community leaders, and community-level support structures. This has helped influence social networks and, most importantly, help instill a sense of value among local community to support reducing social evils and malpractices like child marriage, child labor, and gender discrimination. Community-level campaigns: Bal Bibah Jinagi Tabah, Beti Padhau Beti Bachau, Bihabari Bish Pari, Kaam chhodau school pathau, Girl Child Insurance, and Health Insurance are a few interventions conducted by the organization. These campaigns have been fruitful in the sense that it had helped rescue child labor, and early marriage, solve the problems of unwanted pregnancy, unsafe abortion, dowry & unequal wages and promote schooling for girls. ASN aims to contribute to the achievement of SDG 5, with a particular emphasis on SDG target 5.3.



**SDG 5: aims to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Target 5.3: aims to eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early, and forced marriage.**

Realizing that to address the drivers of CEFM, different dimensions (education, skill enhancement for girls, child protection system strengthening, social behavior change, and access to health) have to be taken into consideration, ASN has implemented a range of targeted interventions/ programs in the Province. With the support of development partners- The Royal Norwegian Embassy, Save the Children [USAID], People in Need [FCDO-Girls Education Challenge], Voluntary Service Overseas, Street Child of Nepal, Plan International, Captivating International Foundation, Global Development Group, and Kindernotheilfe, the organization implemented projects/program to reduce CEFM and promote education for all children.

## Local Systems Strengthening to Reduce Child, early and Forced Marriage (R-CEFM), Development Partner: Save the Children/USAID Breakthrough Action

The RCEFM project supported in capacity building of local government and provided a platform to collectively work with the community to shift the socio-cultural and gender norms that promote CEFM. The project contributed to the capacity building of newly elected ward, municipal, provincial officials, civil servants, and other community actors to advocate, design, and budget for activities to reduce CEFM. Local Level Child Right Committee (LCRC) and Ward Level Child Rights Committee (WCRC) were formed and trained to educate the local community on child rights and legal provisions for CEFM and analyze root causes to support reducing the CEFM. The project also supported in implementing municipal and provincial-level activities and initiatives to reduce CEFM. The project also implemented non-formal education for adolescent girls and boys at the local level.



► Capacity building of trainers for smooth facilitation of sessions on prevention of CEFM at local level



► During the formation of LCRC and training on Child Protection

## Child Not Bride, Development Partner: Plan International

The Plan International supported project is implemented in five local governments (Bideh Municipality; Janaknandani Rural Municipality; Kamala Municipality; Shahid Nagar Municipality; and Sabaila Municipality.) of the Dhanusha district. The project's overall objective is to reduce the incidence of child, early, and forced marriages in the above-listed five municipalities. For this, the project has implemented interventions to support the retention of girls at school. Besides, the project has also ensured that adolescents, school staff, health station staff, and other local actors receive training on Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR).

Realizing the need and importance of well-aware and supportive parents and guardians, the project conducted awareness-raising sessions on gender equality, child's rights, and CEFM to strengthen youth agency against discriminatory social norms and CEFM, using Champions of Change methodology. Also, intergenerational dialogues are facilitated between

youths and adults. These activities are implemented so communities embrace social norms that value girl children and support them to delay marriage. The project ensures that girls and young mothers receive entrepreneurship and vocational skills to strengthen the economic opportunities for girls and families at high risk of CEFM. Also, local-level business representatives and potential workplaces are supported and trained on including young women. Most importantly, the project ensures that family and community members are directly considered for raising awareness of the importance of supporting young women to pursue decent employment opportunities. Further, capacity-building sessions for civil society organizations (CSOs) aim for increased responsiveness of duty bearers at the local level. The project reached 20895 (Girls 1159, Dalit 17205) beneficiaries from 46 Wards, 41 targeted toles, and 37 schools through its targeted interventions. The Palika members, duty bearers, parents, children, Head Teachers, Teachers, SMC & PTA, and CSOs all benefitted from the project.

- ▶ 63.6% teacher staff, 27.7% students and parents knew the Code of Conduct and Child Protection issue and 9% different cases were reported in the past 12 months.
- ▶ 16 Local level Child Rights Committees (WCRC) have been formed. Along with their capacity building, their action plans have been prepared to reduce CEFM.
- ▶ 60 young women were oriented on life skill, protection, and business skill. After being trained, they have prepared their business plan for income generation. Out of which, 33 women received the business and entrepreneurship development training. Eight trades were selected for assistance: cosmetic shop, grocery shop, ready-made clothes shop, snacks shop, stationary shop, fish production shop, goat farm, and the tailor shop. Whereas the remaining 27 women opted for vocational training. Five trades: Mithila Art, Boutique, Doll and Cushion Making, Computer, and Beauty Parlor were selected for the vocational training. The 60 beneficiaries also received 4-days of life skills training, one day protection training, and 6-days business skills training.
- ▶ 11 schools, and 103 SMC & PTA members oriented on CEFM, MHM, WASH, SRHR, engaging with students' body, promoting safe & inclusive learning school environment. They were also capacitated on conducting lobby with local government for policy implementation and resource allocation.
- ▶ 2215 (957 Dalit) parents received awareness through 103 positive parenting sessions in the targeted 37 school's catchment areas. The session helped raise awareness on the importance of education for girls, the immediate and long-term impact of CEFM, legal provisions, ways to support girl child to access & continue education service, and create a conducive environment for girls at home & in community.
- ▶ 245 traditional leaders/parents and relevant local actors' 908 adolescents from CoC centers received information about SRHR.



► Interaction session held with parents, guardian of out-of-school children, particularly girls and rally for school enrollment of children at school



► Training on SRHR for schoolteachers



► Street drama on the consequences of CEFM



► SRHR and Life skill training for adolescents



► Young women receiving the embroidery training

## Listening to Experts, Development Partner: Kindernothilfe

The 'Listening to Experts' project is a multi-country project funded by Kindernothilfe (KNH) Germany and implemented in Nepal and Pakistan. The project focuses on consultation with working children, lobbying, and advocacy with Nepal's policymakers, duty-bearers, and other stakeholders. The project focused its interventions in Bagmati and Madhesh provinces for lobby and advocacy work and conducted a series of activities with the local and provincial governments.

**Project Objective:** The perspectives and recommendations of working children and young people are taken into account by policymakers, i.e., they are incorporated into policies and programs on child labor in Nepal and Pakistan. To achieve this objective, ASN designs and implements activities related to the capacity building of NGOs on child labor participation. The project also holds consultation meetings with working children to collect their perspectives and recommendations so that the policymaker can bring child labor issues into the dialogue and ensure the participation rights of the child laborers in the policy and programs.

The project organized six capacity-building events, where staffs of 30 NGOs participated and consulted with working children, lobbied with local governments, and initiated advocacy initiatives with other NGO networks and forums. These staff also organized a consultation meeting with working children. A total



▶ Meeting held with the Provincial Government

of 364 children who were/are engaged in child labor participated in the one-day consultation and shared their feelings, perspectives, and recommendations.

The perspectives and recommendations have been documented, and shared/raised the issues of working children with government and non-government stakeholders and policymakers. Further, the project also reached out to different NGO networks, shared child labor issues, and requested to include this in their programs and campaigns. Those networks and forums include the National Child Protection Alliance (NCPA), Children as Zones of Peace (CZOP), Consortium Nepal, and Civil Society Organizations forum on SDG 8.7. The regular coordination, and consultation held with these stakeholders have helped to raise the issues with the community of practices.

The provincial government, Madhesh Province, drafted a Child Participation Procedure in 2078 B.S (2021 A.D.). However, it was not finalized due to political/governmental instability and less priority on formulating child rights and child protection policy. Therefore, the project initiated a lobby meeting with the Provincial Ministry of Women, Children, Youth, and Sports. The project shared the overall situation of child labor along with the overall situation of consulted children. Further, a memorandum has also been handed over to the ministry to formulate the child participation procedure. The procedure is kept as a priority. Later, the Ministry tabled the procedure in the cabinet meeting, presented it in the discussion, and ultimately the cabinet meeting approved and endorsed the procedure on 13 April 2023 with the provision of participation rights of child labor. The project team and ASN thanked the Ministry for their commitment to supporting the procedure's implementation.

**प्रदेश बालसहभागिता सम्बन्धी कार्यविधि, २०७८**

६. बाल सहभागिताका विगिष्टीकृत क्षेत्रहरू : बाल सहभागिता कार्यान्वयन गर्दा बालबालिकासँग प्रत्यक्ष वा अप्रत्यक्ष सरोकार राख्ने विषय तथा क्षेत्रहरूमा बालबालिकाहरूको अनिवार्य रूपमा अर्धपूर्ण सहभागिता गराइनेछ । सभै क्षेत्रका बालबालिकाको अर्धपूर्ण सहभागिताका लागि जसको सवाल उमैको नेतृत्व भन्ने सवाललाई आत्मसात गरी बालश्रम न्यूनीकरणका लागि बालश्रमिकहरूलाई समेत सरोकारवाला मानी आवश्यकता अनुसार सहभागिता गराइनेछ । यस

## Integrated Community Development Project, Development Partner: Good Neighbors International (GNI)

A systemic exclusion of children and their families seems paramount in terms of education, health, nutrition, and income generation opportunities specifically in socially excluded and marginalized groups in Mukhiyapatti Musharniya Rural Municipality and Mithilabihari Municipality in Dhanusha. The widespread socio-economic, gender exclusion of children and their families have resulted in limited access to educational, social & economic opportunities. Consequently, a large number of children are unable to exercise their fundamental rights and their families unable to support them due to poverty, lack of access to information, services, and entitlements. Realizing this, the project adopts a comprehensive approach and focuses on enabling children as the next generation change agent and their families, communities as the owners of the development process.

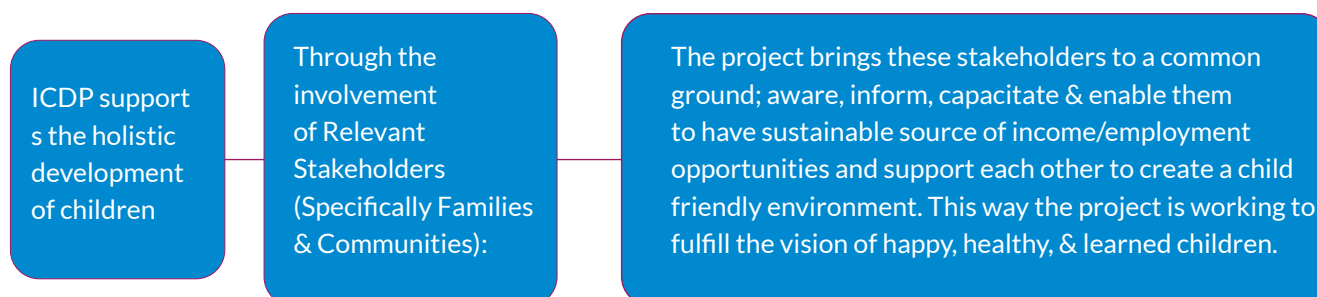
ASN has been implementing the Integrated Community Development Program (ICDP) in the Dhanusha district since April 1, 2022. The project is implemented in Mithila Bihari Municipality and Mukhiyapatti Musharniya Rural Municipality of Dhanusha district. It operates across four thematic areas: Education, Public Health, Sponsorship Service, and Child Protection. The program supports 1100 (Female: 572) sponsored children, and 86 disabled children. Children who are sponsored students from 25 different schools. The project is also working with 16 health posts. The project in total will benefit 4593 individuals (Female: 1857, Dalit: 217, and Janajati: 95).



*The ICDP project is implemented in Mithila Bihari Municipality and Mukhiyapatti Musharniya Rural Municipality of Dhanusha district. It operates across four thematic areas: Education, Public Health, Sponsorship Service, and Child Protection.*



The targeted interventions of the project has helped and will help explore, discuss and bring changes at system and community level ensuring the holistic development of children through strengthened child protection system at the local level. Not only this, the project will expand opportunities of/for quality education, and improved family income, and overall health status of children, families, and communities. The project works with a range of stakeholders (representatives of Local Government, parents/caregivers and families, teachers, ECED facilitators, SMC/PTA and members of school committees, child club, adolescent groups, child protection committee members, health workers, FCHVs, health mother groups, health facility management committee members, local health institutions, cooperatives, self-help groups, support groups, entrepreneurs) to support the holistic development of children.





► During home visit to one of the households



► A sponsored child with the letter, and gift



► Parental Education



► During a meeting of the Community Development Committee



► General Health Checkup of students



► Orientation on Menstrual Health Management



► Orientation of Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs)



► Local community during the training on Climate Smart Agriculture



► Session on the preparation and usage of Jholmal

## Health and Nutrition

Children's health and nutrition status varies across geographic regions in the country. The notion that a healthy mother can contribute better to their child's health is what the organization believes in. ASN is very much aware that child nutrition is one of the important components to attaining the vision of happy and healthy children. This is because well-nourished and healthy children can concentrate better and achieve their educational goals. Therefore, health and nutrition is one of the major thematic areas of ASN with a particular focus on mother, newborn, child health and nutrition, nutrition education, family planning, sexual and reproductive health (adolescent and women), humanitarian responses, health education programs, blanket supplementary feeding programs, and community-based management of acute malnutrition. Further, community mobilization, innovation for multisectoral integration, deep penetration in governance and service delivery mechanisms, and at the same time, concentrated community presence is the strength of ASN and its health interventions.

Likewise, the organization's contribution to the skill development of FCHVs, HFOMC, ANM, SBA and peer educators, including the health facility in-charge, is a great achievement.

Furthermore, the capacity to adapt to changing contexts and dynamics within the socio-cultural-political scenario has enabled us to be at the forefront of continued service to the community, even in the most adverse situations. This capacity of ASN is evident in our ability to meet the targets of its current projects. It has successfully worked with communities to leverage substantial government resources for local-level awareness through community health volunteers. So, ASN, in support of the development partners like VSO Nepal, British Council, Welthungerhilfe, World Food Program, Save the Children, Lutheran World Federation, PSI Nepal, and Care Nepal, is actively working to improve the overall health and nutrition aspect of mothers, and children.



► Cooking demonstration training to FCHVs

## Advocacy and Strengthening resilience through LANN+: Linking Agriculture and Natural Resource Management towards Nutrition Security Project, Development Partner: Welthungerhilfe (WHH)



ASN is currently working with 7850 HHs in three local governments of Salyan district to obtain sustainable food and nutrition security in the climate-changing context. The intervention prioritizes socio-economically vulnerable and impoverished households (women, particularly those of reproductive age, families with malnourished children, landless people, Dalits, and ethnic minorities) under the worldwide COVID-19 epidemic situation. The project is directly linked with the MSNP-II of the government. So, the project contributes for the welfare of the local community in the sectors of health and nutrition, WASH, women empowerment, education, governance, and agriculture and stock.

About 80% of the small farming households practice subsistence farming. They face high crop losses, use improper tillage, suffer erosion, and depend on monocultures. Integrated farming systems and year-round production of garden/vegetable crops are not practiced. Due to seasonal production, people consume a micronutrient-poor and unbalanced diet,

especially in winter. Almost 90 % of the agricultural land in the targeted area is rain-fed and not irrigated. The households in the region produce vegetables only in the rainy season. Communities were not aware of the use of nutritional food practices. Likewise, improper hygiene practices caused children under five and reproductive-age women, mainly from marginalized communities, to become malnourished.

ASN, through the Linking Agriculture and Natural Resource Management towards Nutrition Security (LANN+) program, has supported the overall improvement of the nutritional and economic status of the households through proper farming system (capacity building of farmers on Sustainable Integrated Farming System-SIFS), food intake, and better hygienic condition.

Conducting PLA (Participatory Learning and Action) sessions at the community level to provide knowledge on nutrition and food security, SIFS, natural resource management, Water Sanitation, and Hygiene, Gender



Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI), and change in behavior. Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs) and lead farmers conduct PLA sessions for the LANN+ and SIFS groups. 360 Participatory Learning and Action (PLA) sessions (monthly basis) are conducted, benefitting 5400 individuals.

5470 households of the SIFS and LANN+ group received vegetable seeds (Carrot, Mustard leaf, Broccoli, Coriander, Onion, Peas, Coriander, and Cauliflower, along with the seedlings of the Asparagus). Farmers harvest vegetables from the seeds and are happy to save money and improve the family's nutritional status. Farmers have also preserved vegetable seeds for future production. Apart from this, 18 irrigation systems (nine irrigation canals and nine ponds) were constructed, benefitting 489 households with 107.82 hectares of land.

439 acutely malnourished children were identified during anthropometric measurement of children aged 6-59 months in Kumakh, Siddhakumakh, and Darma Rural Municipality. Out of 439 children's families, 154 were involved in SIFS, LANN+ group, and the remaining 285 malnourished children family received vegetable seeds on October 2022. The feasibility study, focus group discussions, stakeholders' consultations, and household surveys conducted

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*Integrated farming systems and year-round production of garden/vegetable crops are not practiced. Due to seasonal production, people consume a micronutrient-poor and unbalanced diet, especially in winter.*

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in Salyan district revealed an alarming nutritional situation, such that the minimum nutritional diversity (MDDW) of women of reproductive age being 30% below the national average. Further, the nutritional status of 9504 children (6-59 months) was screened in 18 wards of three rural municipalities (Darma, Kumakh, and Siddhikumakh) in Salyan. Of these, 8914 were normal, 552 were Moderately Acute Malnourished (MAM), and 38 were Severely Acute Malnourished (SAM). The MAM children were referred to the NERP camp, and the SAM children to the OTC center. Fifteen days of NERP camp were conducted in 46 locations of the three districts. Likewise, the trained Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs) counseled mothers of MAM children on using locally available nutritional food, preparing nutritious food for children, and sanitation and hygiene.



## Building Livelihood Resilience and Nutrition Security in the Kamala River Basin (Digo Poshan Project), Development Partner: Welthungerhilfe (WHH)



and nutrition, WASH, women empowerment, education, governance, and agriculture and stock.

The project has contributed to establishing hand wash sanitation and forming a disaster management committee in 35 health facilities of 45 Wards in Madhesh province, along with the construction and management of flood-protection facilities/measures. The project also helped develop Ward Profiles (of 45 Wards) and three food and

Through the project - Building Livelihood Resilience and Nutrition Security in the Kamala River Basin, Siraha District, Nepal, ASN has supported to improve food and nutrition security and enhanced climate resilience of three targeted municipalities (34896 households) in the catchment area of Kamala River, Siraha District in Nepal. 3500 children under the age of five and their mothers/guardians were selected for the nutrition camps with care, nursing, and nutrition advice (Selection criteria is the screening of children identified as MAM = moderately acute malnourished: "weight for height"). Likewise, 3000 smallholder households were selected for the promotion of sustainable integrated farming systems (SIFS) and linking agriculture, natural resource management, nutrition, and WASH (LANN+). Also, 500 landless households with low economic status and belonging to the most marginalized communities (Dalit/ Muslims) were selected for income generation activities and LANN+. The selected families either had a malnourished child and/or a nutrition-vulnerable person and were economically poor.

nutrition master plans in each of the three Palikas of Siraha district to ensure nutrition security. The project has also supported the capacity building of the Local Disaster Response Committees (LDRC) and Emergency Response Units at the community level. Further, the project helped equip local authorities with emergency rescue materials by establishing an emergency fund. Besides, the project has also supported the LDRC in institutionalizing the information management system. Most importantly, the project has helped create nutrition gardens for families with moderately malnourished children and conducted nutrition camps (NERPs) for moderately malnourished children (MAM) under five years of age.

The project initiatives are aligned with the MSNP-II of the government. So, the project contributes for the welfare of the local community in the sectors of health

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*The initiative focuses on raising awareness and changing cultural beliefs among excluded communities, promoting the legal age of marriage and the importance of girls' education.*

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## Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) Activities for COVID19 mitigation and vaccine uptake, Development Partner: Save the Children



► Mrs. Gita Devi after receiving the vaccine, Bideha-07, Dhanusha

ASN conducted field-level interventions targeting those marginalized people in the Madhesh province who could not take the COVID-19 vaccine for various reasons. The key objective of the RCCE project was to design evidence-based, audience-specific, and contextually relevant community engagement actions to strengthen COVID-19 vaccine uptake amongst children 5 to under 12 years and promote booster dose uptake in Bideha Municipality of Dhanusha district. The community-level engagement and capacity building of stakeholders supported in promoting COVID-19 vaccines (child and youth club and local government) to design, develop, and monitor strategic RCCE efforts. This helped increase vaccination uptake to 99% (from 77.80%) among those receiving the first dose and 89% (from 58%) among those receiving the second dose, and 14% receiving the additional dose as per need by the end of December 2022

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The key objective of the RCCE project was to design evidence-based, audience-specific, and contextually relevant community engagement actions to strengthen COVID-19 vaccine uptake amongst children 5 to under 12 years and promote booster dose uptake in Bideha Municipality of Dhanusha district.

