

BASE Organization (Backward Society Education)



BASE dreams of creating a society free from exploitation



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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VISION

CREATE SELF-RELIANT AND EQUITABLE SOCIETY IN NEPAL

MISSION

BASE COMMITS FOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC, HUMAN RESOURCE AND INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT; CULTURAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND HUMAN RIGHT PROTECTION AND PROMOTION AND CREATION OF EQUITABLE, PEACEFUL AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETY.

GOAL

TO CREATE EDUCATED, EQUITABLE AND HEALTHY SOCIETY BY PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES OF LIVELIHOOD, DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL INCLUSIONS FOR EXCLUDED COMMUNITY.

STATEMENT

Churna Bahadur Chaudhari **Executive Director**

We are happy on this incredible occasion of publishing our organization's annual progress report of the year 2022 which illustrates our most prominent achievements. Having the sole vision of the **"create self-reliant and equitable society in Nepal "**, BASE has implemented its projects in collaboration with provincial and local level governments and state actors in its target districts. BASE has specifically worked to raise the living standards of most marginalized and disadvantaged grassroots communities, and has done this through its management of BASE members and professional human resource to support them in aligning their work with the needs of target groups. This year BASE has focused on several types of community development projects. In recognition of the problems of inaccessibility of quality education in the Lumbini Province, Karnali Province and Sudurpaschim Province of Nepal, BASE has launched educational projects in collaboration with concerned local level governments. To address the dreadful problems faced by thousands of ex-Kamaiya (ex-bonded labourers) and their children, BASE has delivered livelihood projects which ensure basic rights and formal education support. In relation to disaster preparedness and response, BASE has been engaged in emergency aid and humanitarian support through unconditional cash support. BASE has also engaged to extend the support to Nepal government to increase the coverage of Covid-19 vaccination in remote areas of west Nepal. With the support of local level government BASE has contributed to deliver the health and hygiene behaviour change message through FCHVs and school teachers in the grassroots community.



BASE is playing a significant role to create peace and harmony in the society through promotion of dialogue culture. BASE has contributed to develop several policies and guidelines of local governments including child protection policy, Disaster Risk Reduction Plan, annual WASH plan etc. BASE is a mass membership-based organization committed to strengthening communities through institutional development approaches. Therefore, organizational capacity building, including the formation and reformation of groups and institutions, are central to our work and have continued throughout the year. BASE's work focuses on all disadvantaged people. We help the exploited and vulnerable groups such as women, children and youth. Much of this work takes place in rural districts and other marginalised areas. At this time, with the publication of our annual report, we appreciate the warm cooperation of our national and international development partners who have been very supportive of us. Furthermore, our sincere thanks go to the local communities and the civic organizations, child and youth clubs, mother groups, users' groups and cooperative organizations who increasingly took ownership over our community development initiatives. We hope for your continued cooperation in future projects. Finally, we always appreciate the feedback, comments, inquiries and suggestions from our well-wishers. On the whole my gratefulness is overwhelmingly extended to the team of Pinky Dangi (Program Director), Lokjan Chaudhary, Chandra Bahadur Chaudhary, Laxman Prasad Chaudhary, Nar Bahadur Chaudhary, Indra Bahadur Chaudhary, Dilli Oli, Sanjaya Chaudhary, Cham Bahadur Chaudhary, Rajesh Kumar Chaudhary, Rita Chaudhary who managed the publication of the annual report 2022, as well as the efforts of our respective district finance officers, social mobilizers, support staff and all program implementation units for their added support.

Thank you.

PROJECT Highlights 2022

Year 2022 was a useful year with opportunities to respond post COVID-19 and engage in the community development actions. With the support of our donors, partners, volunteers and other stakeholders, we were able to achieve significant success. BASE has implemented its all the projects and interventions in the close coordination with the government to extend our technical and financial cooperation to meet the SDGs and goal of the Nepal government. Key highlights of the year include:

STRENGTHENING SUB-NATIONAL GOVERNANCE (DIALOGUE) PROGRAM

Sub-National Governance (Dialogue) bridging phase program supports on strengthening state-society relationship building on emerging issues through dialogue. Sambad Samuha has played a vital role to facilitate on different issues and dispute raised in local, province and federal level government. Program has been focusing on economic recovery, health facilities improvement and social justice. The main objective of the program is to crafting spaces, relationship and mechanisms to support dialogue and collaboration at provincial and community levels in conflict-prone areas; and to use transformed relationships in conflict transformation and peace building and collaborations at different level. Project is being implemented in three provinces Lumbini Province (4 District- Kapilvastu, Dang, Banke and Bardiya), Sudur Paschim Province (2 district- Kailali and Kanchanpur) and Karnali Province (1

district- Surkhet). The program is supported by The Asia Foundation (TAF). There are total 11 Sambad Samuha. There are 3 provinces (Lumbini Province, Sudur Paschim Province and Karnali Province). Along with 3 province there are 8 Sambad Samuha in seven mentioned above districts. In Kailali district there are 2 Sambad Samuha (Tikapur Sambad Samuha and Dhangadi Sambad Samuha).

HIGHLIGHTS 2022

During this year Total 282, {Male- 158 (56%), Female-117 (41.5%) and sexual and gender minorities- 7 (2.5 %)} persons are affiliated in Sambad Samuha members. Out of 282 persons Brahmin/Chhetri are-159 (56.38 %), Dalits are 23(8.16 %), Janajati are- 74 (26.24 %), Muslims are-13 (4.61 %) and others are 13 (4.61 %). Out of 282, 9 (3.19%) persons are people with disability (PWDs). All these members are directly involving for facilitating the issues in the different districts. Most of the members are members are trained in the dialogue process. Similarly, 11{Female- 3 (27%) Male- 8 (73 %)} Interlocutors/focal person are working with SNG Program. Out of 11, Bramin/Chhetri are -6 (55%), Janajati are 3 (27 %) and other are 3 (27 %). All the interlocutors are trained and directly facilitating the dialogues

3 Provinces (Lumbini, Sudur Paschim and Karnali) **Social and Political Context analysis has been finalized and** knowledge production report has printed. Knowledge production report has been disseminated in 3 province level. This social and **political context analysis and knowledge production has supported to find out the**

issues and seek the opportunity to improve the layers (province and Local) of the government.

This year total 63 issues have been facilitating by the Dialogue groups. Out of 63 issues 9 issues were resolved in this year. 19 issues have followed up for the implementation. 35 issues are still in process.

In this year total 55 (Male-31, Female-22 and Gender and Sexual Minorities-2) Sambad members were training on dialogue and strategic peace building. Out of the 55 participants the dalit-1, Janajati-12, Bramin/chettri-40 and other caste person is 2. Out of 55 there is 1 person with PWD.

Total 6128 stakeholders are directly engaged in different dialogues events. Out the total participated stakeholders Male are – 4362 (71.2%) Female are- 1684 (27.5%) Gender and sexual minority are 82(1.34%). Similarly, Dalit are- 461 (7.52%) Janajati are- 1622(26.5%), Brahmin/Chhetri are 3413(55.7%) and others are- 632(10.3%). Out of the total participants 101 (1.65%) are People with Disability (PWDs). During the year total 583 events of the dialogues have been conducted.

44 (Female-15) Sambad samuha members were oriented on election code of conduct. For this orientation 5 events of Inter dialogue conducted on election code of conduct.

Total 1253 (Male- 979, Female-262, Gender & Sexual minorities-12) people are oriented on election code of conduct. The stakeholders including the political parties and candidates, Civil society, media workers and political sister organization.