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► Person with disability after receiving the vaccine

## Effective Case Management by Strengthening Isolation Centers and Ground Crossing Points (GCPs) Management for Rapid Response and Preparedness against COVID-19, Development Partner: Save the Children/International Organization for Migration (IOM) Nepal

Realizing the fact that the country shares a long and open border with India, granting citizens of both countries free cross-border movement and that there are numerous Ground-Crossing Points (GCPs) to stop spreading the COVID-19 virus, ASN implemented the project for screening migrants crossing the border and promoted safe, orderly and dignified migration. Following the second wave in the country, several gaps at the GCPs were identified and raised, including low testing capacity, insufficient screening, recording, and reporting of migrant movement and COVID-19-positive cases, lacking protection referral services, and access to isolation centers for identified positive cases. The project targeted six GCPs and six isolation centers in each GCP to support the local and provincial governments of the targeted locations in addressing the identified gaps and concerns and strengthening the overall management at entry points. Health-based facilities at isolation centers and GCPs were strengthened. For this, the project provided safety gear and medical equipment, semi-permanent health desks to support health screening and testing to meet the anticipated high influx of return migrants, and support the provincial governments in developing contingency plans for public health emergencies. The workforce and personnel were trained on using safety gear and medical equipment provided through this project.

The project also supported technical equipment, including tablets, computers, and solar panels at

targeted isolation centers and GCPs to strengthen reporting and recording mechanisms for COVID-19 screening and referrals and logistical management. Further, WASH facilities at isolation centers and GCPs were improved. The project installed permanent water supply facilities by drilling a tubewell at Birgunj GCP. While at Kakarbhitta GCP, the existing water facility was maintained. The water quality was also ensured via water quality laboratory testing. Also, Soap dispensers, soap refills, and sanitizer dispensers were provided to each Isolation Centers and GCPs.

Further, multi-colored dustbins and biohazard bags were kept for proper waste segregation and disposal, disinfectants, and cleaning equipment. Besides, Risk Communication and Community Engagement and Accountability (RCCEA) has been successfully coordinated with Local Transport Authorities, Health Desk and local stakeholders. This was done through the development and distribution of informative infection prevention and control (IPC) posters, Safer Migration messages, with information on hand washing instructions like regular hand sanitization, flushing the toilet after use, maintaining physical distancing, and ramification approach to track public rumors and raise awareness accordingly. Protection mechanisms at six isolation centers and six GCPs were also strengthened. Separate breastfeeding corners for lactating mothers and their children were successfully established.



*The project targeted six GCPs and six isolation centers in each GCP to support the local and provincial governments of the targeted locations in addressing the identified gaps and concerns and strengthening the overall management at entry points.*



## Maternal and New Born Health Continuum of Care (MNH-CoC), Development Partner: Population Services International (PSI)

The project addresses prioritized demand and supply-side barriers to increase the utilization of MNH services across the continuum of care, by improving linkages and reducing dropouts, ultimately leading to better MNH outcomes. The project through its targeted interventions is benefitting the Women of Reproductive Age (15-49yrs) (WRA), mothers and newborn children (28 days) within the 14 municipalities of the following three districts of the Madhesh Province.

MNH-CoC [Project Demographics]		
SN	Districts	Municipalities *RM: Rural Municipalities; M: Municipalities
1	Mahottari	Loharpatti M, Balawa M, Ram Gopalpur M, Samsi RM, Sonama RM, Aurahi M
2	Dhanusha	Mithila Bihari M, Laxminiya RM, Sabaila M, Shahidnagar RM, Kamala M, and Hansapur M
3	Sarlahi	Haripurwa M, Parsa RM



► Session for pregnant women

The key strategies with which the project work are: i) demand generation, ii) health facility strengthening, and iii) linkages, referral, and follow-up. The project works at the local level for improved utilization of MNH services across the continuum of care. That means, the project conducts educational sessions for youths and adolescents. Further, it ensures that women conduct ANC, and PNC visits (before, during, and after pregnancy) as per the protocol; and that delivery is done in a health facility.

A total of 806 Pregnant Women Group (PWG) Meetings were conducted, and 4318 pregnant women were enrolled in PWG meetings covering every ward of 14-targeted local levels. In the PWG meetings, various monthly sessions were held covering topics like ANC and PNC visits (Importance, components, and frequency), Danger signs during pregnancy, delivery,

and postpartum period, Importance of being prepared to avoid complications during delivery, including the importance of Continuum of Care (Antenatal care, institutional delivery & postnatal care) and government MNH initiatives, etc.

A total of 245 community interaction events targeted mothers-in-laws, family members and other key community people who will directly influence pregnant women's decision to seek MNH services like ANC, institutional delivery and PNC services.

A total of 73 community interaction events were conducted targeting husbands of pregnant women to increase male engagement in decision-making related to MNH services like ANC, institutional delivery, and PNC services.



► Discussion with FCHVs ON PWG formation

Thirteen advocacy meetings targeting the community's influencer were conducted to fulfill the gaps in MNH services demand and supply at the ward level.

High school events were held in 21 schools targeting young girls and boys to prepare them with the required information on the risk of early pregnancy and MNH information.

For the government's FCHVs, 42 batches of refresher training were conducted on Interpersonal Communication Change (IPCC) and Birth Preparedness Package (BPP) by mobilizing SDO and municipal health technical persons. The training benefited 681 FCHVs for strengthening MNH services.

One batch of 3 days of MNH update training was provided to all service providers including Health



► Pregnant Women Group (PWG) Meeting

Assistants and Auxiliary Health Workers from BC/BEONC sites. Likewise, ten batches of refresher training on ANC and PNC counseling were conducted for 103 health workers from non-BC health facilities.

The project supported to conduct 73 HFOMC meetings to advocate for implementing the Aama program and action plan developed from health facility assessment for improving quality service delivery.

Project Advisory Committee meetings at THE municipality level (MPAC) were conducted at 14 targeted Local levels. The MPAC discussed baseline survey findings, project implementation rationale, and working modality. The local government representatives have appreciated the project's effort. They have also assured that the municipality will prioritize MNH during the annual planning process.



► Disseminating information on MNH with youths

## Mother and Child Health and Nutrition (MCHN) Program, Development Partner: World Food Program

The MCHN program aims to improve children's health and nutritional status (6-23 months of age) and pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls (PBW) in Saptari and Siraha districts. The project covers all 18 local levels of Saptari and 17 of Siraha district.

The project supports government-led interventions for preventing, early detection, and treating malnutrition during the critical first 1,000 days of life, termed as Golden Thousand Days. It includes direct technical assistance at national, provincial, and local levels, improving health facility infrastructure, enhancing optimal nutrition behavior, promoting consumption of locally available foods, and facilitating multi-sectoral linkages for integrated nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive solutions. The result will be a strong government-led locally delivered program that will ensure that children and PLW receive the nutrition they need early in life to meet their potential.

The project, through its targeted interventions intends to achieve the following objectives:

- i. Strengthen the Federal, Provincial and Local Governments' capacity to implement integrated health and nutrition programs through improved: infrastructure; monitoring and surveillance systems; and emergency preparedness,
- ii. Increase access and utilization of prevention and treatment services at primary health care facilities, for PLW and children 6 to 23 months of age,
- iii. Improve the knowledge and behavior of mothers and care takers of best maternal, infant, and young child feeding practices; foster nurturing behaviors through SBCC, and
- iv. Build linkages with the agriculture sector to strengthen access to locally available adequate and diverse diets among poor, food insecure, and vulnerable households.
- v. The project assessed 297 health facilities in Saptari and Siraha districts to support the infrastructure development. Need assessment reflected the overall status of available services in the health facilities.



► Demonstration-MUAC

The assessment finding provided information on training, availability of nutrition-related equipment & commodities, availability of WASH facilities, registers, IEC materials, and water-related facilities. As per the findings, the project supported the renovation and installation of hand pumps, taps with basins for hand washing, septic tanks with cement concrete rings, water tanks (1000 Ltrs), connection pipes (hand pump to water tank), toilet door (metal), motor, chamber pipes and fittings, tube well, and platform renovation.

- vi. To support the local level for the establishment of nutrition-friendly health facilities, the project provided the health facilities with anthropometric equipment (height board, weight board-SECA Scale, MUAC tapes), digital thermometer (90 pcs), sphygmomanometer (BP Set-45 pcs), stethoscope (45 pcs), GMP card (45 pcs), and nutrition register (45 pcs).



► Cooking demonstration to the FCHVs

vii. The project also facilitated the government monitoring and supervision of nutrition programs. Mr. Duniya Lal Yadav (Chief Health Officer, Saptari), Mr. Vijay Kumar Jha (Director, Ph.D., Madhesh Province), Mr. Krishna Deo Yadav (Chief, Health Office, Siraha) conducted the monitoring visits along with project team and shared their observations. Also, regular visits of HFs and OTCs were done for follow-up of supply-side stock out of nutrition commodities. The project conducted 365 visits to different health facilities and OTCs.

viii. To ensure a regular supply of nutrition commodities at health facilities, routine visits of HFs and OTCs were done. After observing and verifying the status of nutrition-related commodities, necessary coordination was done to supply nutrition commodities. The supply of RUTF was done from Health Office, Rajbiraj, to the Fattepur Health Post (Saptakoshi Municipality, Saptari). The RUTF was delivered to respective palikas and health facilities from the health office. Super Cereal Plus was transferred to the needed sites during urgent conditions of MAM cases in Siraha district.

ix. The piloting program for MAM Management was launched in Siraha District by the Government of Nepal (GoN)/Family Welfare Division (FWD). The project provided training on IMAM guidelines to Health workers, benefitting 66 participants (Health Coordinators, Health Workers, and Nutrition Focal persons). Participants were excited about the piloting MAM Management program at Siraha district. They committed to attend future trainings

and support in the program implementation. A total of 423 Health Workers from Siraha were benefitted from the orientation.

x. The Chief of Health Office-Siraha, Mr. Krishna Deo Yadav, stated, "The success of this piloting program is associated with the prestige of the district. Hence all the health workers, including FCHVs and local governments, should take ownership of the program and succeed as a team." He also added that the government would supply super cereal and to Siraha district to treat MAM children through the selected OTCs.



► Lady after receiving the seed

xi. One of the project's effective efforts was facilitating the regular Health Mother Groups (HMGs) meetings by providing technical support to the FCHVs, which led to regular HMGs meetings. More than 539 HMGs meetings (249 in Saptari, and 290 in Siraha) were conducted, covering both old and new HMGs. The meeting primarily discussed access and utilization of locally available nutritious foods for improving the nutritional status of children and PBW and changes in their behaviors and practices to promote better nutrition. The meeting also shared critical ANC, INC, and PNC messages. The orientation followed the review meetings with the FCHVs and regular coordination with the Health Office and the Palika Health Sections for collaboration and technical support for implementing nutrition-related Red Book activities like CNSI training, IFA, and Nutrition Review. The project supported the red book activities like the celebration of the Vitamin A Campaign, Nutrition Review, CNSI training support, IFA stock chain review, and utilization of budget in Redbook for growth monitoring. Support was provided in terms of planning, recording, and reporting.



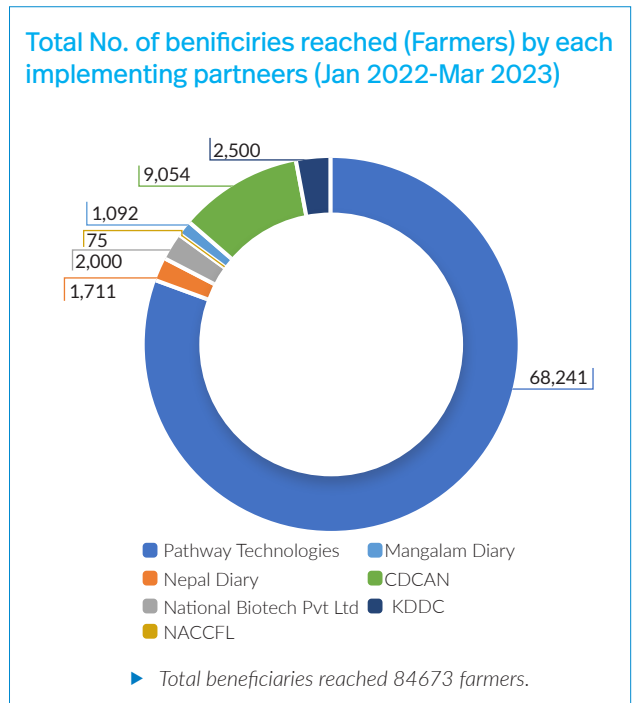
► Project beneficiary with MAM children receiving support

## NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND LIVELIHOOD

The long-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on people’s livelihoods and the economy are still being felt. The pandemic has disrupted people’s livelihoods, particularly affecting marginalized, socially excluded, and vulnerable. So, it will require sustained efforts for recovery and resilience building. ASN has helped to enhance community resilience through economic development and psychological support to most vulnerable, poor and marginalized people affected by COVID-19 in Madhesh Province. To support the vulnerable and socio-economically weak population, the organization, in support of development partners -Swiss Contact and the Lutheran World Federation, conducted a range of economic recovery projects for unemployed youths and adults, returnee migrants, single women, and marginalized people who lost their source of income.

### Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness Programme (CASA), Development Partner: Swiss Contact

To involve smallholder farmers in sustainable businesses in agricultural value chains, thereby improving their living conditions and economic situation through agricultural extension services, production, planning methods, and a collective marketing framework, ASN implemented the “Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness (CASA) program. The project has several partners including Swiss Contact, Nepal Agriculture Co-Operative Central Federation Limited (NACCFL), Kamdhenu Dairy Development Co-Operative (KDDC), Central Dairy Cooperative Association Nepal (CDCAN), Mangalam Dairy & Food Industry Private Limited, Nepal Dairy Pvt Ltd (NDs), Pathway Technologies Pvt Ltd, Veg B (MOLMAC), KHETI, National Bio-tech Pvt Ltd in Terathum, Sunsari, Sarlahi, Bara, Nawalparasi, Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Dhanusha, Rupandehi and Banke districts of Nepal. Key intervention areas of CASA are as follows:



*The pandemic has disrupted people’s livelihoods, particularly affecting marginalized, socially excluded, and vulnerable.*



- Demonstrating the commercial viability of small and medium-sized agribusinesses with significant smallholder supply chains and attracting more investment into these businesses.
- Enabling poor smallholder farmers to trade and increasing their access to commercial markets.
- Researching and communicating the case for successful engagement with smallholder-linked agribusiness.

- Supporting agribusiness SMEs to prepare for and secure investment.
- Bringing more smallholders, particularly poorer ones, into commercial markets.
- Working with larger agribusinesses to deepen their smallholder supply chains.
- Encouraging constructive engagement with local communities.
- Undertaking evidence generation and learning activities.
- Influencing the approaches of investors, donors, and governments in smallholder agriculture.

The project has achieved significant success by implementing strict sanitation protocols to prevent raw milk contamination, utilizing food-grade utensils for milk transportation, and ensuring proper disposal of milking animals' waste and milk from mastitis-affected animals. Effective shed and feed management practices were adopted, reducing milk loss and increasing vegetable production. Regular milk testing for harmful bacteria and strict temperature control during storage and transportation ensured safe consumption. The project also focused on preventing cross-contamination between different types of milk and vegetables through proper equipment and facilities. Regular inspections ensured adherence to Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) guidelines, improving milk quality, safety, and farm management.



► Project beneficiary happy with the milk production

### **Strengthening to Employment Ecosystem Project (Step Up), Swiss Contact, Project supported by /LICEDLWF**



Step Up aims to increase the income of the target groups (unemployed youth, returnee migrants, and those who have lost jobs due to COVID-19), focusing on women through productive and sustained employment, contributing to poverty reduction and resilient livelihoods. The project strives to contribute to the economic development of the target groups and areas by improving the employment ecosystem, specifically employment and entrepreneurship opportunities, and services. It is implemented in Duhabi Municipality, Itahari Municipality of Sunsari District, and Biratnagar Metropolitan City of Morang District. The project will provide access to 4,590 unemployed youth in



► Employment and Entrepreneurship Fair

the labor market information and insertion services, of which 1,230 youths will be engaged in productive and sustainable employment or entrepreneurship from both the public and private sectors.

One event of the 'Employment & Entrepreneurship' fair was organized in coordination with the Duhabi municipality to provide job and employment opportunities for those searching for jobs in Duhabi Municipality and its surrounding corridor. The fair featured 54 stalls, with 13 representing enterprising ventures and 12 dedicated to women entrepreneurs. The fair witnessed an impressive turnout, attracting around 7000 visitors, of which 1800 registered using the KOBO app, 1200 came with the sole purpose of attending the fair, approximately 700-800 registered

for skill training, and 300-400 applied for available job opportunities. Overall, the fair was a valuable platform that facilitated growth and opportunities for the region's job seekers and aspiring entrepreneurs.

With the valuable support of our development partner, the Lutheran World Federation, ASN has been able to extend assistance to 938 households and 2,972 individuals who belong to the most marginalized and economically deprived groups in Shahidnagar Municipality, Dhanusha District, Madhesh Province, and have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Among the beneficiaries are Dalits, single women, persons with disabilities (PwDs), migrant workers, and those dependent on daily wages.

Our key interventions encompass a range of initiatives aimed at economic recovery and psychological well-being. We provided Entrepreneurship Development Training (SIYB) to 75 youths, including migrant returnees, survivors of gender-based violence (SGBV), and PwDs. Additionally; we extended support to 100 individuals through improved technology and inputs to promote their existing enterprises. Moreover, 75 people received assistance for establishing micro-enterprises and kickstarting their businesses. Furthermore, the project prioritized capacity-building efforts for local government representatives, frontline workers, and service providers. The focus of this capacity-strengthening initiative was on mental health and psychosocial support, including the enhancement of skills in contact tracing. Through these initiatives, ASN aims to positively influence the lives of those most affected by the pandemic, empowering them to overcome challenges and improve their overall well-being.

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*We provided Entrepreneurship Development Training (SIYB) to 75 youths, including migrant returnees, survivors of gender-based violence (SGBV), and PwDs. Additionally; we extended support to 100 individuals through improved technology and inputs to promote their existing enterprises.*

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## WOMEN EMPOWERMENT



► Workshop on social malpractices affecting women

ASN works on a women empowerment project, Shasakta that focuses on improving women's social, economic, and political status. The project aims to give women equal opportunities, access to education, healthcare, and employment and empower them to exercise their rights and make decisions that affect their lives. The goal of the project is to ensure dignified living standards for women, children, and their families in the households of Dhanusha district of Madhesh Province, Nepal. ASN has been implementing the project at two municipalities (Ganeshman Charnath & Bideha) of Dhanusha district with the support of Kindernothilfe for the targeted groups of marginalized women (financially downtrodden women, mothers' group, & young mothers). The project intervened with 540 Self Help Groups (SHG), where the SHG members have increased from 720 to 2097 with 122 Palika level stakeholders. The project has benefitted some of the active SHG members from both the municipality to work as a Community Facilitator. The SHG groups have been very engaging at the community level and are now a source of learning for others too. Women in the SHG have participated in various capacity-building, knowledge, and skill enhancement trainings. This has contributed significantly to their overall personality development and has increased their access to information and resources. Women's participation in decision-making and local-level elections has increased through the project initiation. The groups have been able to recognize and speak for the blindfolded social beliefs & traditions of gender-based violence, early marriage, dowry system, child labor, and physical harassment, among other issues. The project initiation

has supported the upliftment of the living standard of women, young mother, married girls, and children through socio-economic & political empowerment. Twenty-nine children of SHGs members from Bideha Municipality have received education materials support (Dress, Shoes, and copy) along with child club members capacitated on education child protection, health & nutrition. The project has also support has enabled women to involve in the local level planning process and present the issues of their concerns.

ASN supported the improved & increased access of children in education, nutrition & health facilities, including protection from different forms of child abuse. Also, women's income sources have been improved through best use of SHG fund, available government resources, services & alternative small-scale business practices, and enhanced epidemic coping capacity. In consultation with social institutions and the government, ASN has advocated for child and women-friendly policies and reduced discriminatory practices at the societal level.



► Regular interaction meeting of SHG (Ganeshman Charnath)



▶ Interaction with women's group at the community level



▶ Women groups in their farm



▶ Women groups making incense sticks



▶ Vegetable farming\_Yuwa Mahila Kalyan Samuha, Ishnath Municipality, Rautahat

## DRR, EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND HUMANITARIAN ACTION

ASN, through its DRR & Emergency Response Unit, disseminates prior notice/information and relevant announcements regarding annual floods, heat waves, cold waves, and epidemics, and during emergency response through radio jingles & Public Service Announcements (PSA) via local FM at the local level. Most importantly, the information circulated to the community regarding emergency response and criteria for aid distribution has helped the organization avoid any confusion and misunderstandings relevant to the emergency response. To map resources and dangers and create strategies to integrate vulnerable groups in emergency response, the organization also solicits input from residents of affected communities who are also members of at-risk groups. This way, the organization has ensured that communities become the primary agent of their recovery.

ASN has organized, coordinated, and implemented humanitarian assistance and provided relief support to meet the urgent needs of the affected population during emergencies with the help of concerned stakeholders, including local, provincial, and federal government authorities, DDMC, CBOs, CSOs, as well as development partners, namely Deutsche Welthungerhilfe (WHH), UN Women, Lutheran World Federation, UNESCO, European Union, Kindernothilfe (KNH), Christian Aid, & UNICEF. The key intervention modalities followed include Food /Non-food Item/cash-based emergency response, rescue, relief, and recovery.

### Our Approach:

ASN has adopted a comprehensive approach to emergency response. For this:

- It works with local communities to increase preparedness for and mitigation of the impact of potential disasters;
- In partnership with relevant stakeholders, provides immediate relief support;
- Post crisis, the organization works with affected groups, & survivors for recovery.

The organization has extensively served people in need with the immediate emergency response after the disaster, specifically focusing on the most vulnerable

(low-income, daily wage workers, socially excluded groups, children, pregnant & lactating women/mothers, persons with disabilities, elderly, & conflict-affected adolescent girls' & women).

### Relief Support:

The section below highlights ASN's priority emergency program interventions:

**WASH:** To help people protect themselves from increased risk of infectious diseases, ASN constructed toilets; broadcasted PSAs, and radio jingles for behavior change communication (BCC); installed hand-pumps, conducted the handwashing campaign, distributed WASH/health/hygiene kit (Nail cutter, toothpaste, comb, toothbrush, undergarment, sanitary pad, towel, water container-bucket with lid & jerry can, mug, bathing/washing soap, soap case, nylon rope, mattress) for improved hygiene practices; supported chemical water purifier for on-site water treatment, Arsenic test to analyze the quality of drinking water, & repaired water pipes for proper water supply & sanitation.

**Food & Nutrition Security:** As part of the preparedness activity, ASN has supported with food items (Rice, Pulse, Oil, Salt, Egg, Fruits, beaten rice, Horlicks, Ghee, Beans, locally available green vegetables); Kitchen set (Iron stove, Pot, Casserole, spatula, plate, glass, crock-pot, pan, rolling pin, saucer, spoon, cup). Further, it conducted Nutrition Education and Rehabilitation Program (NERP) camp, & oriented the vulnerable group to cook nutritious food using locally available resources to address the longer-term causes of food insecurity.

**Health:** ASN conducted priority-based health camps to provide essential health care services to address immediate health risks (malnutrition, & disease outbreaks, prevent maternal & infant mortality rates), First-Aid boxes, & basic medicine.

**Shelter:** ASN distributed tarpaulins and family tents and constructed a shelter home, a school building with a toilet, and an underground water tank for a rainwater harvesting system. It built an emergency shelter in Siraha.

**Economic Recovery:** It conducted vocational skill training programs to safeguard the livelihood of people made vulnerable by flood, COVID-19, and conflict, specifically coming from socially excluded and marginalized communities. Similarly, it provided raw materials to the COVID-affected women engaged in income-generating (IG) activities (tailoring, soap production).

**Cash-Based Intervention:** To deliver humanitarian aid to needy people, cash assistance has been provided to the beneficiaries in various districts according to the contextual need. The cash-based intervention modality used included paper vouchers and cash payments.

**Psychosocial Support:** As part of the emergency preparedness and response mechanism, ASN provided psychosocial counseling to flood-affected women, & COVID-affected vulnerable groups. Psychosocial First Aid (PFA) training was provided to teachers to help them reduce the emotional & social distress of children & support the student's well-being through a positive & optimistic approach to a new normal. Similarly, psychosocial counseling was provided to conflict-affected out-of-school adolescent girls & young women (10 -24 years) from marginalized, socially excluded groups.

To support the COVID-19-affected population, ASN has implemented targeted programs in Madhesh province with the support of the Lutheran World Federation. Three projects were implemented to strengthen the capacity of the most vulnerable people and enable them to cope with the negative impacts of the pandemic. These projects include:

1. *Local Initiative for Community Empowerment & Development (LICED) Project*
2. *Enhancing Community Resiliency through Economic Development of the Most Vulnerable People Affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic*
3. *Contributing to Increase Access to Quality Health Services of the Most Vulnerable Population Affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic in Nepal.*

These projects aimed to enhance the dignified living of the Mushar & Marginalized and other minorities (Dalits, Janajati, People with Disability, single women, returnee migrants, and poor youth) through socio-economic empowerment and advocacy for their rights



and access to resources/services for socio-economic transformation and dignity. The project interventions implemented at the local level ensured that priority populations achieve resilient livelihoods promoting climate-smart socio-economically viable options for livelihoods and enhancing resiliency to all forms of shocks and stresses. Likewise, the project facilitation and regular coordination supported the priority population's access to government services and entitlements. Most importantly, the project helped build local voices for actions, improved local governance and advocated for their rights. These projects will finally benefit 5250 HHs of Sahidnagar Municipality in Dhanusha.

To enhance and maintain the nutrition status of vulnerable people, food items (rice, lentil, salt, sugar, cooking oil, soap, soya chunk, and wheat flour) were distributed to each beneficiary by the project. This served and protected them from illness and enhanced their overall immunity power (children, single women, PwDs, and senior citizens). Forty individuals (Male -15, Female -25, disabled-33, and single women -5) received a package for 30 days to survive the food crisis/shortage season. Likewise, to initiate the behavior change and for improved sanitation and hygiene practices, WASH-Kit (nail cutter, bath soap, laundry soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, and comb) were distributed to 40 beneficiaries. The project team understands that developing and sustaining a habit is not easy, as behavior change is a long-term process, and it might take time for people to stick to a particular habit. However, the project team believes that with continuous follow-up, & interaction on the importance of hygienic behavior, the overall WASH and hygienic conducts of the local communities will improve.



► Training on mental health and psychosocial support

The projects also provided entrepreneurship development training (SIYB) to 78 youths, including returnee migrants, sexual and gender-based violence survivors, and PwDs. Of them, 56 were female, and 22 were male. These individuals later prepared a business plan and implemented the learnings obtained from the training to upscale their business. Also, 75 youths (female: 53, male: 22, disabled 6) were supported each with seed money NPR 15,000 to establish off-farm businesses (grocery shops, tailoring shops, mechanics, tea/snacks shops). The average income of these youths ranges from NPR 15000 per month per person.

A total of 43 people (33 male, 10 female) were provided with training on workplace safety, proper use of construction equipment, preventive measures against COVID-19, and overall personal safety. Due to the project initiation, 96 disabled people got disability cards, and 15 PwDs received wheelchairs from the municipality. Also, PwDs and single women have received blanket and protective gear support from ASN. Further, 72 PwDs received start-up support to start small-scale businesses. Likewise, ramps were constructed in two schools (name of the school) by the LICED project. Three women-led farmer groups were formed and strengthened by the project. These groups are now involved in their own kitchen gardening and farming activities. Due to this, it has become easy for

them to eat nutritious food regularly. The project also provided capacity-building training to 36 individuals—female 14, male: 22 (local government representatives, frontline workers, and service providers) on mental health and psychosocial support. Further, the projects also supported the construction of 2 culverts and the repair and maintenance of the agricultural road in Sahidnagar municipality, Ward No. 7 and 9, where most mini entrepreneurs are in the agro field. This has helped solve the issues of waterlogging and difficulties in transportation during the rainy season. The farmers of Namuwatole community are pleased with the construction of the culvert and road maintenance work. They have thanked the entire LWF and ASN team for their crucial support that helped energize farmers to continue their farming work without any difficulties.

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## GOVERNANCE

Capacity assessment of municipalities and rural municipalities of the Madhesh Province carried out by ASN found that: the locally elected representatives have low awareness, knowledge, and skills on functional and procedural mechanisms about the planning process, budget preparation, plan execution, judicial decision and monitoring aspects in the new environment and changing legal systems. This means there is a need for targeted intervention to ensure the meaningful participation and active role of locally elected representatives, including women, in the development and political processes. Realizing the contextual need and the significance of capacitated local government representatives in place, ASN, with the support of the European Union (EU) and WHH, promoted the (i) participatory and transparent

planning and budgeting processes, (ii) the involvement of civil society in local development planning and the provision, and (iii) use of improved social services to improve the living conditions of disadvantaged population groups in the target area.

Through its field-level implementation, ASN can: (i) educate a large number of citizens, (ii) mobilize community-based groups and civil society networks and support the local government to ensure GESI mainstreaming, (iii) increase the participation of marginalized groups in decision-making processes at the local level; (iv) promote participatory development processes at the local level that takes into account the needs of marginalized citizens.

### Promoting Citizen Empowerment and Inclusive Democracy in Province 2, Development Partner: European Union



► Interaction with the CSO group-Safal youth group, Rautahat district

To create an enabling environment for targeted communities to continue accessing government services and strengthen the capacity of the local government representatives to cater to the needs of the general public, mainly focusing on the marginalized, Dalits (Mushar, Dom) and Muslims; ASN executed the followings:

Empowering CSOs: involvement and empowerment of 54 COs and networks to mainstream rights-

based approach in local governance so that socially marginalized and economically poor citizens can access accountable government services. CSOs were oriented on the seven-step planning process, mainly the settlement level planning process and Right to Information (RTI). The orientation has helped the CSOs to realize the importance of the bottom-up planning process. Most importantly, CSOs pushed the municipality to follow the timeline of the annual planning process, get actively involved in the settlement-level planning process, and submitted their plans to the ward offices. All LGs recognized CSOs as the key stakeholders to ensure the Participatory Planning Process (PPP) and therefore have started to invite them to PPP.

LG delivering citizen-friendly and accountable services: Local Government (LG) stakeholders were trained in using social accountability tools, i.e., Social Audits, Public Hearings, and Public Audits, systematically as outlined in the Local Government Operation Act (LGoA)-2017. The primary objective of initial and refresher training was to support the service providers in understanding good governance and using accountability tools to deliver essential quality services to the citizens on time. Four palikas (out of six): Bishnupur and Rajgdh

Rural Municipalities (RM) of Saptari district, Karjanha Municipality (M) of Siraha district, and Baudhimai M of Rautahat district passed the Public Audit Procedure 2077, Public Hearing Procedure 2077, and Social Audit Procedure 2077. The palikas of Siraha also passed the Local Level Grievance Handling Guideline 2077. With this, the palikas have started to practice and organize social accountability events, i.e., 18 events (Public Hearing and Community Score Card (three events), Community Score Card (three events), and Public Hearing (12 events) were organized in the wards and health posts.

Participatory Annual Plans: The community members, Community Dialogue Center (CDC) and Civil Society Organization (CSO) members, and youth-led CSOs participated in the tole/settlement level planning process initiated by the ward member. In total, 2,920 community plans were submitted to the ward from the settlement level, of which 770 were approved. The plan includes constructing community buildings and canals, awareness-raising programs, income generation skills training (both on-farm and off-farm), availability of hygienic drinking water, awareness campaigns on untouchability and COVID- 19 and capacity-building training. Conducting a participatory annual planning process by LG is found to have profound benefits. Firstly, it has ensured the voice of marginalized people and informed the LG plans/budget to the citizens. For most people, it was the first time they had ever participated in any process like this. It has given them the confidence that they can shape their future. This has provided the impression that the LGs proved their accountability towards the citizens as mandated by LGoA, 2017.

Municipal and Ward level service (health, social protection, and vital registration) quality improved: Altogether, 433 people (139 in Rautahat, 253 in Siraha, and 41 in Saptari) who belong to marginalized communities have received citizenship certificates, birth registration, marriage certificate, and nutrition allowance cards. Among them, 292 individuals received citizenship certificates from District Administration Office (DAO), 89 children received birth registration certificates, 19 couples received marriage certificates, and 33 children received nutrition allowance cards from the LG office. Following continuous facilitation and awareness of the government entitlements to

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*“Our palika is thankful to the project team for supporting us to realize our roles and responsibilities as LG representatives. We have now realized the need of capacity enhancement of palika staffs and elected bodies to operate palikas work smoothly”.*

*Bhola Prasad Pokharel, Mayor of Karjanha Municipality”*

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the citizens and regular consultation, lobbying, and advocacy with LGs, the marginalized citizens could claim their rights and entitlements from LGs. Regular discussions about vital registration and national identity card campaigns in the CDCs of Saptari district encouraged the community to visit those campaigns and grab the benefits free of cost.

Promote the use of accountability tools (public hearing, public audit, and Community Score Card): The project facilitated to conduct actions to promote social accountability tools. For this, the project coordinated with the community people and LG authorities. The working palikas have institutionalized social accountability mechanisms. Four palikas (out of six): Bishnupur and Rajgdh rural municipalities of Saptari district, Karjanha municipality of Siraha district, and Baudhimai municipality of Rautahat district passed the Public Audit Procedure 2077, Public Hearing Procedure 2077, Social Audit Procedure 2077. The palikas of Siraha also passed the Local Level Grievance Handling Guideline 2077. The palikas have started to practice and organize social accountability events, i.e., 18 events (Public Hearing and Community Score Card- 3 events, Community Score Card- 3 events, and Public Hearing- 12 events) were organized in the wards and health posts throughout the project implementation. The public hearings conducted in the health posts aimed to discuss the improvements to health services that ultimately make the institution accountable to civilians. The participants included CAO, health focal person,



► Public Hearing, Health Post, Baudhimai Municipality

FCHV, community, and other audiences. As a result, the health posts have informed the communities regarding available medicines, provided services, regularity of staff, and ensured mobilization of FCHV. After the event, Health Facility Operation and Management Committee (HFOMC) shared an official letter to the Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANM) of Baudhimai M to ensure her regularity, as she was unavailable for a long time in the health post. Likewise, the health service providers of the health posts have committed to operating the outreach clinic (ORC) regularly so that the community can receive essential immediate health services before going to the hospital. The Deputy Mayor and Health Unit of Baudhimai M also committed to improving ambulance services and purchasing materials for the birthing center. Apart from this, effective mobilization of FCHV and electricity maintenance in the health post were also discussed.

**Participatory and inclusive planning process:** The project team facilitated a bottom-up planning process to ensure marginalized communities' voices were respected. The project team organized formal and informal meetings with the LG representatives and community people for this. Altogether, 16 municipality-level consultation meetings were held in all three districts representing six working palikas' wards. The palika level meeting decided how to conduct a workshop on PPP by actively engaging the CSO, CDC, women-led youth

group, and community representatives to collect the plan at the settlement level. Also, the meeting involved ward chairs, thematic staffs, ward secretary, and ward members in the settlement-level planning process. Hence, the palika level consultation meeting helped to establish cordial relationships between the newly elected representatives and beneficiaries of the Action. The process ensured inclusion and submission of plans from women, differently able people, senior citizens, Dalits, and people from marginalized communities under the "policy and programs of local government.

### **CSOs facilitating settlement-level planning ensured the voices of the marginalized heard.**

Despite policy provisions and several proven benefits of marginalized groups' participation in the local-level planning process, promoting their meaningful participation in the process is still one of the development concerns. Various structural and cultural challenges prevent their participation in a process that determines their destiny. A successful practice from three municipalities in Province 2 demonstrates that local civil society can play an instrumental role in facilitating the local-level planning process, making it more inclusive, and ensuring or enhancing the voices of marginalized people are incorporated in the planning process. This simple and effective practice is worth replicating to promote democratic governance.



The benefits of public engagement in policy-making range from strengthening democratic practice to providing citizens with a voice in policy choices to building institutional bridges between government and citizens (Bishop & Davis, 2002; Head, 2007). Maria Katsonis (2019) states that the engagement process strengthens transparency and accountability and builds civic capacity. Public participation comprises three pillar principles: the right to information, the right to participate in the decision-making process, and the right to justice. However, the public shows interest in participation in planning, implementation, and development activities only if they see benefits from that program.

A wide range of factors hinders the promotion of participatory development. Such obstacles prohibiting participation abound, ranging from institutional to socio-cultural, to technical, to logistical, and are spread over a seemingly endless spectrum. As Lucius Botes and Dingie van Rensburg (2000) identified, nine plagues restrict the meaningful participation of the community. The professional bias (paternalistic role of development professionals) supplements the prescriptive role of the state. In addition, selective participation is quite common, where the most visible and vocal, wealthier, more articulated, and educated groups are allowed to be partners in development without serious and ongoing attempts to identify less obvious partners. While the local elite often captures the participatory development process, the widespread so-called untouchability, a deep-rooted phenomenon in caste/ethnicity-based hierarchical social structure, pushes marginalized people into a negative spiral, and they ultimately lose interest and confidence. In

addition, so-called untouchability plays a crosscutting role in multiple marginalizations among women, the disabled, widows, and the poor section of society.

After the promulgation of the Constitution of Nepal in 2015, the local-level planning process has been shortened from 14 steps to seven steps. The Local Government Operation Act 2017 (LGoA) envisaged the local government's responsibility to ensure the participation of marginalized communities, such as Dalits, disabled, sexual minorities, women, and Janajatis, among others, in the cluster-level planning process to make it inclusive. Despite this, the meaningful participation of those marginalized people is far below the expectation. Nepal National Governance Survey (NNGS) 2017/18 found that citizens from Madhesh Province (only 10.8% claiming to have participated) were less likely to participate in the planning process. Women (21.2%) were less likely to participate compared to men (40%), and citizens aged 18-24 (27.9%) were less likely to participate. A baseline study in March 2019 shows a worrying state of participation in Madhesh Province, particularly of those marginalized people. While only 6.7 percent of marginalized people were found to have participated in decision-making and annual planning processes, women's participation is just 3.5 percent, and participation of excluded groups in such processes is 6.5 percent. Similarly, only 2.6 percent of marginalized people claimed to have participated in the public hearing, one of the public accountability events.

Poor participation of marginalized groups in the planning process has some obvious implications - their issues are not prioritized, and the resource is





*Engaging local civil society organizations in facilitating the planning process has several benefits. It ensures that LGs have given space for CSOs to mobilize their expertise in linking marginalized people to the local government.*



not allocated to address their immediate challenges, including livelihoods and health-related problems, despite some policy provisions. Manipulation of the development agenda and resource drainage to issues other than their pertinent needs are more likely in the absence of their participation, ultimately derailing the national commitment towards equality and inclusive development dividend.

The settlement-level planning facilitation by the local CSOs has immense benefits. For many CDC members and local CSOs, it was the first time in their life that they participated in such a planning process. “It gave me a great sense of achievement, as well as the confidence that even Dalit people can raise their voice and make it heard if they plan accordingly,” said a Dalit woman in Rajgadh rural municipality, Saptari. Given the prolonged exclusion, acceptance of their priority agenda by other stakeholders is already an achievement for the marginalized people. In addition, since they came to know in their regular CDC meeting that the local government has incorporated their agenda in the ward-level planning and has forwarded them to the municipality; it brings them hope that the local government is responsive to their immediate needs, a fundamental element of local governance. Moreover, a sense of equality – both in terms of participating in the process and acceptance of their concerns in the priority list – and belongingness in democratic governance are of high significance in linking the supply and demand side of governance. On the other hand, it was an opportunity for the local government to reach out to marginalized people and make the planning process

inclusive, giving the civil society organization space to facilitate the process.