10 events (Banke-1, Dang-2, Tkapur-1, Dhangadhi-1, Kanchanpur-1, Karnali

Province-2, Lumbni Province-1 and Kapilvastu-1) of dialogue were conducted on **Election sharing and review District chapter of Election Commission.** Total 210 (Female-41, Male-164 and Other-5) stakeholders were participated in the election sharing and review meeting.

CASE STORY

1. GESI policy formed in Rapti Rural Municipality through the dialogue

The Constitution of Nepal government 2072 has declared the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion as the fundamental Rights and the directed theory of governments. The article 16 of the constitution provided the



Target group discussing on the GESI policy formation of Rapti RM Dang

fundamental rights to live, article 17 fundamental rights for freedom, article 18 has provided the fundamental rights for equality, article 38 has provided the fundamental rights for women, the article 42 has provided the rights for social justice, article 51 has provided the rights for the policy of social justice and social inclusion and article 52 has declared the responsibility of the governments. The constitution of Nepal government provided 21 different policy formation rights to the local level.

The elected representatives of the local government have to prepare the policies till 3

years from the first election after the formation of Nepal new federal structure. But during the time of their working period there are some policies still could not prepare. According to the Nepal government new structures there are 10 local level in Dang district. None of any local level of Dang could prepared the gender equality and social inclusion policy. Due to the lack of the policies and implementation the community people are facing problem and could not get proper government services. From which the marginalized, disability and poor community has getting problem for tanking the services from local government. Due to the lacking of the GEDSI policy Service provider and government official also facing the problem for planning of the GEDSI budgeting. Sambad Samuha Dang organized the dialogue with the different local levels representatives of Dang about the situation of the local levels, policies formation status and process after the Nepal government new structures of federalism. From which it comes to know that some of the policies were already prepared and some of the important policies could not be prepared or lacking which have much needed to be prepare. Even the policy which have prepared were not discussed with the target groups, local community or civil society or experts which created some problem for proper implementation.

After the dialogue with elected representatives and officials of the local level of Dang. Rapti Rural Municipality realized for formation of the GEDSI policy. GEDSI policy is more essential for respective local level. So, Rapti Rural Municipality has made decision for formation of the GEDSI policy.

They prepared the policy making committee in the local level but due to lacking of the experience (expert) expertise on the area of



Target group discussing on the GESI policy formation of Rapti RM Dang

GEDSI in Rapti RM the GEDSI policy formulation worked has been delaying. So, Rapti Rural Municipality requested to Sambad Samuha for supporting on technical support for the expert and facilitation on the formation of the GEDSI policy of the Rapti RM.

In request of the Rapti RM Sambad Samuha Dang discussed in the regular meeting and made the decision to facilitate and further dialogue for the policy formation of Rapti RM. Sambad Samuha Dang started the GEDSI policy facilitation dialogue of Rapti RM from 20 December 2020. Though the GEDSI policy dialogue has been started from 20 December 2020 due to the lock down of COVID -19 Pandemic and crisis the dialogue could not move properly because of the lacking on focus group discussion with target groups. It took more than two years to decrease the crisis of COVID-19 Pandemic. After the decreasing of the COVID-19 cases the government allow restricted the lockdown and Sambad Samuha Dang again started the dialogue with the different target

groups for the GEDSI policy of Rapti RM. Sambad Samuha Dang's policy expert members supported the Rapti RM to give the policy in draft form. During the formation of the GEDSI Sambad Samuha Dang facilitated different focus group dialogues with the targeted groups. The draft GEDSI policy was shared with the targeted groups and policy making committee of Rapti RM and collected the feedback and suggestions. The policy maker expert addressed the feedback in the policy and handover to the Rapti RM policy making committee on 25 February 2022. The Rapti RM has made decision to apply the GEDSI policy and approved it from the second village council which was held on 3rd March 2022.

After the formation of the GEDSI policy Rapti Rural municipality has been implementing the policy on proper service delivery in the sector of target groups (GEDSI), annual planning and budgeting for the marginalized, disability and poor community. From the policy the Rapti RM service provider and government official where been comfortable and easy for the annual planning of the GEDSI budgeting. From the policy formation the service delivery of the Rapti RM has been improving regularly. Based on the performance evaluation report published by the National Natural Resources and Finance Commission, Rapti Rural Municipality has become the first among the 10 local levels of Dang District. When the commission evaluates the performance of the local level based on 17 indicators, Rapti Rural Municipality is the best. Based on this assessment, the commission will recommend the amount of equalization subsidy to be provided at the

local level for the year 2080/81. According to the indicators published by the commission, equalization grants are recommended to provinces and local levels from the consolidated fund. Based on the data received from the relevant local level and agency, the commission has given the points after evaluating the performance. They are given marks based on the effectiveness of various subjects such as the development and construction work done by the local level as well as policy formation, implementation, administration and good governance.

2. Dispute on demolition of Red Cross Society building and Physicians Association building for the improvement of Bheri Zonal Hospital Banke has been resolved

Sambad Samuha Banke has successfully facilitated and managed the dispute on demolition of Red Cross Society Building and physicians association's building for the improvement of Zonal Hospital Banke. Sambad Samuha Banke has started dialogue in 6th October 2021 and resolve the issue in



Mini joint dialogue of Banke, Red cross Society Building construction dispute

11 October 2022 on the period of 1 years. A formal agreement was reached between Nepal Red Cross Society Banke district branch and officials of Bheri Hospital on October 11th after the regular facilitating of Sambad Samuha Banke. On behalf of Bheri Hospital Development Committee, Medical Superintendent Dr. Badri Chapagai and Minister Aziz Ahmed Siddiqui on behalf of Nepal Red Cross Society Banke District Branch have reached a written agreement of 6 points.



Saperate Dialogue on Regcorss Society

In the letter of agreement, the hospital development committee will make an assessment by the technician of the relevant government office and recommend a decision to the concerned ministry for the compensation of the loss caused by the displacement of the 6 shutters under the ownership of the Red Cross. The hospital should take necessary steps for compensation. If there is any impact/damage to the blood transfusion service center building during shutter displacement, the hospital development committee will carry out the maintenance. Hospital will be managed to arrange regular power supply in blood transfusion service centre. Even if a new building of Blood Transfusion Service is

constructed, the same electricity will be provided in that building as well. The hospital will provide a suitable place for the proper management of the equipment, furniture and supplies used in the blood transfusion service on the upper floor of the Red Cross. The hospital development committee will manage the structure at its own expense so that there is no impact on the blood transfusion service centre building. Since the structural materials (bricks, windows, doors, curtains) belong to the Nepal Red Cross Society, it is also agreed that the sale, distribution, management) will be done by the Red Cross itself and the agreement will be implemented as much as possible.

Likewise, in the case of medical association building they have just asked for the proper coordination and some time for transforming their materials in their own building. During the facilitation of dialogue process the court process was prolonged and the medical association had already built its own building at that time. The court ruled in favour of the hospital because the land belongs to the hospital regardless of who built the building. So, on the 13th of June 2022, the association and the hospital development committee agreed that there would be no obstacle in the demolition of the building in the engagement of dialogue. A check of 1.4 million rupees to be paid by the medical association for rent was handed over to the hospital development committee. According to the agreement made among the disputed parties the Building of the medical association has been demolished, and the demolition of the Red Cross shutter building has just begun.