One of the members said, “Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, Muskan Women Group (Isnath municipality, Rautahat) continued its regular meeting and serving the community. Understanding the importance of our participation, and the process where we can influence the planning process, we learned the fishing skills that will continue helping us throughout, whereas giving us fish would make us dependent forever”. Facilitating marginalized communities’ participation in cluster-level planning has paved the way toward democratic governance. What the Mayor of Karjanha municipality, Siraha, claims reinforces what CDC members said, “Local CSOs were vital in making those marginalized people’s voice heard in the local level planning process. I request MN (Nagarik Sakriyata project partner) to facilitate the CDC-level discussion before the upcoming local-level election to identify the people not yet on the voter list so that they could participate in the next election, which is also an important part of the governance.”

Engaging local civil society organizations in facilitating the planning process has several benefits. It ensures that LGs have given space for CSOs to mobilize their expertise in linking marginalized people to the local government. Secondly, it provides that the planning process has been inclusive. Since marginalized people feel comfortable participating in any program that someone facilitates, they already know it stretches out of their comfort zone. While CSOs are facilitating the planning process and engaging CDC members, they remain aware of the importance of social development issues, which would otherwise be dominated by preferences on infrastructure, as has been the trend. For CSOs, it is a capacity-building opportunity to ensure the planning event is participatory, where the voices of marginalized people are incorporated and make them own both the process and the product of the planning exercise. To achieve this well, CSOs need to institutionalize their skills in handling the group dynamics in the planning process and make the process inclusive of the voice of marginalized communities.

## [C] LEADING BY EXAMPLES: CASE STORIES

### CSO heading towards sustainability



*Jaharimai Krishi Utpadan Samuha*, a CSO from Isnath municipality, Rautahat, exemplifies how the POCAP exercise helped them to understand the values of networking and motivated them to work systematically. The group comprising 15 members was registered in District Agricultural Department, Gaur, in 2015 to establish itself as a small-scale vegetable production center. The group were supported with some required agricultural materials. Because of which, they produced seasonal and off-season vegetable on 33 hectares of land, and made a fair income under Prime Minister Agriculture Modernization Project (PM- AMP).

The scenario changed after the country adopted Federalism, as *Jaharimai* Krishi group did not receive any support from the local government. The group came in touch with the project in 2019 when there was an assessment for CSO selection. The palika motivated the *Jaharimai* Krishi group to get engaged with the project. At the beginning of the project, two days long POCAP exercise was conducted with the group to strengthen their capacity under five pillars: organizational management and governance, GESI, planning and implementation, monitoring and evaluation, networking and advocacy.

After this exercise, the CSO realized that they needed to follow different processes and ensure documentation for the smooth functioning of the organization. Before

this, they only possessed organization registration documents. *Jaharimai* has made a series of changes to promote organization capacity aftermath POCAP exercise. They now organize regular meetings and audits, conduct annual general assemblies, obtain a valid PAN certificate, and establish their bank account. Not only this, they now provide technical assistance to the women's youth groups on vegetable farming. The CSO is also engaged in social development activities to ensure the rights and entitlements of marginalized people. For this, they organize camps to discuss vital registration and citizenship issues, support communities in school enrolment process, community participation and monitoring to incorporate local level plans in the settlement level planning meetings and organize free eye treatment camps in collaboration with Tri Netra eye hospital in Gaur.

Likewise, they actively advocate against early child and forced marriage, promote the Beti Padhau Beti Bachau campaign, and organize programs to celebrate International Women's Day. The CSO has also established a cooperative named *Jaharimai Krishi Cooperative Limited* to support the farmers' group with fertilizers, agriculture seeds, and agro medicine. The CSO members state that POCAP has made them realize the organization's strengths and weaknesses so that the members prepare their annual action plan and are motivated to conduct POCAP exercises in the future.

## Out-of-school students supported to get back to school



► Students who were supported by the project to get back to school

A household survey was carried out in the municipality with the cooperation of the NSD project, ASN, and Ganeshman Charnath Municipality. According to the survey's findings, the municipality had 15506 children. Out of which, the number of children not going to school was 585 (344 students were in the age group 15–18). Most of these students were from Muslim and Dalit communities (Dom, Dhanikar, Mushar, and Mahara). The project was initiated to facilitate and support these out-of-school children's enrollment and increase their learning and achievement levels.

The project conducted a school enrollment campaign, home visits, and meetings with parents, the community,

and the local government. Realizing the need for academic support for out-of-school children, the project implemented learning centers at the community level. Fifteen Muslim students were enrolled in the nearby community school-Ma.Vi. Bharatpur, Ward No. 3 of Ganeshman Chaarnath municipality. These children attended the Gauripur temporary learning center (TLC). Twenty-one volunteers have worked in the municipality for five months to bring the out-of-school children back to school. They conducted home visits and held meetings with marginalized parents, local leaders, and mothers' groups to facilitate the re-entry of these students to school. The school enrollment campaign became successful as it motivated parents to send their school not going/out of schoolchildren to school. Many out-of-school children were encouraged to attend the 'TLC' and attend school one day. The project team and volunteers were also happy to see children and parents positive towards the project's re-enrollment support—the campaign motivated 840 students to be re-enrolled in school.

The project would like to acknowledge the contribution of all 21 volunteers, particularly of Ms. Amrisha Adhikari, for her relentless effort and passion for getting the out-of-school children back to school.

## Improving the life chance of marginalized girl

Rehana Khatun is a 17-year-old girl from Durgabhadgawati Rural Municipality ward no. 2, Bhaluhiya Tole, Rautahat district. She is the youngest child among six children of her parents. She belongs to a Muslim community, a marginalized group with inferior economic status. She is married (Nikaah, a culture in the Muslim community where a girl is married but still stays at her maternal home till they get another ritual called Gauna).

Rehana had a whim to study at school from the very childhood. However, she could not join school due to low family affordability for education and the tradition in the Muslim community not letting girls go out from their home when they grow up. Her parents were unaware of the importance of education as they could hardly manage their hands-to-mouth problems.

Rehana's father died when she was very young. After that, raising six children was solely added to her mother, Ashma Khatun, further lowering the family's living status. Her mother used to work so hard on daily wages. Also, she used to buy some accessories, bangles, and makeup kits from a nearby small market, Barghiniya, India, and sell them in her village and neighboring villages, keeping them in a basket. Her two elder sisters got married at the very young age of 14. After the sisters were married, Rehana started helping her mother. She used to go with her mother to purchase goods from the market and take them for sale. The death of her younger brother added more pain to the family. Rehana's mother got into depression, and her health deteriorated daily. She could not walk more and could not carry loads to sell her goods. Then after, Rehana started walking to villages to



sell the goods. Till then, the keen interest of the Rehana for her study was still in her mind.

So, seeing her family status from childhood and her mother broken, she wanted to do better. She was seeking to get some technical skills and support her mother. By the time 'Leave No Girl Behind' Project team surveyed the out-of-school adolescent girls for enrollment in non-formal, literacy, and numeracy classes. She enlisted her name and joined Kohinoor Community Learning Center (CLC), where she learned the basics of literacy in Nepali, English, and mathematics. Now she can write her name and read books too. She is much more regular in class with 85% attendance and a learning score of "Ka" Grade (Excellent) during the ten months non-formal course.

She is so delighted with the opportunity to get from Leave No Girl Behind (LNGB) Program that she has been able to earn her living. Throughout the CLC classes, she has learned about social issues, bad practices, and their impact on life. She is more inspired to be independent, and her confidence has leveled up with her competency in literacy and numeracy skills. She had prepared her life plan for Technical Education and Vocational Training (TEVT) in bangle production. She got one-month-long training for making bangles and bracelets under the project intervention. Afterward, she got seed money Rs. 15000/- in two installments to scale up her small business. Now she imports raw

materials from Sitamadhi, India, where she can get them cheaply and makes bangles herself and sells them in the nearby busy market. She never misses to sell in the open market, which is conducted regularly.

Before, she was exporting bangles, and now she can make all types of bangles with new designs at her home. She had started a small business with a small amount, but by then, she had aimed to scale up her business. She earns a profit of Rs. 500 daily, which has supported her to run the four-membered family.

She said, "I had a keen interest in studying, which has been fulfilled to some extent. Though I could not have higher education, this non-formal education has helped me ease my daily life. I can keep the records of my business; I can go anywhere without support from others. I am more than happy that I can see happiness in my mothers' face after years."

Her mother added, "I don't have any land or other business options. I have been struggling to run the family. I am so happy that Rehana got to learn the skill and help me. She taught me as well. Now we even use our own made bangles and sell them."

Seeing the skill of Rehana, her sister-in-law has learned too, and her nearby friends want to know the skills and want to be independent like Rehana. She has been a good example and inspiration to her friend circle.

## Story of Babita Devi Mandal

35-year-old Babita Devi Mandal is a Maa Bhagwati Self-Help Group (SHG) member and a Community Facilitator (CF) in Bideh Municipality, Ward No. 6 Ekrahi, Dhanusha. Her family has six members, including two daughters (16 and 13 years old), a son (11 years old), her mother-in-law, her husband, and herself. She has studied up to grade nine, and she is a homemaker. Her husband works as a mason. Aware of the importance of education, she has been sending her children to school.

She is a general member of a cooperative, namely Sana Kisan. She was energetic and enthusiastic about the activities in the SHG by the Shasakta project. By joining the SHG, she gradually learned new skills and abilities and improved. The visible changes were the improvements in her communication skills (language and speaking), presenting her thoughts, networking ability, health and hygiene practices, and counseling mothers groups at the community level about women's empowerment in general. Babita says, "It's like women get a new life when they become aware of their rights, responsibilities, and duties and have access to resources/information." Her overall socioeconomic status has also improved. She later was selected as the community facilitator for the Shashakta project. Her journey from being a member of the SHG to becoming the CF of the SHG is inspiring.

One fine day, during the regular SHG meeting, members discussed the adverse effects of alcohol consumption in the family and society. The SHG was searching for ways to overcome this issue and minimize alcohol consumption at the community level. Babita shared that her husband also consumes alcohol every day, which causes family conflict and violence. By seeing her children affected by everyday family chaos, she has affected herself. She expressed her worries for her children's future in the SHG meeting. Listening to Babita's sufferings, the Project officer, Ms. Kaushalya Kushwaha, shared the harmful effects of alcohol consumption. She explained in detail how alcohol consumption could rupture family bonding, impair the health and happiness of people, and adversely affect young children. Babita's husband was nearby the meeting spot and happened to listen to



the sharing done by the project officer. After returning home, Babita shared about the SHG's discussion on the negative impacts of alcoholism. Listening to Babita's sharing, her husband became remorseful. He promised Babita that he would stop drinking alcohol. Gradually, within the next 3/4 months, her husband reduced the amount and became sober. One of the best things that Babita shared is that her husband saved money during these three months and bought a motorcycle. The family conflict and violence also disappeared with her husband's sobriety. Babita happily shared with the ASN team, "I am very thankful to Aasaman Nepal for developing SHGs in our community where we, the women, can raise our voice on harmful social norms. This group allows us to share our problems without judgment and collectively find solutions. I am also grateful to Aasaman Nepal for allowing me to work as a CF on the Shasakta project. I promise to give my best to achieve the project goal to keep motivating women to take charge of their lives and their families." Babita Devi Mandal (formerly the SHG member, now a CF, Shashakta Project).

## Local Government promoting the Girls Inclusive Education Network



► Three day's capacity building trainings to Municipality level GIEN members

In close coordination with the Pokhariya Municipality of Parsa district by the Engage project, the Pokhariya Municipality has allocated NPR one lakh for capacity building trainings to the Municipality level GIEN members. The LG representative realizing the need and importance of the GIEN network decided to train the members, so that the members can then circulate/ disseminate the message to promote girls right to education, and on overall gender and climate issues. The three days capacity building, leadership, and skill enhancement training conducted on 8 June 2022 had 23 participants (9 female and 14 male), including Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

The key objective of the training was to capacitate GIEN members so that they can coordinate accordingly within schools and deliver their skills to the school level GIEN members. During the capacity-building event, the Mayor asserted, "every child deserve right to education, and denying their right just because of their gender, ethnicity, caste, religion is not a good practice. The municipality is positive for girls' education and has aimed to increase the access and retention of girls to school".

The Deputy Mayor further added that school enrollment cannot define girl's education but their regularity to school can. Involvement in activities within schools, knowledge to address social issues and self-dependency ensure the access to education for their positive life changing concern. The GIEN

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*GIEN has provided girls with opportunities to voice their ideas, gain confidence, connect, and share their ideas. The network has allowed girls to step out of their comfort zones, communicate, and interact with diverse groups of people, so, the experience is valuable*

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can be a good medium to increase girls participation in different platforms. The GIEN has played a crucial role in empowering girls at the local level. They are better informed, and well aware of their rights and responsibilities. The members of the GIEN are also disseminating the messages to other girls and even parents at school and family level. The chances of making right decision at the right time increases for a well-informed girl. The Mayor shared that the *GIEN has provided girls with opportunities to voice their ideas, gain confidence, connect, and share their ideas. The network has allowed girls to step out of their comfort zones, communicate, and interact with diverse groups of people, so, the experience is valuable.* With such commitments and words, the municipality representative committed to allocate budget for the network so that the GIEN can sustain for the betterment of girls education.



► Mr. Pradhuman Pd. Chauhan; Mayor sharing some words on GIEN

## Krishna becoming a model farmer for the Village



Krishna Budhathoki, a resident of Siddhakumakh Rural Municipality Ward Number 1, Dhanetakura, Salyan, is one of the eight members of her family. She faced difficulties in vegetable farming due to lack of knowledge on the producing different seasonal vegetables using modern skills and knowledge. She was also bothered by insect pests and diseases in vegetables.

The LANN+ project (Linking Agriculture and Natural Resources Management towards Nutrition Security) project started working in Salyan in 2021, and Siddhakumakh Rural Municipality was one of the project working palikas. When the project formed farmers' groups in Siddhakumakh ward number 1, Dhanetakura, she became a member of the Sirjanshil Farmers Group. Through the regular PLA (participatory learning and action) sessions of sustainable and integrated farming systema (SIFS), she learned about organic farming, sustainable integrated farming system, rainwater harvesting, jholmal (liquid manure) preparation, composting, crop rotation, mixed farming, urine collection (of cow), and building a vegetable nursery.

The LANN+ project team distributed vegetable seeds (onion, coriander, carrot, broccoli, and rapeseed) to the farmers group. Taking the learning of the PLA sessions, she planted the seeds in her garden. She shared that

Broccoli was a new crop for her. Earlier she used to apply chemical fertilizers and pesticides in her farm. Now she prefers using jholmal (botanical pesticides) in her vegetable farm. Also, in place of chemical fertilizers, she started using compost and farmyard manure.

Krishna used to spend about NPR 8000 - 10000 to purchase chemical fertilizers and pesticides for her vegetables and cereal crops. However, now she prefers using jholmal and uses chemical fertilizer only for maize. Because of which, she managed to save more than 50 percent of total expenses (NPR 4000 to 5000). She now stores the vegetable seeds for the next season as taught in the PLA sessions of SIFs. She produces plenty of vegetables for her family, sells surplus quantities to nearby markets, and share among her neighbors. The project's learning has helped Krishna maintaining a home garden, producing enough vegetables to meet the family's requirements contributing towards their health. Not only this, the project has also enabled her to share relevant knowledge to her neighbors for enhanced vegetable farming with diversified crops. This has brought improvement in the overall nutritional status of community. Krishan shared with the project team that "the knowledge, skills, and learnings from the project is valuable for farmers like her, as she including her family will be benefitted for life".



## Women Engagement in Economic Recovery through Income Generation, Local initiative for community empowerment & Developments



Sonabati Yadav, resident of Shahidnagar Municipality – 1, Balabhakhar tole of Dhanusha district is a farmer. In the past days, she was practicing traditional farming, which resulted in a low return on the investment of time and money. Seven members in the family and eight kaththa field growing vegetables using conventional farming wasn't enough to support the family.

However, she encountered Aasaman Nepal staff during the farmer group formation. She was a very active & conscious woman in the community. As per the community meeting decision, she was approached to be selected as a member of 'Shree Rajdevi Krishak Samuh'.

The project initiated various levels of meetings & training on farming. After receiving the training & support (Vegetable seeds & Agro materials -like water tank, Hajari & yellow stickers) through the program, she cultivated brinjal, bottle gourd, bean, ladies fingers, and improved her farming practice, which drastically increased the production and benefitted her income accordingly. She earned 45000 in one season, which was double income from the previous. In addition, she was also able to cultivate tomatoes even in the off-season (the winter season) when she could fetch higher prices.

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Sonabati says, "I was following traditional practices for a long time. But my attitude and skills are changing after receiving the orientation from Aasaman Nepal." She has been selling surplus vegetables. With the income from her off-season cultivation, she can afford her family's requirements and is making good earnings, improving their life. She is happy and growing along with her skills in financial growth. She thanks LWF/Aasaman Nepal team for this valuable & crucial support in making her dignified life.



## Commercial & Modern Farming helps to Rabindra Family survive



Mr. Rabindra Kumar Paswan, a permanent resident of Shahidnagar Municipality, Ward Number 4, is renowned as a laborious farmer in his community. He belongs to a Dalit family with five members, and the source of family income is vegetable farming on 4 kaththa of land. In the past, he practiced traditional farming, resulting in a low return on his investment of time and money. During COVID-19, he lost his labor work in India and returned home. However, over time he came into contact with AASAMAN Nepal during a Farmer's group meeting concerning about selection of participants for Modern Farming /Natural Resources Management Training in his community, which was organized by Aasaman Nepal under the Local Initiative for Community Empowerment & Development (LICED) project supported by LWF Nepal. He expressed his desire and got two-day long training. He also received input support like Sprayer and Hajari (water sprayer) with improved varieties of vegetable seeds from the project as per the recommendation of the farmer's group.

After receiving the training, Mr. Paswan started cultivation of brinjal, bottle gourd, bean, lady finger, and sponge guard under a plastic mulching system. He also

practices preparing and using Jhol mol (liquid manure) & vermi compost to utilize local resources in low-cost investment. Improved farming drastically changed his production and increased his income. He earned NPR 18,000-25,000 a month, which is double compared to his traditional farming practice. In addition, he was able to produce tomatoes even in the off-season (the winter season) and get higher prices.

Mr. Paswan says, "for a long time, I was following traditional practices that my father and forefather had adopted in their time. My attitude and skills are now changed after the training, for which I am grateful to the LICED project of Aasaman Nepal/LWF. I learned about using the comparative advantage to favor the farming practice where I shifted from growing different varieties of vegetables, where I can reap a greater return. Again, he added, "In the early days, it was a matter of surprise for villagers, and they used to gather around to observe as they were unfamiliar with this technology and the new agricultural practices". With the income from his off-season cultivation, he can afford his family's requirements and is making good earnings, which improved their life standard. Mr. Paswan is a role model in the community, and youth and farmers can learn from him how to increase their income.

His advice to every youth is "not to leave the country in search of foreign jobs, as there are many things that they can do locally."



► Jhol mol made by Rabindra with the use of local /Natural materials

## CASA's dairy partner establishes a new[ cheese processing center to bring markets closer to dairy farmers and ensure timely payment



Smallholder dairy producers like Ms. Kamala Raya and Ms. Nirmala Kafle were never certain about the markets because there were no formal dairies in the region. Even when they were able to sell their milk, they did not always get paid on time, which made it challenging for them to meet their basic needs. Dairy producers in Terathum District were not encouraged to raise their output due to these uncertainties.

CASA helped one of the top dairy companies in the nation, Nepal Dairy, develop a cheese processing facility in Sidhuwa, Terathum in Koshi Province to connect smallholder dairy farmers to the market and provide a timely payment system. The partnership intends to advance a decentralized dairy processing model in which large dairy processors support regional dairy micro-processors in Nepal's rural areas as they process milk into a range of products. CASA's support will increase investment in the sector and enable skill and technology transfer by developing the capacity of the local micro-processors to produce dairy products. In addition, by providing assured markets for processed products, the microprocessors' income will increase, ultimately increasing the demand for raw milk and incentivizing local farmers to increase milk production.

Nepal Dairy and two local partners have invested about GBP 5,000 each in the cheese processing center. The construction work and equipment installation has been completed. The processing center came into operation in February 2022 and is producing Kanchan cheese (cow milk cheese) and chhurpi (aged-hard cheese). To support their current production, they collect about 600 liters of raw milk from about 75 smallholder farmers and produce about 50 kilos of Kanchan cheese daily. As they gradually increase their production, they plan to increase their milk collection to 2,000 liters per day.