SUAAHARA-II (Good Nutrition) PROJECT

Suaahara –II Dang has worked to improve the nutritional status of women and children, particularly in under-served rural areas, of Dang. Technically, this has been achieved using by a multi sector approach with a special emphasis on gender equity and social inclusion (GESI), social and behaviour change (SBC) and good governance. Operationally, this will be achieved through our partnerships with the GoN, the private sector, and other United States government funded projects in overlapping geographic areas. It aims to improve reproductive health/ family planning services; create awareness regarding sanitation and hygiene; improve access to clean water; and introduce home – based gardening as a way to encourage a balanced and health diet.

As required by the cooperative agreement of HKI. In consultation with the local government, Suaahara activities drove across four categories:

The four intermediate results (IR) that Suaahara –II program has focus on are:

- IR 1: Improved household nutrition and health behaviours
- IR 2: Increased use of quality nutrition and health services by women and children
- IR 3: Improved access to diverse and nutrient-rich foods by women and children
- IR4: Accelerated roll-out of the Multi-Sector Nutrition Plan (MSNP) through strengthened local governance

HIGHLIGHTS 2022

Approximately more than 10435 people with (M-356 m & Fe-10079) participated in food demo session through 660 health mother group meeting in Dang. Among them 6400 were thousand days' mothers, 10 VMFs, 605



ON SITE COACHING AT OTCS

FCHVs, 258 adolescent girls, 3769 others. Women of 1000 days have now been practicing to prepare homemade nutritious food for their babies. 2311 targeted mothers' of 1000 days oriented on their key roles and responsibility for 5 different major periods (4 months pregnant, just after giving birth, 6 months babies, first birthday and second birthday) for healthy babies during Key Life Celebration. Onsite coaching on integrated



1 DAY VMF REFRESHER TRAINING

management of acute malnutrition (IMAM) was conducted in 10 OTCs Centre where 122 health workers participated. Now, they are applying their knowledge and skills to manage SAM and MAM cases with proper counseling.

Front line workers reached 3900 households via phone. They have counseled them following the emergency guideline. 458 Schools teachers have received IFA



FOOD DEMO TO THE LACTATING MOTHERS

orientation about supplementation of Iron and folic tablets. Now, they have been dozing IFA tables to adolescent girls in school premises. 5 OTC centers have been providing IMAM services by managing SAM/MAM cases & encouraging to them to consume Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) with proper counseling. 50 peer facilitators actively participated on PF review meeting. Participatory interaction meeting and onsite coaching at 10 health facilities including OTCs to enhance knowledge and skills on continuum of nutrition and health services (MIYCN/FP, IMAM, CB-IMNCI, recording and reporting, equipment status, etc.) has been facilitated by BASE.

We have accelerated Routine Data Quality Assessment (RDQA) aligning with

GON/FWD work plan to improve quality of recording and reporting on nutrition and health-related indicators at 8 health facilities of Dang. We provided follow-up support and technical assistance for CHSB review at 7 health facilities, in coordination with municipal-level health coordinators, HFOMC members, health workers, service users and FCHVs. OTCs review meeting successfully completed with the active participation of health facility in-charge, OTCs focal person and health coordinator. One day post NSA training interaction meeting with all agriculture and livestock technical coordinators has been conducted.

Vegetable seeds distributed to 1000 days HHs, VMFs and LRPs to minimize potential food insecurity issues due to implications of COVID-19 pandemic crisis on agriculture input supply. One day VMF refresher training for select VMFs in coordination with municipal agri and livestock stakeholders carried out. VMF network meeting has been successfully completed in Rajpur and Banglachuli rural municipalities. We have facilitated on regular functioning of



COUNSELING AND HOUSEHOLD VISITS TO MODERATE ACUTE MALNUTRITION BABIES

municipal-level Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committee (NFSSC) meetings and link with action plans created during sustainability workshops. Rolled out sustainability workshops in Lamahi municipality and Shantinagar rural municipality to guide local-level action plans for improved/sustained implementation of both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive activities. Field staffs including district staffs have participated in municipal/ ward level meeting to lobby/ advocate during 7 steps planning process.

CASE STORY



SAKRIYA PROJECT

BASE organization (Backward Society Education) has implemented the SAKRIYA Project since October 2019 in two palikas i.e. Tulsipur sub-metropolitan city, Lamahi municipality and one more Palika i.e. Rapti rural municipality that was added in the year 2021 of Dang district. The project is financial funded by USDOL/World Education Inc. and technically supported by Terre Des Homes,

Antenna Foundation Nepal and Swatantrata Abhiyan Nepal. The project is aimed to institutional development of CSOs and CBOs those working on child labour sector.



The above-mentioned technical partners have facilitated in three major outcomes i.e. Outcome 1: Research, Outcome 2: Campaign and Outcome 3: Initiatives around child labour for capacity development of BASE and its partners. BASE has been working in child labour issues for a long time and this project has further enhanced capacity as well as documentation of the organization to better address child labour issues.

Dang district is both source and destination district of child labour where most of the children from neighbouring districts and India come to work in brick kilns as seasonal laborers. Similarly, children from Dang district migrate to big cities as well as India as domestic workers, transport, porters, small hotels and daily wages laborers. As of the data we received from community-based action research total 533 children were working in 27 brick kilns of Tulsipur and Lamahi whereas total 278 children were away to other places for work. BASE in Dang was focused on empowering and supporting

the children and families of brick kilns workers.



During the project period we overcame of two variants of COVID-19 infections and lockdown which hampered the smooth implementation of the project activities. As of recent data collected in 2022 there total 502 children working in the brick kilns of Tulsipur and Lamahi. Therefore, the SAKRIYA project has contributed to capacity development of BASE as a CSO for carrying out research activities, campaigns and child labor initiatives.

Additionally, 3 days Capacity Assessment, Learning and Reflection Workshop was organized by AFN in Kathmandu where BASE program director, two board members and finance officer participated having good experience sharing learning. BASE has done banner display as a campaign activity for giving messages against child labour and awareness raising of the community in three different places of Tulsipur, Lamahi and Rapti. BASE has conducted 3 days Case management orientation to total 61 (female 37 and male 24) CBOs and local government representatives in 3 palikas that educated the participants about case management and its

importance. BASE has spread the awareness through SMS to the employers as interpersonal campaign activity with the message about legal provisions for employing children in their factories. Local Government representative from Rapti RM and BASE executive board member, Ms. Sangita Chaudhary attended the National Symposium on Child Labor organized by SAN in Kathmandu. BASE organized community based – Dialogue among stakeholders, employers and policy makers in Tulsipur and Lamahi which created ownership for the children. BASE has installed six hoarding boards with the message against child labor in three working palikas. BASE has assisted Tulsipur sub-metropolitan city and Rapti rural municipality for Ward Child Rights Committee and Ward Children Network formation. Total 28 WCRCs have been formed in Tulsipur and Rapti whereas 9 children network formed in Rapti RM.

Likewise, all these committees and networks have been oriented about grievance mechanism. BASE has technically assisted Rapti RM for their policy development, review and endorsement as a result now they have all the policies to address child labour



issues in place. Emergency Relief Support to 54 children and families of 3 palikas. BASE organization organized an orientation program for CBOs of Tulsipur sub-metropolitan city and Lamahi municipality. The event was organized to orient members of CBOs about CBRA survey forms for collecting data of child laborers from the brick kilns. This survey has been done to identify the status of child laborers after the effect of lockdown caused by COVID-19 in Nepal. After carrying out CBAR survey in two palikas i.e. Tulsipur sub-metropolitan



city and Lamahi municipality Dang, the information was analysed through data entry in the sheets from which we have found 416 (Boy-253 and girl-163) child labors in Tulsipur and 86 (Boy-63 and girl-23) in Lamahi. The data were collected from 15 brick kilns of Tulsipur and 10 brick kilns of Lamahi.

BASE has organized street drama shows at the community levels of all three palikas to empower the communities against child labour and child marriage. The theme of the drama was "Street drama for the reduction of child labour and child marriage" that went for ten days between 2078-12-3 to 2078-12-13 dates. The drama has been observed by 2724



persons directly. BASE has also mobilized its staffs and committee members for disseminating message in the brick kilns through narrow cast. BASE has distributed relief support to 72 additional children and families in Tulsipur with the permission from WEI. We also got opportunity to participate in 4 days' workshop (April 9-12, 2022) on Proposal writing and strategy under the Sakriya Project. The workshop was aimed to engage the CSOs in the proposal writing and child labour strategy finalization. It was organized at Hotel Himalaya Front of Sarangkot it Pokhara. There were the participants from five different CSOs CDS, MANK, UEMS, PRAYAS Nepal including BASE organization. It was the third and last batch of the similar workshop facilitated by the team of World Education. Now we have finalized our child labour strategy and developed a proposal which has been submitted to WEI.

Similarly, BASE has been collaborating day celebrations with the local palikas. Technical assistance to the local government by BASE in policy and guidelines formulation has helped palikas to have their own policies to address children issues and Rapti RM which was one of the palikas without any policies

and guidelines for children now has received them and are ready to get endorsement. Now the local government and our organization has own the child labor issues. The skills and knowledge have been transferred to CBOs and stakeholders for raising voices against child labor. Brick kilns are reducing child workers and taking adult workers and parents have been aware and accountable towards their children and their rights to education.

HIGHLIGHTS 2022

BASE has provided support to Tulsipur sub-metropolitan city for the formation of Ward Child Rights Committees (WCRC) which is a part of palika's action plan in child rights policies. AFN provided 2 days SBCC refresher training in Kathmandu that enhanced further skills and knowledge about campaign activities. BASE has been disseminating mass media- audio and video



PSA through Radio Tulsipur FM and Highway FM as well as STN TV channel for mass awareness raising. TDH representatives visited BASE and its CBOs as well as local government representatives for monitoring purpose. We participated in 5 days end line capacity assessment and strategy review workshop organized by WEI in Kathmandu that has given rich documentation and data to our organization. Two of our Social

Mobilizers attended in 10 days ToT of Case Management by TDH in Kathmandu that has equipped them with good understanding about case management in child protection.

RECOVERY OF COVID-19 AFFECTED COMMUNITIES IN WESTERN NEPAL (RECOVER) PROGRAM

Since its spread, the COVID-19 pandemic has been a major public health concern and badly impacting health and economies. The pandemic outstripped the country's healthcare capabilities, highlighting the need to enhance the healthcare system. Similarly, the food security and livelihoods of Nepalese households have been severely disrupted, generating fears that the situation is even worsening. To address these issues and challenges, the project was designed with the aim to “Improve health resilience among vulnerable communities in 3 districts of Western Nepal” emphasizing two key components, i.e., strengthen the resilience of the health system to respond to COVID-19 outbreak and future shocks and restore affected livelihood in communities. The project is being implemented in three local governments; Dhangadhi Sub-metropolitan city, Godawari Municipality, and Kailari Rural Municipality of Kailali district by Backward Society Education (BASE) in the financial and technical support of Lutheran World Relief (LWR) for the period October 5, 2021, to June 2022. The RECOVER project aims to reach 3,000 individuals directly. The RECOVER project aimed to reach 3,000 individuals directly.

HIGHLIGHTS 2022

Successfully completed the training to 160 (75 male and 85 female) health personnel and local health professionals which enhanced their knowledge as well as technical skills. It was achieved with the close coordination and support of health section of local government. The community people will get timely response for health services. Provided psychosocial counselling to 60 (31 male and 29 female) health post personnel and 110 (43 male and 67 female) to the community people who had lost their family members in COVID-19 pandemic and need psychosocial counselling.

Constructed a four room Prefab house building to strengthen the point of entry established in Trinager Health Desk Dokebazar and provided materials support to strengthen the capacity of health desk. And other COVID-19 related materials like antigen kits, mask, VTM, hand sanitizers to the local governments to respond COVID-19. Orientation training to 115 FCHVs was successfully completed on COVID-19 vaccination and information about new variant omicron. The health section of local government supported in identifying the resource person and invitation to the participants. FCHVs inform and encourage the community people for vaccination and to apply safety measures. The willingness of community people will be increased for vaccination and more people get vaccinated. Reached 943 (31 male and 912 female) community people through a campaign to advertise health posts services available to communities. Mobilization of local health personnel of respective community

supported to carry out the campaign. Increased the awareness of community about the health services at nearby health facilities. The willingness of community people to seek health services will be increased and number of health services taking people will also be increased. Provided one day orientation to 891 (2 male and 889 female) community through healthy food consumption campaign. Provided quick impact agriculture interventions to 900 (346 male and 554 female) with the seven varieties of seeds to restore their livelihood affected by COVID-19 pandemic. Provided humanitarian early action support to 625 (252 male and 363 female) poor and vulnerable targeted beneficiaries in enrolling insurance scheme of government of Nepal helping in accessing health care/ medical support in the hospitals. Provided quick impact assistance package to displaced migrant workers to restore their livelihood affected by COVID-19.

COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION OF COVID-19 VACCINATION

BASE implemented Community Mobilization for the COVID-19 Vaccination Project in 7 Palikas of Kailali district in Cluster 2 in the financial and technical support of Support to Health Sector Strategy (H2SS-GIZ). The project aimed to intensify the tested activities to inform and mobilize communities on the COVID-19 vaccination campaign by engaging community mobilizers and Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs) in the Kailali district and by doing so sustain and achieve 100% coverage in 2022 of COVID-19 vaccine of ongoing vaccination campaign of the Government of Nepal. The project

implemented seven palikas of Cluster 2: Mohanyal Rural Municipality, Bardagoriya Rural Municipality, Janaki Rural Municipality, Lamkichuha Municipality, Joshipur Rural Municipality, Bhajani Municipality, and Tikapur municipality.

HIGHLIGHTS 2022

45 District level concerned stakeholders were provided orientation about the project. Palika level orientation was carried out in 7 projects working palikas where 201 concerned stakeholders were oriented about the project. Provided orientation to 577 FCHVs for mobilization for COVID-19 vaccination campaign of the government of Nepal in increase the 100% coverage of vaccination by 2022. Successfully conducted the monthly review meeting where 840 participants attended the meeting, where 274 were government health office representatives, 532 FCHVs, and 34 other government representatives which supported in linelisting of unvaccinated people and further vaccination plan.

Successfully mobilized 440 FCHVs in search campaign to identify the number of unvaccinated people and identified 69,334 people. 303,101 community people were reached out in seven palikas through the miking during COVID-19 mobile vaccination campaign. Successful to vaccinate the 64,693 people above 12 years and 10,507 children between the ages of 5-11 years.

CASE STORY

Bishna Devi Jaishi got the COVID-19 Vaccine

Banka Sital Bazar is located in ward no.7 on the way to Kuine to the west of Karnali River, where 59 years old Sita Devi Jaishi lives with her



family members. Many people from this way move daily. She has not understood the importance of the COVID-19 vaccine so she has not taken the vaccination. It takes four to walk to reach the vaccination centre so they have not taken care of taking the vaccination and were in confusion on one hand and nobody told them the information about the COVID-19 vaccine on the other. Again, she also gets sick repeatedly and her husband is also a patient of sugar and takes medicine. They had a fear of taking vaccines also. Therefore, they were staying at home without getting vaccines. Senior citizens took the vaccine because they are taking allowance. They think if they do not take the vaccine, they will be deprived of getting an allowance. Therefore, it is like a compulsion for the senior citizen of getting a vaccination.