Ms. Nirmala Kafle used to supply milk to the cooperative collecting milk in the same location. However, the cooperative was inconsistent with the milk collection and payments, and this problem continued to worsen with the COVID-19 crisis and the subsequent lockdowns. With the new cheese processing center established in the area, Ms. Nirmala is now supplying milk to the processing center. She has been receiving monthly payments, and Nepal Dairy and its local partners have been providing higher prices to farmers to encourage commercialization. Ms. Nirmala reveals that she has been receiving an addition

of NRs. 10 for every liter of milk through Nepal Dairy. She exclaims, “The cheese factory has a timely milk collection and payment system that has helped me trust them. As Nepal Dairy has made huge investments to establish the factory in the area, it shows that they are committed to continuing milk collection from the area for a long time.” Similarly, another milk-supplying farmer to the cheese processing center, Ms. Kamala, exclaims, “As the cheese factory is close to my home, it is easy for me to bring milk to the factory and sell it to the milk cooperative. Getting higher prices for milk

has increased my income and has motivated me to increase milk production.”

The success in producing cheese in a rural area like Terathum has encouraged the partner to replicate the same business model to establish a Khuwa processing center in the Madhesh Province of Nepal. It hopes to continue expanding its production by decentralizing dairy processing in different areas to increase milk aggregation and ultimately increase the overall milk productivity of Nepal.

### Unvaccinated Gita TO ‘GET VAXED’



Mrs. Gita Devi Sah, 27 years old working female, lived with her husband in Tinkauriya Chowk, 7-ward no., Dhanusha District of Nepal. She lives in a family of seven, and due to the long-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the family's financial status is unstable. Her family depends on the income from her husband's little business, i.e., a tea and snack shop. The daily wage from the shop is the only source of money for Gita's family.

The team from Aasaman Nepal met Gita at her residence during the door-to-door tour of ward-7 of Bideha Palika. She claimed that just she was not immunized when FCHVs and volunteers inquired about their immunization status in her home. The reason was pregnancy, “I was then pregnant and now I am a mother of an 18-month-old baby (son). I was hesitant to get immunized since my family and neighbors suggested vaccine during pregnancy/or period of lactation would increase chances of miscarriage, disabled child, or drying of breast milk ” she added.

With the RCCE project, Aasaman Nepal conducted door-to-door counseling through FCHVs and youth volunteers. They gave information on COVID-19, its impact on people's health, and the importance of vaccination. As a result, information about the COVID-19 vaccine—which is safe for breastfeeding mothers and their children as well as for pregnant women—was disseminated along with WHO and MOHP recommendations, and the significance of the dose was emphasized. The regular counseling from the team and health-in-charge enabled her to get immunized.

After immunization, Gita said, “I am grateful to RCCE-Program of Aasaman Nepal and their team and Nepal Government for this approach and vaccines availability provided in Bedeha (ward-7). I want to spread this message through Ward Health workers and FCHVs to other mothers and females in the community.”

## Diksha's winning over Malnutrition (11.6cm to 12.8 cm)



Diksha Chaudhary, born on 09-02-2021, was identified as Mild Acute Malnutrition (MAM). The Nutrition Supervisor of the MCHN project found Diksha with weight 7.5 kilograms, height 76 centimeters, and MUAC reading 11.6 cm during one of his OTC visits at the Khadak, Kalyanpur PHC-7 Saptari on 18 Apr 2022. She was provided with RUTF and her guardian counseled about nutrition, hygiene, and health.

During the second follow-up visit on 16 Jun 2022, the Nutrition Supervisor found that they stopped feeding Diksha the RUTF since she got diarrhea after consuming it, rather they used super cereal (wheat and soya blended with sugar). He observed slim changes in her status (12 cm on MUAC, Wt. 8 kg). He counseled her parent to use homemade jaulo and a variety of food like green leafy vegetables, fruits, meat, fish, eggs, milk, etc., and suggested avoiding junk food. In one of the project follow-up visit, it was found that her family members were taking good care of Diksha.

During his third follow-up visit dated 12 September 2022, the Nutrition Supervisor found Diksha turned to (12.5 cm MUAC) and her family feeding her on time with the right type of additional food. During the fourth follow-up visit on November 29, 2022, Diksha was found playing well, eating well, and responding well (MUAC 12.8 cm, Wt. 10 kg). Her family members are also happy and thankful that they met the project team whose support made Diksha grow well. The changes in Diksha's health disseminated a message to the community that the services of child screening and food support availed by the project help them treat their malnourished children at their nearest Health Facility.



► Pregnant women learning about birth preparedness

## [D] FUTURE AHEAD: AMBITION AND LONG-TERM STRATEGIES

### Promote the campaign All Children should be in Full-Time Formal Day School

ASN believes that any out-of-school children is child labor. When children are denied access to education, it hampers their ability to develop essential skills, knowledge, and opportunities for personal growth. Denying the right to education have long-term negative consequences for individuals and society as a whole.

Education plays a crucial role in nurturing and harnessing the potential. Children's talents and abilities get undeveloped while they are not in school. Children who are not enrolled in school are more likely to experience social issues such as early marriage, child labor, substance misuse, discrimination, exploitation, and harassment. This hinders the nation's economic growth and development by resulting in lost productivity, diminished human capital, and a rise in social inequality. Therefore, all children should have access to a top-notch education that is inclusive and respectful of their dignity, regardless of their gender, caste, ethnicity, or disability. A nation cannot develop and advance toward societal changes that result in development unless every child in the country receives a quality education.

ASN has launched the campaign All children should be in full-time formal day school. The campaign aims to promote meaningful involvement of all children in educational institutions throughout Nepal, including 7 Provinces, 77 Districts, and 753 Local Levels. The campaign advocates for the slogan 'no to child labor, yes to education'. Realizing the transformative power of education, the campaign promotes the notion that investing in education brings vital development in different fields, thereby contributing to the mission of nation-building.

The purpose of this campaign is to promote the full constitutional rights of children, in terms of education and learning. The goal is to create a favorable environment for children to attain full-time formal day school. The aim is to inform, and aware children that school is the best place to learn. For this, a child-friendly, gender-friendly, and inclusive school environment has to be created, so that children can enjoy learning at school. The objective of the campaign is to strike a balance between 'children's and educational institutions' involvement. In particular, SDGs goal 4 (Quality Education) will be promoted, and the significant implementation of citizens' educational rights as enshrined in the Constitution of Nepal 2072 Part 3 (Article 31) will be promoted. We believe the campaign will pave sustainable ways to send children to full-time formal day school and provide free and high-quality public education. ASN has already initiated the discussion with the local and provincial level stakeholders in the Madhesh province and aims to promote this campaign at a national level. The campaign gradually will ensure that:

- *Children are in full-time formal day school as suggested by the Nepal-2072 constitution (that states all children should attain equitable and high-quality primary/secondary education).*
- *Children have access to educational institution that is equipped will for future responsibilities at a minimum elementary and secondary education.*
- *Children are not subjected to any forms of violence - child labor, child abuse, child/early marriage, neglect, discrimination, exploitation, or harassment.*



▶ Discussing about the importance of Full-Time Formal Day school with Womens' Group



▶ Meeting with the Child Club at school, Ganeshman Chaarnath Municipality, Dhanusha



▶ Interaction with the Mothers Group at community level on the importance of schooling for children



▶ Sharing about the campaign with the SMC Federation, Pragma Pratisthan, Kamaladi, Kathmandu



▶ Child club sharing about the campaign with the LG representative (Mayor, Sahidnagar, Dhanusha)



▶ Empowering youths to advocate for the right to education of children at community level



▶ Interaction with the Deputy Mayors on the importance of Full-Time Formal Day School for children

## “सबै बालबालिका पूर्ण-समय औपचारिक दिवा स्कूलमा हुनु पर्दछ” “All children should be in full-time formal day school”



### पृष्ठभूमि:

शिक्षा प्राप्त गर्ने प्रत्येक व्यक्तिको आधारभूत मौलिक हक हो । नेपालको संविधानले प्रत्येक अनिवार्य र माध्यमिक तहसम्मको शिक्षा निःशुल्क पाउने भएका, द्वन्द्वपीडित, विस्थापित एवं जोखिममा रहेका बालबालिकालाई राज्यबाट विशेष संरक्षण र सुविधाको हक (धारा ३९) हुने सुनिश्चित गरेको छ । त्यसैगरी प्रत्येक नागरिकलाई गुणस्तरीय शिक्षामा समतामूलक पहुँचको अधिकार छ भने शिक्षा प्राप्त गर्न कुनै पनि आधारमा भेदभाव गरिने छैन भन्ने उल्लेख छ । यसर्थ, नेपालमा आधारभूत शिक्षा निःशुल्क एवं अनिवार्य छ । नेपालले अनुशरण गरेको दिगो विकास लक्ष्य २०३० को लक्ष्य ४ ले हरेक बालबालिकाले बिना भेदभाव गुणस्तरीय शिक्षा पाउनु पर्ने व्यवस्था गरेको छ ।

मानव अधिकार एवं संविधान प्रदत्त नागरिकलाई राज्यबाट आधारभूत शिक्षा हक हुने (धारा ३१) र अनाथ, असहाय, अपाङ्गता

सामाजिक रुपान्तरणको माध्यमबाट देश विकासका लागि शिक्षा अपरिहार्य शर्त हो । हरेक बालबालिका शिक्षित नहुँदा सम्म समाजमा सकारात्मक परिवर्तन सम्भव छैन । हालसम्म शिक्षा विकासको लागि सरकारी तथा गैरसरकारी क्षेत्रबाट भए गरेका प्रयास, प्रयत्न र लगानीले सकारात्मक प्रभाव पारेको भएपनि अहिलेसम्म देशका सबै बालबालिकाको गुणस्तरीय शिक्षामा समतामूलक पहुँच पुग्न नसकेको यथार्थ हामी समक्ष छर्लङ्ग छ । तसर्थ बालबालिकाको गुणस्तरीय शिक्षामा समतामूलक पहुँच र अर्थपूर्ण सहभागिताको लागि “सबै बालबालिका पूर्ण समय औपचारिक दिवा स्कूलमा हुनुपर्दछ” अभियान आजको आवश्यकता हो ।

यस अभियानले जाती, लिंग, धर्म, संस्कृति वा शारीरिक अवस्थाको आधारमा कुनै प्रकारको भेदभाव नहुने, उच्च सम्मानका साथ सबैलाई गुणस्तरीय शिक्षा उपलब्ध गराउन र सान्दर्भिक सिकाइ उपलब्धी प्राप्त गर्न/गराउन सहजिकरण गर्नेछ भने संविधान प्रदत्त अधिकार प्राप्तीका लागि बहस र पैरवी गर्दछ ।

बालबालिकाको गुणस्तरीय शिक्षाको अधिकारको प्राप्त पूर्ण समय शिक्षण सिकाई गरिने औपचारिक विद्यालयबाट मात्र सम्भव छ । अन्ततः यसले विद्यालयप्रति समुदायको अपनत्व, सरकारको लगानीमा बृद्धि, गुणस्तरीय शिक्षाको लागि बालबालिका र शैक्षिक संस्थाको सन्तुलित सहभागिता र प्रभावकारी शिक्षा प्रणाली तथा संयन्त्रको स्थापना गर्न सहयोग गर्दछ ।

### अभियान के का लागि ?



- गुणस्तरीय शिक्षामा सबै बालबालिकाको समतामूलक पहुँच पुऱ्याउन ।
- बालबालिका माथि हुने सबै प्रकारको हिंसा (भेदभाव, शोषण, दुर्व्यवहार, बहिष्कार) को अन्त्य गर्न ।
- बालश्रम मुक्त एवं बालमैत्री मूल्य मान्यताको/विचारको स्थापना गर्न ।

- ❑ स्थानीय सरकार, सरोकारवाला, नागरिक समाज, युवा तथा समुदायलाई बालबालिकाप्रति संवेदनशील र जिम्मेवार बनाउन ।
- ❑ बालअधिकार तथा बालसंरक्षणलाई सुनिश्चित गर्न ।
- ❑ बालबालिकामा निहित ज्ञान, सीप र सूचनाको आदान प्रदान गरि उनीहरूको आत्मविश्वास बढाउन ।
- ❑ विभिन्न अवसरहरू उपलब्ध गराउँदै सांस्कृतिक रूपमा स्वीकार्य जीवन उपयोगी सीप सिकाउन ।
- ❑ परिस्थितिलाई आत्मसात् गरि स्वयं निर्णय लिन सक्ने असल र जिम्मेवार नागरिक बनाउन ।
- ❑ घर, परिवार, समाज र देशप्रति समर्पित नैतिकवान र दक्ष जनशक्ति उत्पादनमा सहयोग गर्न ।



## अभियानको दूरदृष्टि :

- ❑ सबै बालबालिकाले गुणस्तरीय शिक्षा प्राप्त गर्ने अधिकार : पूर्णरूपमा उपभोग सुनिश्चितताको आधार ।

## ध्येय

- ❑ सबै बालबालिकाका लागि गुणस्तरीय शिक्षा सुनिश्चित गरि बालश्रम मुक्त तथा बालमैत्री समाजको निर्माण ।

## लक्ष्य

- ❑ सबै बालबालिका पूर्णसमय औपचारिक दिवा स्कूलमा रही गुणस्तरीय शिक्षा प्राप्त गर्नेछन् ।

## पारिभाषा

**बालबालिका :** १८ वर्षभन्दा मुनिको व्यक्ति ।

**पूर्ण समय:** सरकारद्वारा शिक्षण सिकाईको लागि निर्धारण गरिएको दिन र समय ।

**औपचारिक दिवा स्कूल :** शैक्षिक कार्यको लागि दिन निश्चित भएको, सिकाई उपलब्धिको प्रमाणपत्र प्रदान गर्न सक्ने र संस्थागत सिकाई प्रणाली भएको सामुदायिक तथा निजी शैक्षिक संस्था ।

## अभियानमा किन लगानी गर्ने ?

- ❑ शिक्षासँग सम्बन्धित रहेका सबै कानूनी व्यवस्थाहरूको सम्मान, संरक्षण र परिपूर्ति गर्न ।
- ❑ सामाजिक सद्भाव, स्थिरता र मुल्य मान्यता स्थापना गर्न ।
- ❑ आजका बालबालिका भोलिको नेतृत्वमा रहने हुनाले भविष्यका लागि दक्ष जनशक्ति तयार गर्न ।

## श्रममा भएका बालबालिकालाई गुणस्तरीय शिक्षामा पहुँच पुर्याउन किन आवश्यक छ ?

- ❑ नेपालको संविधान, २०७२ को भाग-३, धारा-३१ बमोजिम बालबालिकालाई गुणस्तरीय शिक्षा प्राप्त गर्ने मौलिक हकको अधिकार सुनिश्चित गर्न ।
- ❑ बालबालिकाको क्षमताको विकास गर्न ।
- ❑ बालबालिकामा नेतृत्व लिने र दिने सीप विकास गर्न ।
- ❑ बालबालिका बीच अनुभव तथा सिकाई आदानप्रदान गर्न ।

## साम्केदार अभियन्ताहरू



- तीनै तहका (स्थानीय, प्रदेश तथा संघीय) सरकारहरू
- तीनै तहका शिक्षा हेर्ने निकायहरू
- सामुदायिक तथा निजी विद्यालयहरू
- सामुदायिक तथा निजी विद्यालयसँग सम्बन्धी संघ/संगठनहरू
- बालबालिकाको क्षेत्रमा क्रियाशिल गैर सरकारी संघ/संस्थाहरू
- राजनीतिक दलसँग र सो सँग सम्बन्धित विद्यार्थी संघ/संगठनहरू
- संचार गृह र संचारकर्मीहरू
- युवा, महिला, बालबालिका लक्षित क्लब तथा संजालहरू
- मुस्लिम, दलित, मधेशी लगायत विभिन्न सबैधानिक आयोगहरू
- उद्योगी, व्यापारी तथा श्रमिकका संगठनहरू
- धर्मगुरु तथा धार्मिक संघ संस्थाहरू

## अभियानकर्ताको संरचना



## हामी कस्तो स्थानीय तह देख्न चाहन्छौ ?

हामीले बाल श्रम मुक्त स्थानीय तह देख्न चाहेका छौं, जहाँ सबै बालबालिका पूर्ण-समय औपचारिक दिवा स्कुलमा रही गुणस्तरीय शिक्षाको अनुभूति गरेका हुनेछन् ।

**मौन नबसौ;** विद्यालय बाहिर रहेका बालबालिकालाई औपचारिक दिवा स्कुलमा भर्ना गराउन र टिकाउनका लागि सबै सरोकारवाला जिम्मेवार बनौं ।

यस अभियानमा सहभागी बन्न ईच्छुकहरूले तलको ठेगानामा सम्पर्क गर्न सक्नुहुनेछ । यहाँको सहयोगको सधैं उच्च प्रशंसा गर्नेछौं ।



Aasaman Nepal  
Education  
x Child Labor

प्राविधिक सहयोग तथा सचिवालय

### आसमान नेपाल

केन्द्रीय कार्यालय, जनकपुरधाम, फोन: ०४१-५२२४७३

महालक्ष्मीस्थान, ललितपुर, फोन: ०१-५१७१६४९

प्रादेशिक अभियान संयोजक: रक्की प्रसाद साह, सम्पर्क: ९८४९४४८०४६

सचिवालय/टोल फ्री नं. १६६०-४१-५२४७४

बालबालिकाको आपतकालीन उद्धार, राहत, संरक्षण र परामर्श सेवाका लागि बाल हेलपलाईनको नम्बर १०९८ मा सम्पर्क गरौं । यो नम्बरमा फोन गर्दा पैसा लाग्दैन ।



@fulltimeformaldayschool



formaldayschool@gmail.com



Formal Day School



www.aasamanepal.org.np

सहभागिता आरम्भ हो, सहयात्रा प्रगति हो, सहकार्य सफलता हो ।

## श्रमिक बालबालिकाको सहभागिता सुनिश्चित गरौं

### श्रमिक बालबालिकाको सहभागिता सम्बन्धी नीतिगत व्यवस्था

बालश्रमसँग सम्बन्धित ऐन, नियम, कार्ययोजना तथा कार्यविधिहरूले बालश्रम उन्मुलनका महत्वपूर्ण सरोकारवाला बाल श्रमिकलाई लक्षित समुह मानेको छ तर बालश्रम उन्मुलनका लागि सरोकारवालाको रूपमा स्वीकार गरेको छैन र उनीहरूका समस्या तथा भोगाइहरू सुनुवाइ गर्ने प्रणालीको परिकल्पना गरेको छैन ।

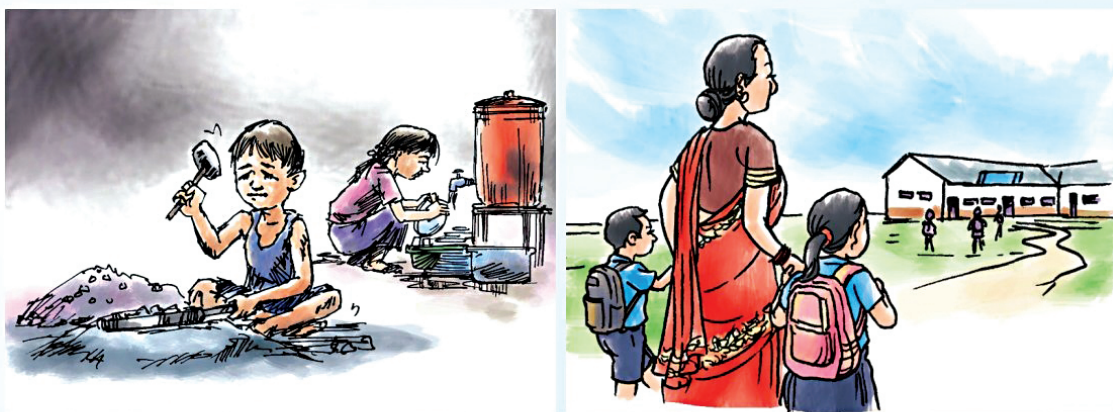
### श्रमिक बालबालिकाको सहभागिताको अधिकारको अवस्था

नेपालमा श्रम सम्बन्धी विभिन्न श्रेत्रमा आवद्ध रहेका श्रमिक बालबालिकासँग गरिएको परामर्श अनुसार उनीहरूका समस्या कसलाई सुनाउने र कसले सुन्ने भन्ने कुनै जानकारी छैन । कसैबाट पनि श्रममा भएका बालबालिकालाई उनीहरूको भोगाई तथा समस्याका बारेमा सोध्ने र समाधानका उपाय खोज्ने प्रभावकारी पहल भएको पाइँदैन ।

### श्रमिक बालबालिकाको सहभागिता किन ?

- ✍ श्रमिक बालबालिकाको श्रम प्रतिको बुझाई तथा सुझाव थाहा पाउन ।
- ✍ श्रमिक बालबालिकाको क्षमता बिकास गर्न ।
- ✍ श्रमिक बालबालिकाको नेतृत्व लिने र दिने सीपको बिकास गर्न ।
- ✍ श्रमिक बालबालिकाका समस्या पहिचान गरि त्यस्ता समस्याको उचित समाधानको उपाय पत्ता लगाउन ।
- ✍ श्रमिक बालबालिकाका बारेमा भईरहेका गतिविधिका बारेमा जानकारी गराउन ।

**श्रममा भएका बालबालिकाको कुरा सुन्नु सबैको जिम्मेवारी हो । श्रममा भएका बालबालिकाको कुरा सुन्ने प्रणालीको बिकास गरौं ।**



**काममा भएका बालबालिकाको कुरा सुनौं**

काम छोडाऔं,

स्कूल पठाऔं

## FORMULATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN (2023-2027)

### A planning team Established:

- Key stakeholder were identified (those who were to be involved in the planning team)
- Team members were selected from ASN and their roles and responsibilities were defined concerning their involvement from the beginning to the end (until the plan is formulated).