After the launching of the Project Community Mobilization of COVID-19 vaccination, the project staff started to inform the community people and searching the left-out people in the communities in Mohanyal Rural Municipality. He started collecting the

voices of the people and uploading them to the Mohanyal Health Group. During the campaign, the project staff reached Banka Sital Bazar and came to meet her on August 30, 2022, and recorded a video and uploaded it to the Mohanyal Health Group. All the health staff of Mohanyal RM watched the video and one of them is Jayanand Jaishi who is responsible for forwards no 6 & 7. As a result, the in-charge of Sugarkhal Health Post, Mr. Jayanand Jaishi assigned the staff of Kuine Basic Health Service Center to go to the house of Bishna Devi Jaishi and her family members on September 24, 2022.

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OF MARGINALIZED WOMEN IN NEPAL PROGRAM (SEDWIN)

BASE has implemented the Increasing Resilience of Disaster and COVID-19 affected Farmers Project in Dang, Bardiya



PADDY SEEDS DISTRIBUTION TO FLOOD AFFECTED

and Kailali districts. The project is from January 1, 2022 to December 30, 2022. The overall objective of the project is to provide short term support to flood and COVID-19 pandemic affected poor and socially

excluded farmer's family. The intervention has supported to increase the coping capacity of the disaster affected family members. The 1000 farmers have been targeted to those who have affected by flood,



WOMEN IN THE STITCHING TRAINING

flash flood and Covid-19 pandemic.

Nepal is prone to a range of natural disasters, including floods, landslides, fires, earthquakes, and disease outbreaks. In the wake of heavy rain fall and land slide in October 2021 in west Nepal paddy farm has badly affected and farmers lost paddy during harvesting period. Disaster preparedness and response is the major thematic component of BASE. BASE has initiated preparedness, response and strengthen the capacity of disaster affected household/families with close coordination of Nepal government's units in local level. So, with the financial support of Dunn Charity BASE has initiated to provide support through- Increasing Resilience of Disaster and COVID-19 affected Farmers project in 2022.

HIGHLIGHTS 2022

BASE has distributed seeds of paddy to 165 farmers in Bardiya district. Improved paddy seeds recommended by the local

government's agricultural unit were distributed to the farmers of the most affected households. The farmers were selected in consultation with the local government and BASE district committee. BASE staffs and Bardiya committee members personally visited the farmers and distributed seeds. BASE has provided an advance level training on stitching indigenous traditional dress and other market demand driven clothes including school uniforms. In total **79 rural women** attended in the advance sewing



WOMEN LEARNT TO PRODUCE HANDICRAFTS FROM THE TRAINING

cutting training. The duration of the training was 45 days and it was started on May 27 to June 10, 2022. The project has purchased 17 sets auto- sewing machine, interlock machine, scissors, measuring scale, rack and other required materials including raw clothes. Four professional trainers (two lead trainers and two assistant trainers) facilitated the training in two different locations i.e. Tulsipur and Chakhaura. The women have gained the skills using advance machines and producing different types of clothes. These women have been skilful and are engaged in tailoring work after the training. Some of them are working in other's shops and some are running their own.

BASE has organized 20 days long *Dhakiya* making training for **16 rural women**. The training venue was in Tulsipur Dang and the training was conducted between May 8 - 27, 2022.

MEETING THE COVID CRISIS IN THE THARU VILLAGES OF MID WEST NEPAL

The COVID-19 response program through the financial support of the Advocacy Project, US was implemented in Dang district from June 15 to September 15, 2021. The program activities were carried out in 60 villages with a population of around 10,000 people. The second wave of infections had devastated the Tharu people, who inhabit several districts in the Midwest of Nepal. Infections began to surge in Dang in late May and quickly overwhelmed hospitals in Tulsipur. Two BASE Board members died. The virus also spread quickly in the villages,



MEDICAL TEAM PROVIDING HEALTH CHECK-UP SERVICES IN THE VILLAGES OF DANG

where villagers were locked down and largely unaware of the threat. The government estimated that over 35,000 were infected by the end of May. As of mid-June, the crisis has eased in the towns but not in the

villages. The government was also warning that a third wave of the Delta variant might be imminent and ordered that 20% of all hospital beds be reserved for children. This was causing a great deal of fear. This project has helped BASE and the local authorities in Dang district to deal with this emergency, while also laying a strong foundation to confront future waves of the virus and other pandemics. BASE is well placed to take the lead in such a critical mission. During three decades of advocating for labour rights, the organization has built a network of dedicated community volunteers among the Tharu people and they coordinated BASE's response to the pandemic in the villages. The local government has also entrusted BASE with administering Antigen tests in the villages. Finally, BASE recently established

medical camp in the selected villages of three municipalities i.e. Tulsipur sub-metropolitan city, Babai Rural Municipality and



HEALTH EQUIPMENTS SUPPORT TO SHANTINAGAR HCF, DANG

Shantinagar Rural Municipality. The camp was organized for a month from August 17 to September 16. Total 1363 people were attended by the medical team. Counselling, basic health check-up, medicine distribution and antigen test were carried out by the team. The training to the members from 60 villages have been successfully accomplished. Two facilitators (Mr. Nirmal Nepali - Human Rights worker, Child Rights Expert cum Government Teacher and Ms. Sushma Giri - Women Rights Worker, Leader) facilitated the trainings. The training was about the importance of children rights and reduction of gender-based violence. Similarly, the training participants contributed as the facilitators to deliver safety precautions messages against COVID-19 in the villages and distributed the masks and other safety materials on behalf of BASE organization. 15 sets of PPEs were purchased and distributed in three Health Centre Facilities i.e. Panchakule HCF, Shantinagar HCF and Phulbari HCF. 8 oximeters were purchased and distributed those three HCFs along with PPE sets. 60 packets of medicine kits were



RIGHTS BASED ORIENTATION SESSION TO REDUCE RISK AGAINST CHILDREN AND WOMEN DURING COVID-19, DANG

two health teams that have begun to take health care into isolated villages.

HIGHLIGHTS 2022

BASE mobilized a team of Health Workers including doctor, staff nurse those carried out



HANDMADE MASKS DISTRIBUTED TO THE CHILDREN FOR THEIR SAFETY

prepared and distributed in the villages to those affected by COVID 19 as well as having similar symptoms. 5 boxes of safety gloves distributed to HCFs along with PPE sets.

6000 handmade cotton masks have been prepared and distributed in the villages through the members. Children size and normal size masks were prepared by 11 women of different villages. The medical camp team has carried out Antigen tests in the villages for those had similar symptoms to COVID-19. Then we updated the day to day information of the infections to the focal person of COVID -19 Mr. Bimal KC in Tulsipur. BASE produced radio jingle message and it was disseminated through three local FM radio stations i.e. Tulsipur FM, Sanjivani FM and Hapure FM. Each FM station aired the messages 10 times a day.

HYGIENE BEHAVIOR CHANGE COALITION (HBCC-2) PROJECT

The project has worked mainly with health sector and education sector to implement actions that integrate water, sanitation and hygiene through hygiene promotional activities (awareness program to the FCHVs and school teacher) and disseminate

messages through IEC materials in Bardiya district. The project supports Health Office, Bardiya to increase the covid-19 vaccination coverage. The project targets to establish 50 new hand washing station in health care facilities (HCF) and Expanded Programme Immunization (EPI) clinics and rectify the 105 previous hand washing stations which are partially damaged and unused.

HIGHLIGHTS 2022



INSTALLING HAND WASHING STATIONS

HBCC-2 project is behaviour centric response to COVID-19 to improve hygiene behaviours and vaccine uptake. The hand washing stations that were provided in different site (105-health institution, EPI clinic, ward office and school) through HBCC-1 were surveyed for functional test and found that more than 95 percent station were not fully functioning. The reason behind its functionality were; the responsible persons were careless about the hand washing station, technical problem- leakage and the thought of general public that the COVID-19 is no more in the community and no need to wash hand with soap like in COVID-19 situation. So, this year HBCC II project has been working to repair and maintain those 105 hands washing stations

for full functional with technical changes in the tap to make it permanent and semi-permanent. Also new 50 hand washing stations (30 health institutions and 20 schools) instalment and handover has been



ACCESSIBILITY AUDIT OF HAND WASHING STATIONS

done to make accessible and availability for hand washing service. Similarly, accessibility audit has been carried out in 16 hand washing stations by the concerned stakeholders. 50 persons (32 health workers and 18 teachers) have received ToT for COVID-19 and hygiene behaviour change package in community and schools. Likewise, 385 teachers and 835 FCHVs are trained on COVID-19 and HBC package in cascade approach. We have reached to 130920 people and 100000 children through community session to raise awareness and empower for the behaviour change at communities and schools.

The outreach campaign activities such as 18 events of miking has been conducted in all eight municipalities in coordination with Health Offices to increase the vaccination coverage. The COVID-19 vaccination

orientation has been provided in the most vulnerable group of Muslim communities to ensure and build confident in Covid-19 vaccine. In order to make hand washing stations functional and operating regularly 127 Office Assistants have been given operation and maintenance plan orientation from which they have learnt to fix the technical problem of hand washing stations by repairing them. BASE has also contributed to COVID-19 vaccination reach of the local government by which 1st Dose



SCHOOL EVENTS

recipients 94.96%, 2nd Dose 88.04% and 3rd Dose 54.39% in Bardiya district.

CASE STORY

Thankful for providing useful counselling



Anisha Tharu living in Rajapur Municipality ward no-2 Nayagaun Dada tole is 23 years old 1000 days mother. She has a 7-

month baby named Tansi Tharu. There are 8 members in the family. Her husband Ashish Kumar Tharu is a daily wages labourer. The



main source of income is labour work. The family has no other income source and belong to financially marginalized family.

She shares, "I

didn't get any vaccine against COVID-19 for I was unknown about the vaccination campaign. I am busy with my household chores and look after my baby so I don't have access to such information. Since BASE staff came to me for the home visit and counselling I came to know about the vaccination campaign and got the vaccine against COVID-19."

In the beginning Ashmita was quite frightened for having misconception about the vaccine but later on she got convinced when field team explained the importance of COVID-19 vaccine and encouraged for vaccination. She used to think the vaccine would affect the lactating mother and baby so she was refusing to take it. On 19 Bhadra 2079 BS Ashmita got the vaccination from the Health Facility Centre.

She adds, "Now I am a member of Health Mother Group formed by BASE. FCHV madam and BASE staff suggested me to enrol into Health mother group so I take part in Health mother group meeting once in a month. I got opportunity to learn hygiene behaviours. I share those learning to my family members also. And now I and my family do proper hand washing in six critical stage with clean water and soap. Since then I have realized that we are less infected than before. I have been sharing about the vaccination campaign with my family members as well as other neighbouring members also and they have also taken vaccine."

"Furthermore, I am really happy being a member of health mother group from where I have learnt proper hand washing steps, six critical stages of hand washing and important messages to care for my children. I always wash my hand before feeding my child, before preparing food and eating food. I and my family wash our hands after toilets, after touching wastages and dirt. I also felt COVID vaccines are safe and effective. I will take the 2nd doze and booster doze in coming days. I am thankful to BASE for coming to my home and providing useful counselling. Now I am happy with my healthy baby and family."

LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND (LNOB) NEPAL ASSESSMENT PROJECT

The LNOB project funded by Development Initiative (DI) is implemented by BASE Organization in Tulsipur sub-metropolitan city Dang and Simta rural municipality Surkhet district. In order to support partners

to deliver the commitment to Leave No One Behind (UN Agenda 2030) the work considers the varying quality and limitations of different data, and considers the strength of underlying data ecosystems and the inclusion of marginalized people throughout the data lifecycle. The project started in August 2022.

HIGHLIGHTS 2022

BASE organization have closely worked with the local government officials from both district, municipal and ward levels as well as non-government organizations. The project has delivered its activities using a consultative approach, working with stakeholders to collectively agree the methodology for this project, review findings and recommendations. 2 Kick-off meeting/Co-creation workshop has been conducted in both Tulsipur and Simta with 48 (37 male and 11 female) participants from the palikas, stakeholders and NGOs. Collation of existing data sources that measure poverty and inequality outcomes have been done



KICK OFF MEETING IN SIMTA RURAL MUNICIPALITY

through the review of the quality of the secondary data, desk reviews, KIIs, data landscaping. Total 34 KIIs have been carried with the representatives and staff of the both palikas including concerned organizations. Standard questionnaires focused on the data governance, data supply and storage, data demand use. The secondary data have been collected from the reliable sources and sections of the local government authorities and NGOs.

Analysis of poverty and inequality data, taking a multidimensional approach to poverty and an intersectional lens to understanding inequalities is ongoing. BASE, has involved in the LNOB-Nepal project in both Phase I (data landscaping) and Phase II (poverty and inequality analysis) activities. BASE has led on: Engagement with stakeholders in the region, with



KII WITH EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IN TULSIPUR SUB-METROPOLITAN CITY

appropriate and timely communications with relevant government and non-government partners to make them aware of the project and ensure their meaningful participation at key stages of the project, to ensure its relevance and the uptake of outputs. And set up and facilitate the stakeholder workshops. Undertaking the Key Informant Interviews, including identifying the relevant interviewees, scheduling them, conducting interviews and transcribing notes.

EDUCATION SUPPORT (PANDA PACKS) PROGRAM

BASE has been implementing the Education Support Program since July 2022 in the formal partnership with China Foundation for

Rural Development. The Panda Pack Project aims to improve the basic learning conditions of primary school students in need and help the development of quality education in beneficiary countries. With the theme of “Gifts from Panda Land”, it embodies the



BAGS DISPLAYED FOR THE DISTRIBUTION

good wishes of the Chinese people to the children in beneficiary countries, and expresses the friendship of Chinese people and strengthens people-to-people ties. Therefore, to encourage children to join schools and help them with cost minimize for educational materials purchase BASE has plan to distribute 10000 school bags and 2500



A MUSLIM GIRL OF NARAINAPUR WITH HER OLD AND NEW BAG

warm clothes pack in the community schools of Dang, Banke and Bardiya districts.

School Bag also known as Panda Pack, gift from panda land which contains School bag, Color box, Stationery box, scale set, pencil, ball pen, English- Nepali copy, painting



HAPPY BOY WITH HIS NEW BAG

paper glue, drawing copy, glue, water bottle, lunch box, towel, soap, mask, toothpaste, toothbrush, umbrella, friendship card, medicated bandage, Health kit bag.

HIGHLIGHTS 2022

The distribution of the bags began from December 2022 after completing all the formal process of the tender, purchase order, production, school's identification and documents verification.