### Situation Analysis Conducted:

- A workshop was conducted to gather relevant data, information, and suggestions from concerned stakeholders
- The stakeholders conducted the SWOT (Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, and Threats) Analysis.
- The team identified possible challenges and opportunities
- The workshop discussed to have a clear understanding of the organization's mission, vision, and goal

### ASN Theory of Change (ToC) Developed:

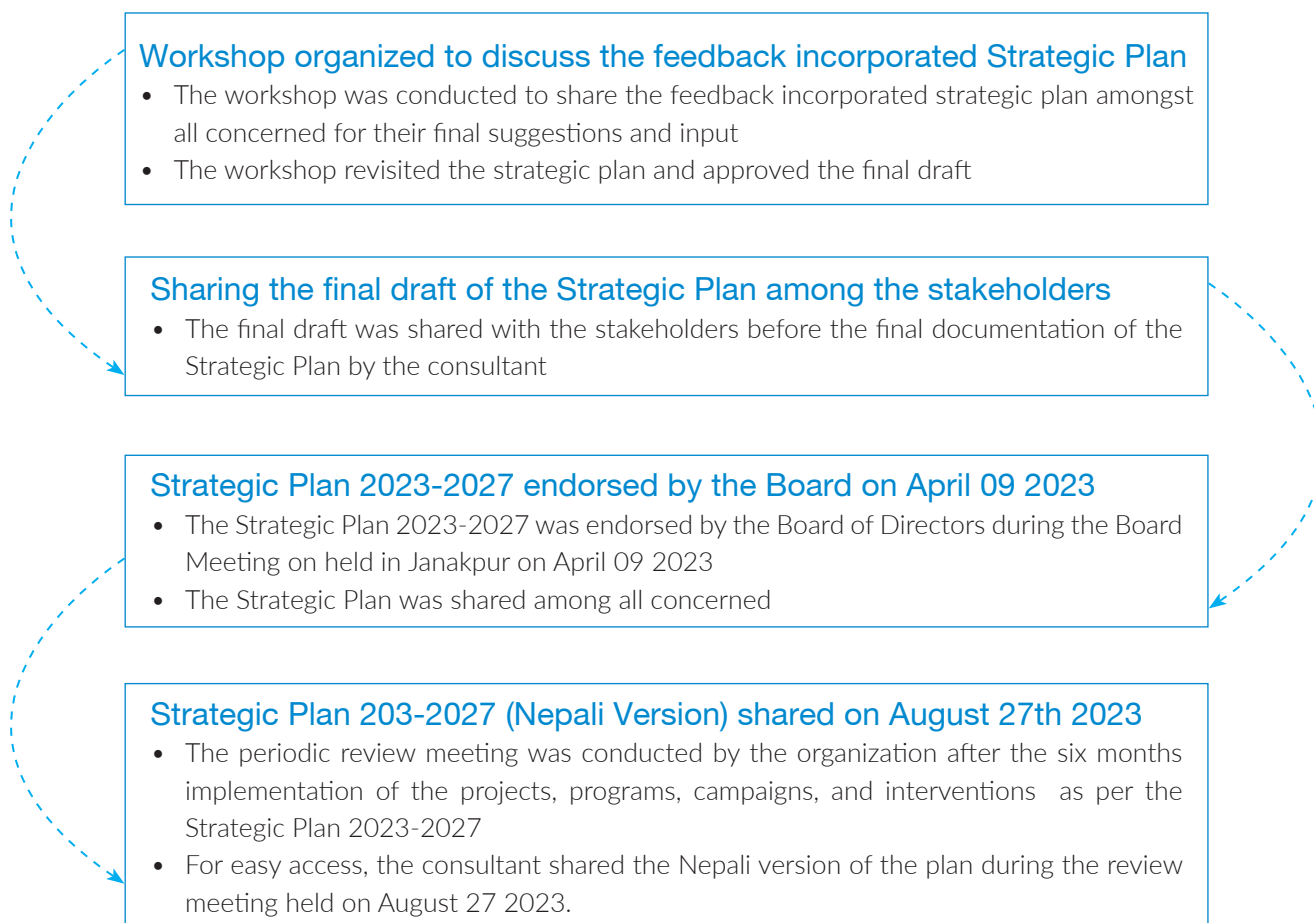
- PESTEL (Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Environmental, and Legal) Analysis done
- The workshop brainstormed and presented the ToC during the workshop
- The final ToC was agreed upon and shared to all by the workshop facilitator

### Strategic Objectives were set:

- The workshop identified specific objectives that the organization will work with in the coming five years
- The stakeholders then collectively prioritized the objectives and developed the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Actions
- The workshop analyzed the feasibility and resource requirements
- Action plan was created and responsibilities allocated

### Draft – Strategic Plan shared for consultation and feedback:

- The focal point shared the first draft of the strategic plan with all stakeholders
- Feedbacks, suggestions, and concerns were noted, compiled, and incorporated
- The feedback incorporated plan was then shared among all concerned
- Revisions were made and the plan re-shared with stakeholders for their final input (if any)



Following the participatory process, ASN formulated the Strategic Plan (2023-2027). This plan sets out the organization's direction for the next five years. Beginning with our 23-year-long journey of serving children and people on the ground, we once again have collectively set strategic objectives that the organization will strive to achieve in the next five years. The plan has been developed with the involvement of our staff and stakeholders through an extensive consultation program that has also engaged external partners and influencers. We are confident that the extensive internal and external consultation process undertaken in developing this plan will secure the support and advocacy of our staff, stakeholders, and development partners in the coming years.

The organization has exciting aspirations as it moves into a new era of development (considering the resource crisis in the post-COVID-19 pandemic). This plan has five strategic objectives (along with their indicators and actions). The strategic plan outlines how the organization will facilitate youth-led, evidence-based advocacy to address pertinent local development issues across sectors. It also aims to institutionalize knowledge management and use Information Communication and

Technology (ICT). This plan also recognizes that there will be strategic media engagement to influence the decision-making agencies and enhance accountability for and action on respect for people's constitutional rights and entitlements. The plan will further help facilitate linkages, coordination, and collaboration among government and development actors. Most importantly, this plan will help strengthen local capacity in formulating and implementing policies and programs aligned with national priorities.

**ASN would like to thank everyone involved throughout the participatory strategic planning process.** With your support, we look forward to implementing this exciting set of initiatives and meeting the many challenges and opportunities that help us support the government in accomplishing its development priorities and broader national goals.

*\*Stakeholders Consulted: Representatives from the local, provincial, and the federal government; media, teachers, community, right holders, CSO partners, ASN Board, Executive Director, and staff members from ASN, including volunteers.*

## [E] FINANCIALS

**SUJAN SUBEDI & ASSOCIATES**  
Chartered Accountants

Baneshwor-31, Kathmandu  
Contact no: 01-4415552  
Email address: casujan.11@gmail.com

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Aasaman Nepal

#### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

##### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **Aasaman Nepal** ("the organization"), which comprise the Statement of financial position as at 32<sup>nd</sup> Ashad 2079 (16<sup>th</sup> July 2022), and the Statement of Income & Expenditure, Fund Accountability Statement, Statement of Cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the aforesaid financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organisation as at 32<sup>nd</sup> Ashad 2079 (16<sup>th</sup> July 2022), its financial performance, statement of changes in equity, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information for the year then ended in accordance with Nepal Accounting Standards.

##### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Nepal Standards on Auditing (NSAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the organisation in accordance with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal's *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (ICAN Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Nepal, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the ICAN code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis of our opinion.

##### Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Nepal Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the organisation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.



Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the organisation's financial reporting process.

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with NSAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

### **Report on Other Legal Regulatory Requirements**

On the basis of our examination, we would like to further report that:

- i. We have obtained all the information and explanations, which were considered necessary for the purpose for our audit.
- ii. The company has kept proper books of accounts as required by law, in so far as it appears from our examination of those books of account.
- iii. The Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Income & Expenditure, Statement of Cash Flows and attached Notes to accounts & Schedules dealt with by this report are in agreement with the books of account maintained by the organisation.
- iv. On the basis of explanations and information made available to us during the course of audit, the financials dealt with by this report properly reflects the financial situation of the organisation, and the statement of Income & Expenditure and Statement of Cash flows for the year ended on the same date properly reflects the profit and loss and cash flows of the organisation, respectively.
- v. During our examination of the books of account of the organisation and to the best of information provided to us, we have not come across the cases where any those charge with governance or any employee of the organisation has acted contrary to the provisions of law or committed any misappropriation of assets or caused loss or damage to the organisation, and
- vi. Based on our sample checking, we have not come across any fraudulence in the accounts.

Date: Sept 21, 2022  
Place: Kathmandu  
UDIN : 220921CA01383A5uil

Sujan Subedi & Associates  
Chartered Accountants



*[Signature]*  
Sujan Subedi, CA  
Proprietor

**Aasaman Nepal**  
Dhanusha, Janakpurdham, Nepal

**Statement of Financial Position**  
As on 32 Ashadh, 2079 (16 July, 2022)

Amount in NPR

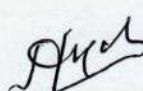
Particulars	Sch.	Current Year	Previous year
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Non Current Assets</b>			
Fixed assets	4	2,714,869.00	20,839,341.79
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>2,714,869.00</b>	<b>20,839,341.79</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	5	120,247,491.62	97,721,079.28
Advances and Receivables	6	10,688,068.85	9,246,314.66
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>130,935,560.47</b>	<b>106,967,393.94</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>133,650,429.47</b>	<b>127,806,735.73</b>
<b>Funds &amp; Liabilities</b>			
Capital Reserve ( Project Assets)	4	-	17,841,251.79
Unrestricted Fund Balance	1	20,463,115.46	16,585,430.70
Restricted Fund Balance	1	66,307,872.43	55,689,626.65
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>86,770,987.89</b>	<b>90,116,309.14</b>
<b>Non Current Liabilities:</b>			
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		-	-
<b>Current Liabilities:</b>			
Creditors and Payables	7	46,879,441.58	37,690,426.59
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>46,879,441.58</b>	<b>37,690,426.59</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>46,879,441.58</b>	<b>37,690,426.59</b>
<b>Total Funds and Liabilities</b>		<b>133,650,429.47</b>	<b>127,806,735.73</b>

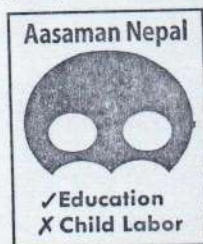
Notes to Financial Statement

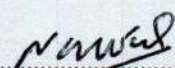
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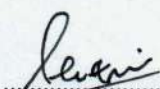
Schedule 1-8 form integral part of this Financial Statements

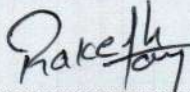
As per our report of even date


  
.....  
Harish Chandra Yadav  
Chairman



  
.....  
Nawal Kishor Yadav  
Executive Director

  
.....  
Laxmi Kumari Biswokarma  
Treasurer

  
.....  
Rakesh Songamikha  
Operation Head

  
.....  
CA Sujan Subedi  
For, Sujan Subedi & Associates  
Chartered Accountants



Date: 20 September, 2022

Place: Kathmandu

**Aasaman Nepal**  
Dhanusha, Janakpurdham, Nepal

**Statement of Income and Expenditure**  
For the period from 1 Shrawan 2078 to 32 Ashadh 2079

Amount in NPR

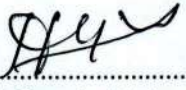
Income	Sch	Current Year	Previous Year
Restricted Grant Income		498,557,250.59	392,569,464.39
Unrestricted Income		3,992,088.00	
<b>Total Income (A)</b>		<b>502,549,338.59</b>	<b>392,569,464.39</b>

Expenditure	Sch	Current Year	Previous Year
Restricted Project Expenditure	3	498,557,250.59	392,569,464.39
Unrestricted Expenditure	3	3,992,088.00	
<b>Total Expenditure (B)</b>		<b>502,549,338.59</b>	<b>392,569,464.39</b>
<b>Excess of Income over Expenditure (A-B)</b>		-	-
Surplus/deficit balance transferred to Balance Sheet		-	-

Notes to Financial Statement

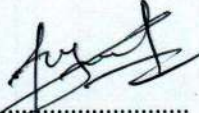
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Schedule 1-8 form integral part of this Financial Statements

  
.....  
Harish Chandra Yadav  
Chairman

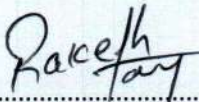
  
.....  
Nawal Kishor Yadav  
Executive Director

As per our report of even date

  
.....  
CA Sujan Subedi  
For, Sujan Subedi & Associates  
Chartered Accountants



  
.....  
Laxmi Kumari Biswokarma  
Treasurer

  
.....  
Rakesh Songamikha  
Operation Head

Date: 20 September, 2022

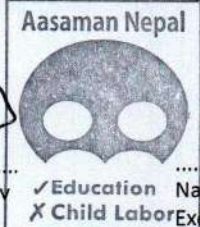
Place: Kathmandu

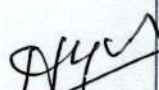
**Aasaman Nepal**  
Janakpurdham, Janakpur, Nepal

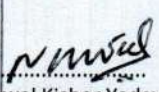
**Statement of Cash Flow**  
For the year ended 32 Asadh, 2079 (16 July, 2022)


Amount in NPR

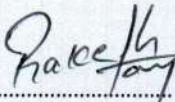
	Particulars	Current Year	Previous Year
<b>A</b>	<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>		
	Surplus for the Year		
	<b>Adjustment for:</b>		
	Depreciation	538,221.00	567,910.00
	Change in Value of Investment Property		
	Increase / Decrease in Trade and other Receivables		-
	(Increase) / Decrease in Advance and receivables	(1,441,754.19)	3,073,937.92
	Increase / (Decrease) in Unrestricted Fund Balance	3,877,684.76	
	Increase / (Decrease) in Restricted Fund Balance	10,618,245.78	2,159,851.46
	Increase / Decrease in other Liabilities	9,189,014.99	9,005,787.70
	<b>Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>	<b>22,781,412.34</b>	<b>14,807,487.08</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>Cash Flow from Investing Activities</b>		
	Acquisition of Property, Plant and Equipment	(255,000.00)	-
	Disposal/Transfer during the year		
	<b>Net Cash flows from Investing Activities</b>	<b>(255,000.00)</b>	-
<b>C</b>	<b>Cash flow from financing activities</b>		
	Increase in capital fund		
	<b>Net Cash Flow from Financing Activities</b>	-	-
	<b>Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>22,526,412.34</b>	<b>14,807,487.08</b>
	<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at the beginning 1 Shrawan 2078</b>	<b>97,721,079.28</b>	<b>82,913,592.20</b>
	<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end 31 Asadh 2079</b>	<b>120,247,491.62</b>	<b>97,721,079.28</b>


  
 ✓ Education    ✗ Child Labor

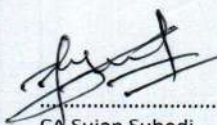

 Harish Chandra Yadav  
Chairman


 Nawal Kishor Yadav  
Executive Director


  
Laxmi Kumari Biswokarma  
Treasurer


  
Rakesh Songamikha  
Operation Head

As per our report of even date


  
CA Sujan Subedi  
For, Sujan Subedi & Associates  
Chartered Accountants



Date: 20 September, 2022  
Place: Kathmandu

**Aasaman Nepal**  
Dhanusha, Janakpurdham, Nepal  
Fund Accountability Statement

Particulars	Sch	AE/A-Youth Employ & Enhance in learn skills	ASN-Aasaman Nepal Operational Account	ASN-Aasaman Nepal Emergency Fund	ASN-Aasaman Organization Fund	AUS-Creating Life Opportunities for Musahar Girls	BAL-Bal Help Line	BC-Sister for Sister- GECT	BC-Connecting Classroom and International School	CIFL-Bridge the Learning Gap: Leave No Girls Behind	EU-Promoting Citizen empowerment and Inclusive	GNI-Integrated Community Development Project
Surplus Carried Forward	1	(90,440.77)	13,790,046.14	1,038,071.00	1,757,313.56	(354.56)	142,040.00	1,591,849.55	-	-	37,733,487.19	-
Fund Received	2	-	7,463,714.79	325,566.46	80,491.51	-	555,365.00	(1,675,851.55)	8,332,521.21	1,539,808.80	18,967,854.63	1,138,610.00
ASN contribution/ Prior Adjustment	2.1	90,440.77	-	-	-	354.56	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assets	4											
<b>Total Available Fund</b>		-	<b>21,253,760.93</b>	<b>1,363,637.46</b>	<b>1,837,805.07</b>	-	<b>697,405.00</b>	<b>(84,002.00)</b>	<b>8,332,521.21</b>	<b>1,539,808.80</b>	<b>56,701,341.82</b>	<b>1,138,610.00</b>
Expenditure	3	-	3,939,769.00	52,319.00	-	-	545,664.25	(84,002.00)	8,332,521.21	234,394.00	34,046,315.28	1,026,132.13
<b>Balance of Fund</b>		-	<b>17,313,991.93</b>	<b>1,311,318.46</b>	<b>1,837,805.07</b>	-	<b>151,740.75</b>	-	-	<b>1,305,414.80</b>	<b>22,655,026.54</b>	<b>112,477.87</b>
<b>Represented by</b>												
Fixed Assets (Net)	4		2,714,869.00									
Cash & Bank Balances	5	-	18,050,172.32	1,311,933.46	1,165,178.94	-	100,980.33	-	-	1,393,078.80	23,001,078.59	364,766.47
Advances/Receivables	6	-	1,507,219.30	-	672,626.13	-	151,386.09	-	-	-	361,595.52	-
Payable	7	-	(4,958,268.69)	(615.00)	-	-	(100,625.67)	-	-	(87,664.00)	(707,647.57)	(252,288.60)
<b>Balance</b>		-	<b>17,313,991.93</b>	<b>1,311,318.46</b>	<b>1,837,805.07</b>	-	<b>151,740.75</b>	-	-	<b>1,305,414.80</b>	<b>22,655,026.54</b>	<b>112,477.87</b>

Notes to the Account  
Schedules 1-8 form integral parts of this Financial Statements

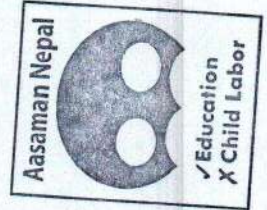
*Laxmi*  
Laxmi Kumari Biswokarma  
Treasurer

*Nawal*  
Nawal Kishor Yadav  
Executive Director

*Chandra*  
Chandra Chandra Yadav  
Chairman

*Rakesh*  
Rakesh Songamkha  
Operation Head

*Sujan*  
CA Sujan Subedi  
For, Sujan Subedi & Associates  
Chartered Accountants