The formal distribution of the school bags started on December 6, 2022 from Shree Siddha Prithwi School, Dangisharan-6, Dang. The students are distributed the materials in the presence of local government representatives, School Management Committees and parents. Within December total 4542 bags were distributed among them 2201 red bags for the girls and 2341 blue bags for boys.

The distribution of the bags has made students and parents happy for they have got useful materials for their studies. It has also encouraged students to come to schools regularly and not leave classes for not having bags and copies. Similarly, schools are grateful towards the support for their students and we have also been thanked by the local governments.

CASE STORY

Wish for the new bag got fulfilled

Anushka Nepali



Anushka Nepali from Shree Nepal Rastriya Basic School, in Raptisonari rural municipality-2, Rajpur is 10 years old girl, studying in grade 4. She has migrated from Surkhet to Rajpur with her family a year ago. Her father does labor but now he will be going to India for earning very soon. And mother has also thought to go abroad. But she is unknown which place is her mother planning to go. She has her own brick made house only but no toilet in her home, they use toilet in their neighbourhood.

She has one elder sister, Manju who studies in grade 5 and one younger sister Sandhya

studying in grade 1 in the same school. She is found carrying very old, ragged bag for many



years. She was feeling awkward while taking her pictures in old bag but a bit different expression after carrying new red bag provided to her as education support. Her mother had told to buy new one for her. She says, "It feels ashamed to come to school with such bag". But now as she gets support from CFRD, she doesn't need to buy a bag for her school. All students were informed about bag distribution through their teachers that day. Her bag got torn using for years, so she said after she got new bag she would keep that carefully. And she says even that old bag she will keep at home. She says that she is unknown about China but now she came to know that the support came from China through

BASE (Backward Society Education) Organization in the distribution ceremony in school. While presenting



the gift items to the students she liked copies mostly used in studies as she is concerned in

study. She wants to become an army in future as she likes to be.

She also says she desires to study in boarding school when she sees other students carrying nice bag and going to school in tidy uniforms.

She also wished to have new bag, copies which has been fulfilled today through



CFRD and BASE. So, she is very thankful to CFRD and BASE. After she got new bag she showed us all the materials one by one and said all things are best and useful for her. All teachers behave well with her at school and she is happy to get nice bag. Anushka would be sharing her happiness with her mother.

SMILING CHILDREN PROGRAM



School reading children in mostly community schools suffer of hunger as they lack money for buying tiffin and attend class without having lunch thus rate of under-weight rate of school children below 12 years is high. BASE has been implementing the

Smiling Children School Feeding Program in 11 schools of Dang district of Lumbini Province for the academic year 2079 (2022-2023) through the financial support of China Foundation for Rural Development.

According to 2078 census the total population of Dang district is 6, 76,277. The project has targeted students of the community schools from ECD to grade 6 in line with the Nepal government. This project is focused to support the day meal program being implemented by the government in community schools. With the support of the program in those schools direct beneficiary will get nutritious and healthy food, also the indirect beneficiary like schools will also have increment of students and there will be no more dropout numbers, parents no more have to face economic burden, mothers don't need to spend time preparing meals for their children, meal preparing mothers are paid



daily wages that has been support for their family income as a whole all have been directly or indirectly benefitted. As a result, quality of the community schools will rise in the community too.

HIGHLIGHTS 2022

In order to support the school meal program with rupees 15 per student per day of the Nepal Government BASE Organization started contributing 57.3 rupees per student

per day from July 30th, 2022 in 11 schools of three palikas i.e. Tulsipur sub-meropolitan city, Dangisharan rural municipality and Shantinagar rural municipality. After obtaining the formal pre-consensus from the local government and formal approval from the central government the program began with the formal partnership agreement with CFRD Nepal office.

BASE has organized a coordination as well as program sharing meeting with the representatives of the local government, staff and stakeholders to inform about the project interventions and collect their suggestions.



COORDINATION AND PROGRAM SHARING MEETING

Through schools assessment we selected 11 beneficiary schools for the daily meal support.

School	Address	Total Students #
1. Shree Pashupati Secondary School	Tulsipur-10 Haripauri	150
2. Bal Miteri Secondary School	Tulsipur-14, Bhojpur	192
3. Shree Adharbhat Vidhyalaya	Tulsipur-15, Kothari	205
4. Jana Shramik Primary School	Tulsipur-5, Gairapatu	123
5. Shree Bal Chetana	Tulsipur-15, Dhamakapur	111

Basic School		
6. Siddha Prithvi Janata Secondary School	Dangisharan-6, Shreegaun	111
7. Shree Gyanjyoti Primary School	Dangisharan-7, Bokati	98
8. Shree Bhanu Secondary School	Dangisharan-6, Prasadhuwa	139
9. Shree Madhyamik Vidhyalaya	Shantinagar-7, Dang	214
10. Shree Shivashakti Secondary School	Shantinagar-7, Dang	124
11. Shree Hattikhali Janashakti Primary School	Shantinagar-5, Dang	75
Total		1542

Through the joint support of the government and CFRD/BASE organization total 1542 students from ECD to grade 6 of the beneficiary schools are getting nutritious



COOKING TRAINING TO MOTHERS

meal every day in the school. Children from indigenous and marginalized communities are studying in these schools where most of the children used to come to school with hungry stomach. The school feeding program is feeding hungry children with fresh and healthy food along with 150 ml milk every day.

Weekdays	Feeding Time	
	At 1:00 PM (or at regular lunch time of school)	
Sunday	Milk (150 ml)	Puri and Mixed Vegetables
Monday	Milk (150 ml)	Rice, Mixed Vegetables with Egg
Tuesday	Milk (150 ml)	Halawa and Mixed Vegetables
Wednesday	Milk (150 ml)	Bean Vegetable with egg and Apple
Thursday	Milk (150 ml)	Rice Pudding and Seasonal Vegetable with Potato
Friday	Milk (150 ml)	Bengal Gram and egg and banana

With total NPR 72.30 children are getting better and healthier meal cooked in the school



GIRLS HAPPY DRINKING MILK

every day. Total 28 mothers of the students studying the same schools have been mobilized for preparing meal in 11 schools. All schools have been oriented about the project, its aim, activities and reporting system. Similarly, mother groups have been trained about their roles and responsibilities as well as proper cooking skills. The children are having milk, fruits and fresh food items prepared as per the certified food menu which ensures the balance diet for nutrition for the children.



MEAL TIME

As per the school teachers, the children are more regular in the classes than before. Their health condition has been improved. Some of the children's weight has been increased by 1-1.5 kgs within 3 months. The mothers are utilizing their leisure time and making some earning to manage their livelihood. We have also conducted health and hygiene training in the schools to mothers, students and teachers for orienting them about self-health care, cleanness and hand washing before and after meal by mobilizing local health workers. Likewise, parents are happy for their children are getting fresh food and they don't have to give money or invest their time in preparing tiffin for their children. Now children are

away from junk foods. This program is very much appreciated by the local government, schools and parents. Other schools are also demanding for school feeding program from BASE and CFRD.

CASE STORY

1. No more smelly and cold food

Barsha GC

Barsha Gc is 10 years old girl studying in grade 5 in Shree Bal Chetana Basic School, Tulsipur -15 Dang. She is from Dabri-16, Tulsipur Dang. Her father's name is Puran Gc and he is 33 years old and her mother name is Bhuma Gc, 31 years old. She has one



elder sister and one younger sister. Her elder sister Padma Gc of 12 years old and currently studying at class 7 in boarding school and her younger sister Prizma Gc is 1 years old. Barsha's house is made of mud and stone and they have electricity facility. Her father works as a chef in India to fulfill family needs and expenses. He earns NPR 25,000 monthly which is only the income in the family. Father has a debt of NPR 2, 00,000.00 which is yet to be repaid. Mother is a housewife and looks after her younger sister. Sometimes she goes to work as laborer in others land. Because of

the critical financial condition her family has to face lots of problem.