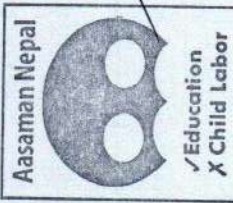


Date: 20 September, 2022  
Place: Kathmandu, Nepal

**Asaman Nepal**  
Janakpurdham, Janakpur, Nepal  
Fund Accountability Statement

Particulars	Sch	JNKMC-Support to Child Development Club and Public	KNH-Listening to the Experts	KNH-SASHAKTA (Empower)	KNH-SASHAKTA (Empowered) Phase II	LWF-Local Initiative for Community Empowerment &	LWF-Recovery of living conditions for the most vulnerable	LWF-DEFAT COVID-19 Emergency Response	LWF-Economic Recovery and Psychosocial Support	LWR-Trans-boundary flood Resilience Project in	LWR-Relief distribution to flood affected households	NetLL-Corporate social responsibility (CSR)
Surplus Carried Forward	1	-	-	158,860.80	253,794.98	-	116,637.40	-	-	213,157.59	(372.30)	123,059.76
Fund Received	2	3,000,000.00	11,037,686.42	(158,860.80)	5,862,113.37	1,535,676.00	2,681,933.70	2,250,000.00	1,214,324.00	(213,157.59)	-	-
ASN contribution/ Prior Adjustment	2.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assets	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	372.30	-
<b>Total Available Fund</b>		<b>3,000,000.00</b>	<b>11,037,686.42</b>	-	<b>6,115,908.35</b>	<b>1,535,676.00</b>	<b>2,798,571.10</b>	<b>2,250,000.00</b>	<b>1,214,324.00</b>	-	-	<b>123,059.76</b>
Expenditure	3	3,036,993.00	7,499,299.83	-	3,265,466.01	1,402,886.82	2,798,571.10	2,962,283.73	1,214,324.00	-	-	-
<b>Balance of Fund</b>		<b>(36,993.00)</b>	<b>3,538,386.59</b>	-	<b>2,850,442.34</b>	<b>132,789.18</b>	-	<b>(712,283.73)</b>	-	-	-	<b>123,059.76</b>
<b>Represented by</b>												
Fixed Assets (Net)	4											
Cash & Bank Balances	5	2,726,732.00	2,348,733.52	-	3,023,591.06	1,235,295.00	-	201,159.75	-	-	-	-
Advances/Receivables	6	200,000.00	1,336,805.07	-	5,654.00	-	-	32,817.52	-	-	-	-
Payable	7	(2,963,725.00)	(147,152.00)	-	(178,802.72)	(1,102,505.82)	-	(946,261.00)	-	-	-	-
<b>Balance</b>		<b>(36,993.00)</b>	<b>3,538,386.59</b>	-	<b>2,850,442.34</b>	<b>132,789.18</b>	-	<b>(712,283.73)</b>	-	-	-	-

Notes to the Account



*Laxmi*  
Laxmi Koirala Biswakarma  
Treasurer

*Nawal*  
Nawal Kishor Yadav  
Executive Director

*Harish*  
Harish Chandra Yadav  
Chairman

*Rakesh*  
Rakesh Songamkha  
Operation Head

*Sujan*  
Sujan Subedi & Associates  
Chartered Accountants



Date: 20 September, 2022  
Place: Kathmandu, Nepal

Particulars	Sch	NE-NPL 19/0002 Promoting quality education for girls	PAF-Poverty Allivion Project, Dhanusha	PAFSH-Poverty Allivion Project (Phase II), Sarlahi	PTN-Leave no Girl Behind (LNGB)	PN-COVID-19 Response	PLAN-Learn Program	PLAN-NRK Telethon -Child, Not Bride- Protect	PSI-Maternal and Newborn Health (MNH) Continuum of	R-Nepal Reducing Child Early and Forced Marriage (R-	SC-Teaching at the Right Level/ World Bank Pilot	SCI-Effective Case Management by Strengthening
Surplus Carried Forward	1	14,925,103.52	(176,167.00)	(348,969.88)	(1,204,490.07)	(52,437.00)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fund Received	2	79,954,122.38	-	-	105,083,300.29	213,828.00	10,489,207.66	6,514,818.00	10,631,299.74	25,260,658.57	3,596,994.00	3,735,723.63
ASN contribution/ Prior Adjustment	2.1	-	176,167.00	348,969.88	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assets	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Available Fund</b>		<b>94,879,225.90</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>103,878,810.22</b>	<b>161,391.00</b>	<b>10,489,207.66</b>	<b>6,514,818.00</b>	<b>10,631,299.74</b>	<b>25,260,658.57</b>	<b>3,596,994.00</b>	<b>3,735,723.63</b>
Expenditure	3	57,162,755.89	-	-	98,337,441.22	161,391.00	10,567,585.66	6,936,759.00	8,150,660.82	25,260,658.57	3,596,994.00	3,735,723.63
<b>Balance of Fund</b>		<b>37,716,470.01</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,541,369.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(78,378.00)</b>	<b>(421,941.00)</b>	<b>2,480,638.92</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(10.00)</b>
<b>Represented by</b>												
Fixed Assets (Net)	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cash & Bank Balances	5	40,957,771.82	-	-	7,378,279.00	-	-	-	3,059,519.92	-	-	637,749.97
Advances/Receivables	6	775,386.42	-	-	106,379.00	-	-	-	262,440.00	1,196,153.75	-	142,136.63
Payable	7	(4,016,688.23)	-	-	(1,943,289.00)	-	(78,378.00)	(421,941.00)	(841,321.00)	(1,196,153.75)	-	(779,896.60)
<b>Balance</b>		<b>37,716,470.01</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,541,369.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(78,378.00)</b>	<b>(421,941.00)</b>	<b>2,480,638.92</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(10.00)</b>

Notes to the Account 8

  
Laxmi Kumari Biswokarma  
Treasurer

Date: 20 September, 2022  
Place: Kathmandu, Nepal



  
Harish Chandra Yadav  
Chairman

  
Rakesh Songamlika  
Operation Head



  
CA Sujan Subedi  
For, Sujan Subedi & Associates  
Chartered Accountants  
Kathmandu

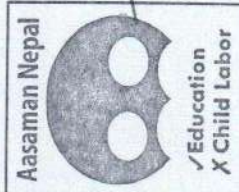
Particulars	Sch	SCI-RCCE- Awareness Raising among Women about	SCI-VAX-UP, Risk Communications and Community	SCMNM- Marginalized No More (MNIM)	SC-Rapid Response Fund	STREET-Breaking the Bonds: Freedom through Education	SWISS-Youth Employment Project (YEP-Nepal)	SWISS-Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders	SWISS-Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders	SWISS-Step Up Project	SWISS-Youth Employment Project (YEP-Nepal) 2nd	UN-Provision of Vocational Training- 2021
Surplus Carried Forward.	1	-	-	116,161.25	(44,069.00)	(1,581,199.56)	(295,904.50)	1,008,528.00	-	-	(86,582.44)	(340,519.75)
Fund Received	2	2,543,897.00	2,874,087.00	21,898,241.00	44,069.00	1,038,550.29	295,904.50	14,719,723.03	1,116,949.46	16,895,916.00	-	23,222,213.75
ASN contribution/ Prior Adjustment	2.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	86,582.44	-
Assets	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Available Fund</b>		<b>2,543,897.00</b>	<b>2,874,087.00</b>	<b>22,014,402.25</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(542,649.27)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,728,251.03</b>	<b>1,116,949.46</b>	<b>16,895,916.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>22,881,694.00</b>
Expenditure	3	2,543,897.00	2,874,087.00	22,514,415.63	-	709,072.00	-	16,049,202.03	1,143,083.46	16,027,595.36	-	22,881,694.00
<b>Balance of Fund</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(500,013.38)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,251,721.27)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(320,951.00)</b>	<b>(26,134.00)</b>	<b>868,320.64</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Represented by</b>												
Fixed Assets (Net)	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cash & Bank Balances	5	-	-	261,837.41	-	212,872.36	-	725,866.03	151,125.46	2,447,090.64	-	-
Advances/Receivables	6	-	-	-	-	2,018,911.17	-	1,060.00	-	1,400.00	-	-
Payable	7	-	-	(761,850.79)	-	(3,483,504.80)	-	(1,047,877.03)	(177,259.46)	(1,580,170.00)	-	-
<b>Balance</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(500,013.38)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,251,721.27)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(320,951.00)</b>	<b>(26,134.00)</b>	<b>868,320.64</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>



*[Signature]*  
CA Sujan Subedi  
For, Sujan Subedi & Associates  
Chartered Accountants

*[Signature]*  
Rakesh Songamkha  
Operation Head

*[Signature]*  
Herish Chandra Yadav  
Chairman



*[Signature]*  
Nawal Kishor Yadav  
Executive Director

*[Signature]*  
Laxmi Kumari Biswakarma  
Treasurer

**Asaman Nepal**  
Janakpurdham, Janakpur, Nepal  
Fund Accountability Statement

Particulars	Sch	UNESCO-Providing logistic support in the training for the NFE	UNESCO-Unesco Support Project	VSO-Safe to Learn	VSO-SYAHAAR "Strengthening Access to Adolescent	VSO-Global Programme to Accelerate Action to	VSO-Empowering New Generation of Adolescent Girls	VSOGFC-Sister for Sister Education in Nepal-II	WE-Sakriya	WFP-BSTFP and Nutrition Education	WFP-Nutrition Education under the Emergency Nutrition	WFP-BSTFP and Nutrition Education-Phase II
Surplus Carried Forward	1	-	2,007,345.92	(403,939.21)	-	-	-	(2,194,887.54)	1,964,965.00	(1,992,021.29)	-	-
Fund Received	2	493,218.00	-	403,939.21	8,595,613.00	5,446,651.31	1,683,931.00	2,403,210.94	1,661,801.00	1,916,845.04	8,483,386.18	5,854,182.58
ASN contribution/ Prior Adjustment	2.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assets	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Available Fund</b>		<b>493,218.00</b>	<b>2,007,345.92</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,595,613.00</b>	<b>5,446,651.31</b>	<b>1,683,931.00</b>	<b>208,323.40</b>	<b>3,626,766.00</b>	<b>(75,176.25)</b>	<b>8,483,386.18</b>	<b>5,854,182.58</b>
Expenditure	3	777,700.00	1,916,821.91	-	10,131,621.78	5,613,548.03	2,087,436.00	208,323.40	3,626,766.00	(75,176.25)	8,483,386.18	5,854,182.58
Balance of Fund		<b>(284,482.00)</b>	<b>90,524.01</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,536,008.78)</b>	<b>(166,896.72)</b>	<b>(403,505.00)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Represented by</b>												
Fixed Assets (Net)	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cash & Bank Balances	5	470,918.00	90,524.01	-	49,497.72	394,775.27	2,904.00	-	-	95,389.80	225,894.00	-
Advances/Receivables	6	-	-	-	-	5,156.25	(83,155.00)	-	-	-	-	-
Payable	7	(755,400.00)	-	-	(1,585,506.50)	(566,828.24)	(323,254.00)	-	-	(95,389.80)	(225,894.00)	-
<b>Balance</b>		<b>(284,482.00)</b>	<b>90,524.01</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,536,008.78)</b>	<b>(166,896.72)</b>	<b>(403,505.00)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

Notes to the Account

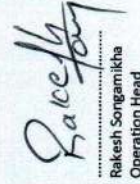
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Laxmi Kamari Biswakarma  
Treasurer

Date: 20 September, 2022  
Place: Kathmandu, Nepal



  
Harish Chandra Yadav  
Chairman

  
Rakesh Songamikhla  
Operation Head

  
CA. Sujan Subedi  
For, Sujan Subedi & Associates  
Chartered Accountants



Particulars	Sch	WFP-Mother and Child Health and Nutrition Program	WHP-NPL1070- Building resilience and Nutrition	WHP-NPL 1077- COVID19 response to second wave in Nepal	WHP-NPL 1054 Promoting citizens empowerment and	WHP-NPL 1059-18 Building livelihood resilience and	WHP-NPL 1068-20 LANN +	Current Year Total	Previous Year Total
Surplus Carried Forward.	1	-	(187,978.69)	-	3,903,716.20	836,963.31	(405,710.24)	72,275,057.35	66,549,205.89
Fund Received	2	6,316,000.00	37,355,147.46	5,869,246.90	8,973,289.60	(836,978.31)	27,655,599.00	516,342,382.18	394,729,315.85
ASN contributions/ Prior Adjustment	2.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	702,886.95	-
Assets	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,407,251.79
<b>Total Available Fund</b>		<b>6,316,000.00</b>	<b>37,167,168.77</b>	<b>5,869,246.90</b>	<b>12,877,005.80</b>	<b>(15.00)</b>	<b>27,249,888.76</b>	<b>589,320,326.48</b>	<b>482,685,773.53</b>
Expenditure	3	7,209,502.70	45,835,397.67	5,869,246.90	12,877,005.80	(15.00)	23,084,567.50	502,549,338.59	392,569,464.39
<b>Balance of Fund</b>		<b>(893,502.70)</b>	<b>(8,668,228.90)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,165,321.26</b>	<b>86,770,987.89</b>	<b>90,116,309.14</b>
<b>Represented by</b>									
Fixed Assets (Net)	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,714,869.00	20,839,341.79
Cash & Bank Balances	5	315,454.86	3,306,882.85	-	-	-	4,540,438.26	120,247,491.62	97,721,079.28
Advances/Receivables	6	631,700.00	449,880.00	-	-	-	912,517.00	10,688,068.85	9,246,314.66
Payable	7	(1,840,657.56)	(12,424,991.75)	-	-	-	(1,287,634.00)	(46,879,441.58)	(37,690,426.59)
<b>Balance</b>		<b>(893,502.70)</b>	<b>(8,668,228.90)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,165,321.26</b>	<b>86,770,987.89</b>	<b>90,116,309.14</b>

Notes to the Account


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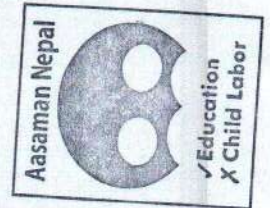
  
Laxmi Kirmari Biswokarma  
Treasurer

  
Nawal Kishor Yadav  
Executive Director

  
Harish Chandra Yadav  
Chairman

  
Rakesh Songamkha  
Operation Head

  
Sujan Subedi  
Chartered Accountants



Date: 20 September, 2022  
Place: Kathmandu, Nepal

**Aasaman Nepal**  
Dhanusha, Janakpurdham, Nepal

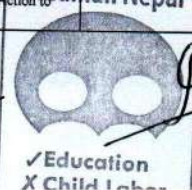
Schedule 1

**Details of Restricted Fund Balance**

Amount in NPR

SN	Particulars	Opening Fund	ASN contribution/ Prior Adjustment	Fund Received	Total Available Fund	Expenditure	Balance of Fund
1	AEA-Youth Employ & Enhance in learn skills	(90,440.77)	90,440.77	-	-	-	-
2	ASN-Aasaman Nepal Operational Account	13,790,046.14	-	7,463,714.79	21,253,760.93	3,939,769.00	17,313,991.93
3	ASN-Aasaman Nepal Emergency Fund	1,038,071.00	-	325,566.46	1,363,637.46	52,319.00	1,311,318.46
4	ASN-Aasaman Organization Fund	1,757,313.56	-	80,491.51	1,837,805.07	-	1,837,805.07
5	AUS-Creating Life Opportunities for Musahar Girls	(354.56)	354.56	-	-	-	-
6	BAL-Bal Help Line	142,040.00	-	555,365.00	697,405.00	545,664.25	151,740.75
7	BC-Sister for Sister-GECT	1,591,849.55	-	(1,675,851.55)	(84,002.00)	(84,002.00)	-
8	BC-Connecting Classroom and International School Award Project	-	-	8,332,521.21	8,332,521.21	8,332,521.21	-
9	CIFL-Bridge the Learning Gap: Leave No Girls Behind	-	-	1,539,808.80	1,539,808.80	234,394.00	1,305,414.80
10	EU-Promoting Citizen empowerment and Inclusive democracy	37,733,487.19	-	18,967,854.63	56,701,341.82	34,046,315.28	22,655,026.54
11	GNI-Intergated Community Development Project	-	-	1,138,610.00	1,138,610.00	1,026,132.13	112,477.87
12	JNKMC-Support to Child Development Club and Public School	-	-	3,000,000.00	3,000,000.00	3,036,993.00	(36,993.00)
13	KNH-Listening to the Experts	-	-	11,037,686.42	11,037,686.42	7,499,299.83	3,538,386.59
14	KNH-SASHAKTA (Empower)	158,860.80	-	(158,860.80)	-	-	-
15	KNH-SASHAKTA (Empowered) Phase II	253,794.98	-	5,862,113.37	6,115,908.35	3,265,466.01	2,850,442.34
16	LWF-Local Initiative for Community Empowerment & Development	-	-	1,535,676.00	1,535,676.00	1,402,886.82	132,789.18
17	LWF-Recovery of living conditions for the most vulnerable people affected by COVID19 in Nepal	116,637.40	-	2,681,933.70	2,798,571.10	2,798,571.10	-
18	LWF-DEFAT COVID-19 Emergency Response for Nepal	-	-	2,250,000.00	2,250,000.00	2,962,283.73	(712,283.73)
19	LWF-Economic Recovery and Psychosocial Support to Poor and Vulnerable Communities Affected by COVID 19 Pandemic	-	-	1,214,324.00	1,214,324.00	1,214,324.00	-
20	LWR-Trans-boundary flood Resilience Project in Kamala	213,157.59	-	(213,157.59)	-	-	-
21	LWR-Relief distribution to flood affected households	(372.30)	372.30	-	-	-	-
22	NceLL-Corporate social responsibility (CSR)	123,059.76	-	-	123,059.76	123,059.76	-
23	NE-NPL 19/0002 Promoting quality education for girls and marginalized children in Dhanusha District	14,925,103.52	-	79,954,122.38	94,879,225.90	57,162,755.89	37,716,470.01
24	PAF-Poverty Aliviation Project, Dhanusha	(176,167.00)	176,167.00	-	-	-	-
25	PAFSII-Poverty Aliviation Project (Phase II), Sarlahi	(348,969.88)	348,969.88	-	-	-	-
26	PIN-Leave no Girl Behind (LNGB)	(1,204,490.07)	-	105,083,300.29	103,878,810.22	98,337,441.22	5,541,369.00
27	PIN-COVID-19 Response	(52,437.00)	-	213,828.00	161,391.00	161,391.00	-
28	PLAN-Learn Program	-	-	10,489,207.66	10,489,207.66	10,567,585.66	(78,378.00)
29	PLAN-NRK Telethon - Child, Not Bride - Project	-	-	6,514,818.00	6,514,818.00	6,936,759.00	(421,941.00)
30	PSI-Maternal and Newborn Health (MNH) Continuum of Care Project	-	-	10,631,299.74	10,631,299.74	8,150,660.82	2,480,638.92
31	R-Nepal Reducing Child Early and Forced Marriage (R-CEFM) Project	-	-	25,260,658.57	25,260,658.57	25,260,658.57	-
32	SC-Teaching at the Right Level/ World Bank Pilot	-	-	3,596,994.00	3,596,994.00	3,596,994.00	-
33	SCI-Effective Case Management by Strengthening Isolation Centres and Ground Crossing Points (GCPs) management for Rapid Response and Preparedness against COVID-19	-	-	3,735,723.63	3,735,723.63	3,735,733.63	(10.00)
34	SCI-RCCE-Awareness Raising among Women about Vaccination	-	-	2,543,897.00	2,543,897.00	2,543,897.00	-
35	SCI-VAX-UP, Risk Communications and Community Engagement Project	-	-	2,874,087.00	2,874,087.00	2,874,087.00	-
36	SCMNM-Marginalized No More (MNM)	116,161.25	-	21,898,241.00	22,014,402.25	22,514,415.63	(500,013.38)
37	SC-Rapid Response Fund	(44,069.00)	-	44,069.00	-	-	-
38	STREET-Breaking the Bonds: Freedom through Education and Economic Empowerment for Musahar Girls in Nepal	(1,581,199.56)	-	1,038,550.29	(542,649.27)	709,072.00	(1,251,721.27)
39	SWISS-Youth Employment Project (YEP-Nepal)	(25,904.50)	-	295,904.50	-	-	-
40	SWISS-Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders Agribusiness (CASA) Programme	1,008,528.00	-	14,719,723.03	15,728,251.03	16,049,202.03	(320,951.00)
41	SWISS-Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders Agribusiness (CASA) Programme-Cohort 2	-	-	1,116,949.46	1,116,949.46	1,143,083.46	(26,134.00)
42	SWISS-Step Up Project	-	-	16,895,916.00	16,895,916.00	16,027,595.36	868,320.64
43	SWISS-Youth Employment Project (YEP-Nepal) 2nd Phase	(86,582.44)	86,582.44	-	-	-	-
44	UN-Provision of Vocational Training-2021	(340,519.75)	-	23,222,213.75	22,881,694.00	22,881,694.00	-
45	UNESCO-Providing logistic support in the training for the NFE curriculum	-	-	493,218.00	493,218.00	777,700.00	(284,482.00)
46	UNESCO-Unesco Support Project	2,007,345.92	-	-	2,007,345.92	1,916,821.91	90,524.01
47	VSO-Safe to Learn	(403,939.23)	-	403,939.23	-	-	-
48	VSO-SYAHAAR "Strengthening Access to Adolescent Holistic Health Right"	-	-	8,595,613.00	8,595,613.00	10,131,621.78	(1,536,008.78)
49	VSO-Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage (GPECMNPL)	-	-	5,446,651.31	5,446,651.31	5,613,548.03	(166,896.72)

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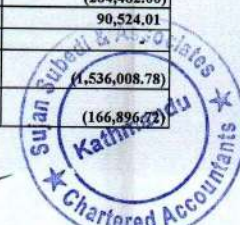


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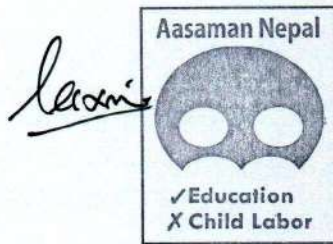
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SN	Particulars	Opening Fund	ASN contribution/ Prior Adjustment	Fund Received	Total Available Fund	Expenditure	Balance of Fund
50	VSO-Empowering New Generation of Adolescent Girls through Girls Education	-	-	1,683,931.00	1,683,931.00	2,087,436.00	(403,505.00)
51	VSOGEC-Sister for Sister Education in Nepal-II	(2,194,887.54)	-	2,403,210.94	208,323.40	208,323.40	-
52	WE-Sakriya	1,964,965.00	-	1,661,801.00	3,626,766.00	3,626,766.00	-
53	WFP-BSFP and Nutrition Education	(1,992,021.29)	-	1,916,845.04	(75,176.25)	(75,176.25)	-
54	WFP-Nutrition Education under the Emergency Nutrition Response Program	-	-	8,483,386.18	8,483,386.18	8,483,386.18	-
55	WFP-BSFP and Nutrition Education - Phase II	-	-	5,854,182.58	5,854,182.58	5,854,182.58	-
56	WFP-Mother and Child Health and Nutrition Program	-	-	6,316,000.00	6,316,000.00	7,209,502.70	(893,502.70)
57	WHH-NPL1070-Building resilience and Nutrition Security in the Kamala river basin, Siraha District	(187,978.69)	-	37,355,147.46	37,167,168.77	45,835,397.67	(8,668,228.90)
58	WHH-NPL 1077- COVID19 response to second wave in Nepal	-	-	5,869,246.90	5,869,246.90	5,869,246.90	-
59	WHH-NPL 1054 Promoting citizens empowerment and inclusive democracy in 2 Municipalities of Rautahat and Saptari	3,903,716.20	-	8,973,289.60	12,877,005.80	12,877,005.80	-
60	WHH-NPL 1059-18 Building livelihood resilience and nutrition	836,963.31	-	(836,978.31)	(15.00)	(15.00)	-
61	WHH-NPL 1068-20 LANN +	(405,710.24)	-	27,655,599.00	27,249,888.76	23,084,567.50	4,165,321.26
	<b>Current Year Total</b>	<b>72,275,057.35</b>	<b>702,886.95</b>	<b>516,342,382.18</b>	<b>589,320,326.48</b>	<b>502,549,338.59</b>	<b>86,770,987.89</b>
	<b>Last Year Total</b>	<b>66,549,205.89</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>394,729,315.85</b>	<b>461,278,521.74</b>	<b>389,003,464.39</b>	<b>72,275,057.35</b>



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## [F] PROJECTS IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2022 [JAN 2022 – MAR 2023]

### RM: Rural Municipality, M: Municipality

Thematic Areas	Name of the Project	Geographical coverage in terms of District, M/ RM	Project Goal/Objective	No. of Beneficiaries contributed by the Project	Donor/ Funding Organization	Duration (in Year)
Education/Child Protection	Promoting Quality Education for Girls and Marginalized Children of Dhanusha, Terai, Nepal	<b>Dhanusha</b> Ganeshman Charnath M, Sabaila M, Laxminiya RM, Nagrain M	Empowering marginalized children and girls including those with disabilities.	33,831 school children, SMC, PTA, Head Teacher & Teachers, Mother's group, Girls Network, Child Club	The Royal Norwegian Embassy	Oct 2019- Dec 2022
	Aarambha – Leave No Girls Behind	<b>Bara</b> Subarna RM, Devtal RM, Adarshakotwal RM Rautahat Yamunamai RM, Durga Bhagwati RM & Katahariya M	Improving life choices and opportunities of married out-of-school adolescent girls in Province 2 through increased literacy and numeracy and enhanced life skills	8,500 married Out-of-school adolescent girls	UK Aid, People in Need (PIN)	Nov 2018- Jan 2024
	Telethon-Child not bride	<b>Dhanusha</b> Bideha M, Janaknandani RM, Kamala M, Shahid Nagar M and Sabaila M	To reduce the incidence of child, early and forced marriage in 5 municipalities in Dhanusha.	31,214 Stakeholders including Students, HT, Teachers, SMC, PTA, CC, MHIM Club, Parents, Gender Focal Teachers, Young Women, Marginalized Communities, LGs, LCRC, VEC/MEC, CSOs, Cooperative EDD, EDUC, DCC	Plan International Nepal/ Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation (NRK)	Jan 2023- Dec 2023

Thematic Areas	Name of the Project	Geographical coverage in terms of District, M/ RM	Project Goal/Objective	No. of Beneficiaries contributed by the Project	Donor/ Funding Organization	Duration (in Year)
Education/Child Protection	Gender Transformative & Inclusive Quality Education Promotion Project (SPAP)-Learn	<b>Dhanusha</b> Bideha M, Janaknandani RM, Sabaila M, Kamala M & Shahidnagar M	Improved access to inclusive, quality, safe and, relevant education for girls & young women which equips them for the future they desire	10,500 students, teacher, child club representatives' parents, marginalized community member, Sponsored child and family and Local leader of 15 Schools	Plan International Nepal	Mar – Jun 2022
	Reducing Child, early and Forced Marriage (R-CEFM) Project	<b>Rautahat</b> Rajpur M, Durgabhagwati M, Yamunamai M, Rajdevi M, Kathariya M, Gaur M	Strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of the local government to design, implement, monitor, evaluate, and coordinate social and behavior change activities and to strengthen the child protection systems to reduce CEFM through the community-based, multisectoral, data-driven lens	3500+ students Local government stakeholders, teachers, school, religious, social leaders, child club, youth club, mothers' group, women group, FCHVs, and local community	Save the Children	Apr 2021- Feb 2022
	Listening to Experts	<b>Dhanusha</b> Bideha M, Mithilabihari M Kathmandu Budhanilkantha M	Ensure that the voices, concerns and issues of children are heard and their concerns are discussed with the government and relevant stakeholders	350 working children, 56 NGO staff, 10 government officials	Kindernothilfe (KNH)	Oct 2021 - Mar 2024
KHUSHEE- Knowledge Hub for Uplifting Socio-economically marginalized children and families through actions in Education and Economic Empowerment	<b>Bara</b> Mahagadhimai M, Karaiyamai RM, Devtal RM	Strengthen inclusive and quality educational environment through sustained good governance and improved economic status of poor and marginalized families in Bara district.	10,832 poor and marginalized family	Save the Children	Jan 2023- Dec 2023	

Thematic Areas	Name of the Project	Geographical coverage in terms of District, M/ RM	Project Goal/Objective	No. of Beneficiaries contributed by the Project	Donor/ Funding Organization	Duration (in Year)
Education/Child Protection	Teaching at Right level (TaRL)	<b>Salyan</b> Siddhakumakh RM <b>Dhanusha</b> Ganeshman Chaarnath M	Enable children (focusing on early grade students) to enhance their overall learning achievement as per their learning need	64 schools, 2400 students (grade 4 & 5)	Street Child of Nepal/World Bank	Dec 2021- Feb 2022
	Integrated Community Development Project (ICDP)	<b>Dhanusha</b> Mithila Bihari Municipality Mukhiyapatti Mushamiya Rural Municipality	To improve the wellbeing of children, their families, and communities	Total Population: 2372 (Male: 1001; Female: 1371), Girls (0- 18): 777, Boys (0-18): 326, Young Men(19- 24): 51, Dalit: 517, Disable:1 Sponsored Children Families: 43	Good Neighbors International (GNI)	Jan 2022 – Dec 2023
	Empowering New Generation of Adolescent Girls with Education (ENGAGE)	<b>Parsa</b> Pakaha Manipur RM, Kalikamai RM, Birgunj Metropolitan City, Bindwasini RM, Dhobini RM, Parsagadhi M, Bahodarmai M <b>Dhading</b> GangaJamuna RM, Tripurasundari RM, Siddhalekh RM, Benighat Rorang RM, Nilkantha M <b>Surkhet</b> Bheri-Ganga M, Lekbesi M, Gurba-kot M, Birendranagar M, Barahataal RM <b>Lamjung</b> Besisar M, Madhyaur M, Sundarbazar M, Marsyangdi RM, Dordi RM Kwbholasothar RM	Empowerment of marginalized, out of school girls through greater advocacy and formation, operationalization of the 'Girls Inclusive Education Network' so that they have an overall improved learning opportunities and outcomes	GfEN members, big sisters/little sisters of 23 municipalities and 48 schools	Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO)	Aug 2021- Dec 2022

Thematic Areas	Name of the Project	Geographical coverage in terms of District, M/RM	Project Goal/Objective	No. of Beneficiaries contributed by the Project	Donor/ Funding Organization	Duration (in Year)
Education/Child Protection	Bridging the Learning Gap: Leave No Girl Behind (LNGB)	<b>Parsa</b> Thri RM	To empower girls through education and livelihood support Project  Increased access of out-of-school girls to formal school and livelihood opportunities	278 Marginalized out of school girls	Global Development Group	Jan 2023- Dec 2025
	GEMS-Girls Empowerment and Mainstreaming Sustainably	<b>Rautahat</b> Gadhimai M, Gaur M <b>Bara</b> Kalaiya sub-metropolitan city, Jeetpur Simara <b>Surkhet</b> Lekhbesi M/Bheriganga, Gurbakot M	Inclusive society and equitable development in Nepal by strengthening girls' education, Health and empowerment of women and girls.	36,959 female, 35,501 adolescent men and boys including 725 people with disabilities.  30 mothers' groups and 30 YLCs in 24 wards across three districts, 27 schools, and 24 health facilities.	Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) and British Council	September 2022- March 2023
	Innovative Pedagogies to Support Foundational Support	<b>Kapilbastu</b> Buddhabhumi M, Suddodhan RM	Support the education stakeholders through innovative pedagogies	1600 school children of Grade 3 and 4 and 80 teachers	Street Child	Nov 2022- Oct 2024
	Global Programme to Accelerate Action to End Child Marriage (Rupantaran)	<b>Rautahat</b> Rajpur M, Gujara M, Yamunamai RM, Chapur M, Gaur M	Empower out-of school adolescent girls and aware them if their educational and health rights	50 students (35 girls and 15 boys) of class 7 & 8	Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO)	Jan 2023-April 2023
	Empowering Out-of-school Girls through Education-Leave No Girl Behind	<b>Sarlahi</b> Barhathawa M	To empower out-of school adolescent girls through education	355 marginalized out-of school girls	Captivating International	May 2022-April 2025

Thematic Areas	Name of the Project	Geographical coverage in terms of District, M/ RM	Project Goal/Objective	No. of Beneficiaries contributed by the Project	Donor/Funding Organization	Duration (in Year)
Health/Nutrition	ACTIVE- Active Citizenship through Inclusive Volunteering & Empowerment	<b>Rautahat</b> Gadhimai M, Gaur M <b>Bara</b> Kalaiya sub-metropolitan city, Jeetpur Simara	More inclusive, open resilient and Gender Equitable Societies	72450 ( Female-36959 Male-35501 including 725 People with Disability	Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) and British Council	Sept 2022- March 2023
	SHYAHAR: Strengthening Access to Adolescent Holistic Health Right	<b>Rautahat</b> Gaur M, Gadhimai M, Rajpur M, Madhavnarayan M <b>Bara</b> Kalaiya Sub Metropolitan City, Jeetpur Simara Sub- Metropolitan City, Baragadhi RM, Karaiyaamai M	Health system strengthening to benefit youth and adolescent between 10 to 24 years through blended voluntary approach	179 youth health champions	Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO)	Aug 2021 – Mar 2022
	Advocacy and Strengthening resilience through LANN+: Linking agriculture and natural resource management toward nutrition security	<b>Salyan</b> Kumakh RM, Darma RM, SiddhaKumakh RM	To bring sustainable food and nutrition security in a climate-changing context	7,850 households – socially weak and economically marginalized	Welthungerhilfe (WHH)	Nov 2020 – Dec 2023
	Building Livelihood Resilience and Nutrition Security in the Kamala River Basin in Siraha district	<b>Siraha</b> Siraha M, Karjanha M, Kalyanpur M	The food security status of the target households is sustainably secured through the practice of diversified cropping systems and nutrition and WASH behaviour of the national policy MNSPII (2018-22) and ADS (2015-35).	34,896 HHs in the catchment area of Kamala River, Siraha	Welthungerhilfe (WHH)	Mar 2021 – Apr 2024

Thematic Areas	Name of the Project	Geographical coverage in terms of District, M/RM	Project Goal/Objective	No. of Beneficiaries contributed by the Project	Donor/Funding Organization	Duration (in Year)
Health/Nutrition	Maternal and New Born Health Continuum of Care (MNH-CoC)	<b>Dhanusha</b> Mithilabihari M, Hanshpur M, Kamala M, Laxminiya M, Sabaila M, Shaheednagar M <b>Sarlahi</b> Parsa M, Haripurwa M <b>Mahottari</b> Aurahi M, Balba M, Loharpatti M, Ramgopalpur M, Samsi RM, Somana RM	Increase knowledge of and demand for MNH care and service, and strengthen capacity of government health facilities and providers to deliver quality MNH Services, and strengthen linkages, referrals and follow up for mothers and newborns across the different places and times of care throughout the continuum, and supportive environment for implementation of MNH related activities	Women of Reproductive Age (15-49yrs) (WRA), mothers and newborn children (28 days).	PSI Nepal	Nov 2021- Dec 2023
	Mother and Child Health and Nutrition Program	<b>Saptari</b> Budebarsain M, Dakneshwori M, Hanumannagar Kankalini M, Kanchanrup M, Khadak M, Sambhunath M, Saptakoshi M, Surunga M, Rajbiraj M, Agnisaira Krishnasavaran RM, Baln-Bihul RM, Rajgadh RM, Bishnupur RM, Chinnamasta RM, Mahadev RM, Rupani RM, Tilathi Koiladi RM, Tirhut RM <b>Siraha</b> Lahan M, Dhangadhimai M, Siraha M, Golbazar M, Mirchaiya M , Kalyanpur M, Karjanha M, Sukhipur M, Bhagwanpur RM, Aurati RM, Bishupur RM, Bariyarpatti RM, Lakshnipur Patari RM, Naraha RM, Sakhuwanankar Kathi RM, Arnama RM, Navarajpur RM	To improve the Nutritional Status of pregnant and lactating women (PLW) and children 6 to 23 months of age	Total number of beneficiaries: 138290  Direct beneficiaries: 12829  Indirect beneficiaries: 125461	World Food Program	Jan 2023- Jan 2024

Thematic Areas	Name of the Project	Geographical coverage in terms of District, M/RM	Project Goal/Objective	No. of Beneficiaries contributed by the Project	Donor/Funding Organization	Duration (in Year)
Health/Nutrition	Risk Communications and Community Engagement (RCCE) in Vaccination Centers	<b>Dhanusha</b> Bideha M	The overall objective of the partnership is to design an evidence-based, audience specific, and contextually relevant community engagement actions to strengthen COVID-19 vaccine uptake amongst children 5 to under 12 years, and promote booster dose uptake in Bideha Municipality of Dhanusha district.	Children of age group 5 to under 12	Save the Children	Aug 2022- Dec 2022
	Effective Case Management by Strengthening Isolation Centers and Ground Crossing Points (GCPs) management for Rapid Response and Preparedness against COVID-19	<b>Jhapa</b> Mechinagar M <b>Parsa</b> Birgunj Metropolitan City	Provide safe and regular crossing for migrants amid COVID 19 by improved capacity of isolation centers and ground crossing points	922,419 return migrants, local governments, Provincial Government	Save the Children/IOM	Feb 2022- Nov 2022

Thematic Areas	Name of the Project	Geographical coverage in terms of District, M/RM	Project Goal/Objective	No. of Beneficiaries contributed by the Project	Donor/Funding Organization	Duration (in Year)
Women Empowerment	SASHAKTA (Empowered)	<b>Dhanusha</b> Bideha M, Ganeshman Charnath M	Ensure a dignified living standard of women, young mother and early married girls and their children in the households of Ganeshman Chhamath and Bideh municipalities of Dhanusha District	1744 women, young mother, newlywed girls, men, and child club members	Kindemthilfe (KNH)	Oct 2020 - Sep 2025
	Commercial Agriculture for Smallholders and Agribusiness Programme (CASA)	<b>Bara</b> Nijgadh M, Kolbi M, Jeetpur Simara <b>Nawalparasi</b> Sunahaul M, Bardaghat M	SME agribusiness, smallholder groups & business groups to increase productivity & access to market	13,500SME agribusiness, smallholder groups & business groups	Swiss Contact	Oct 2020- Dec 2024
NRM & Livelihood	Strengthening to Employment Ecosystem Project (Step Up)	<b>Sunsari</b> Duhabi M, Itahari M <b>Morang</b> Biratnagar Metropolitan City	Strengthen the labour market by using modern research-based information technology; and create suitable opportunities to support the preparation of knowledge and skill-based labour force targeting the unemployed youth, returnee migrants and women	Returnee migrants, COVID-19 affected population, unemployed youths/adults	Swiss Contact	Jan 2022 – Dec 2022
	Promoting Citizen Empowerment and Inclusive Democracy in Province 2	<b>Rautahat</b> Ishnath M, Baudhimai M <b>Siraha</b> Kalyanpur M, Karjanha M <b>Saptari</b> Rajgadh RM, Bishnupur RM	Socially marginalized and economically poor citizens to have access to accountable government services and actively participate in inclusive local development processes.	Total:43,245 Individuals from Marginalized Communities 10,685 Dalits (10,225 Musahar, 460 Dom) 32,560 Muslim citizen	European Union (EU)	Jan 2019 – Mar 2023
Governance						

Thematic Areas	Name of the Project	Geographical coverage in terms of District, M/RM	Project Goal/Objective	No. of Beneficiaries contributed by the Project	Donor/Funding Organization	Duration (in Year)
DRR Emergency Response and Humanitarian Action	Enhancing Community Resilience through Economic Development of the most vulnerable people affected by COVID-19 pandemic (Economic Recovery Project)	<b>Dhanusha</b> Shahidnagar M	Enhancing community resilience through economic development of the most vulnerable people affected by covid -19 pandemic	938 HHs with marginalized/economically deprived, Dalit, single women, differently abled person, migrant workers/dependent on daily wage	Lutheran World Federation	Jul 2021 - Jun 2023
	Contributing to increased access to quality health services of the most vulnerable population affected by the COVID 19 pandemic in Nepal (Health Security Project)	<b>Dhanusha</b> Sahidnagar M	Contributing to increased access to quality of health services of the most vulnerable people affected by covid -19 pandemic.	779 HHs with marginalized, economically deprived, Dalit, single women, differently abled person, migrant workers/dependent on daily wage	Lutheran World Federation	Jul 2021 - Jun 2022
	Local Initiative for Community Empowerment & Development (LICED) Project	<b>Dhanusha</b> Sahidnagar M	Priority populations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• achieve resilient livelihoods promoting climate smart socio-economically viable options for livelihoods enhancing resiliency to all forms of shocks and stresses.</li> <li>• are capable to have access on government and other duty bearers for services, resources and opportunities at the individual, community and institutional levels</li> <li>• are empowered to build local voices for actions, improved local governance and to advocate for their rights.</li> </ul>	5250 marginalized, Dalit, and Indigenous community members from 1500 households	Lutheran World Federation	Jul 2021 - Jun 2023

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European Union



Save the Children.





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