Barsha gets sad about her family condition and father has to stay away from them for earning. Her father does have the desire of going to abroad for employment but due to the medical issue restrictions he can't go there. Neither has he got good job in his place. He is suffering from Asthma and stain on the chest. Barsha used to study in the private school but because of financial hardships she joined government school from class 3.

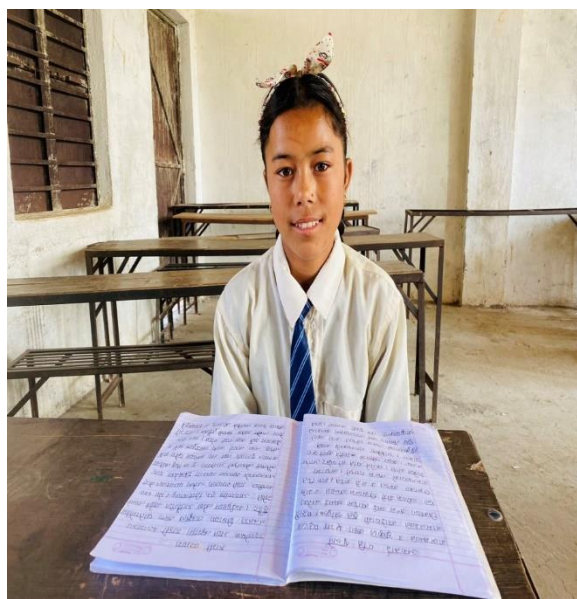
Barsha shares, "I don't like to miss my classes. I used to enjoy computer classes while in the private school. Now there is no computer class in this school. Though I love studying English subject and my aim is to be become a good teacher of the same school I am studying in. I want to teach other children of my village and communities after becoming a teacher." She prefers Bengal gram (Chana), egg and bean vegetables in school meal. Barsha adds, "I am very happy to have meal in school. I used to bring meal like popcorn, rice in Tiffin box prepared by mother early morning. The food used to get smelly and cold while eating. But now I get to eat fresh meal with my friends together in the school every day. I don't have to eat smelly and cold food anymore. I myself feel more active and healthier now a days. My mother also says I look better than before"

During Dashain Vacation she missed the delicious food like milk, egg, beans, vegetables because she didn't have the opportunity to eat the above-mentioned food during holidays at home. She is happy with the Smiling Children School Feeding Program in School and she is very much

grateful with the kind of support receiving from BASE and China Foundation. Barsha also shares, "I have heard about the country China from my books and television. I assume Chinese are white and beautiful. I am looking forward to see Chinese people someday."

2. Enjoying coming school regularly and meal with friends

Indira Yari.



Indira Yari is 13 years old girl studying in grade 5 in Shree Pashupati Secondary School, Haripauri Dang. She is from Salyan but recently living with her sister in Tulsipur-10, Padaha Dang. Her father's name is Khim Lal Yari. Her mother name is Raj Kumari Yari and she passed away when she was very small and she doesn't have any memories about her mother. After that, her father got second marriage and now he is living with her grandparents and second mother in Salyan. Indira has her one elder brother Purna Yari and two elder sisters Basanta Dangi and Santa Budhathoki. Elder brother is married and has gone to Malaysia for employment

and sister in law (VAUJU) is living in her maternal home. None of the brother sisters are in contact with father as they are staying separately.

Currently Indira is staying with her sister as her brother in law is in Malaysia for employment. Her sister is looking after her and her brother sometime sends her money for the expenses of house and for education support. She gets emotional while talking about her father and mother. She adds "I missed my father and mother as I have seen my mother face only in photos."

Indira walks for 10 minutes to come the school from her sister house. She says "Before I used to bring noodles, money and packed foods in Tiffin such as dal, roti, vegetables and sometime I had to come to school with without anything. But now I don't have to bring anything because I get varieties of fresh meal in the school prepared by mothers. I don't feel hungry now a days. And during Dashain festival vacation I missed my school lunch. I did not get milk and varieties of delicious foods at home every day. I like coming to school regularly and enjoy meal with my friends."

She is thankful to BASE and CFRD for supporting her school with school meal program which has fed orphan and poor family students like myself. She says, "This is a great work of the organizations."

3. Door opened to become an independent mother

Mrs. Meena Kumari Pun aged 31 year is the mother of Bijaya Pun, 10 years old son and Usha Pun, 15 years old daughter who study in Shree Madhyamik School in Shantinagar in grade 4 and grade 9 respectively. She has

been looking after her children alone by herself because her husband has left them for eight years. He is contactless since they migrated to Dang from Salyan 2072 BS. Her children were very small and she had to manage everything by herself. Now children are grown up but she still is responsible towards them for their education as well as household needs. Muna comes from Kumalgadi-7 Shantinagar and it takes half an hour walk from her home to reach school. She is a member of Mothers' group for cooking daily meal in Shree Madhyamik School. She starts her duty from 8:00 AM until 3:00 PM every school day. She comes to the school early for boiling milk as they have to serve milk to the children at 10:00 AM. After serving milk, she along with other two mothers start preparation for day meal. She has been working with her team for cooking meal as per menu every day. Along with cooking, they clean utensils, clean vegetables, cut them. They make the meal ready before 1:00 PM as that is the interval and lunch time for the students. They serve the meal to the students and after that they clean utensils, kitchen and dining room. Then return back to home after completing all the activities.



Muna says, "I am enjoying this work which is helping me for making income as well as engage in the work. I don't even feel how my time passes. I am loving serving children like mine." She looks happy and fresh as her daily wages has been increased by the school. Now



they receive NPR 300.00 daily. Her life has been easier than before with this income. She shared that her neighbours ask her about meal program and they are thinking to bring back their children to community schools because the meal program has been beneficial for children health. Children also missed the meals like; apple, milk during long festival vacation.

Muna adds, "I am very thankful to BASE and CFRD for opening a door to become independent mother to look after my kids. We have got opportunity to utilize our leisure time and make income. I am fortunate that we are feeding more than 200 students along with our own children. I wish school feeding program go for longer years so that our children get healthier food and we also get engaged."

YOUTH VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM

Vocational training has been identified as one of the necessary elements to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In



PROGRAM LAUNCH CEREMONY

this regard BASE Organization has been conducting Youth Vocational Training for Plumbing and Electrician with the financial and technical support from China Foundation for Rural Development (CFRD) Nepal office. Total 40 marginalized youth those selected by formal interview are receiving these trainings in Rapti and Gadhwara rural municipality of Dang district. The 3 months training classes have been formally started from September 2022 in coordination with



the local government. BASE has made a formal agreement with Albert Polytechnic College which has been facilitating the trainings mobilizing two technical expert trainers for plumbing and electrician. The trainings are conducted in four different shifts comprising 20 students in each class.

The youth have been learning theoretical and practical knowledge from the training.

HIGHLIGHTS 2022

80 unemployed youth from marginalized and poor economic backgrounds were selected through the interview and recommendation from the local government. The training program was formally inaugurated through a program launch ceremony on 20th September



HOUSEWIRING Training

2022 at Rapti Rural Municipality. The Deputy Chairman of Rapti Rural Municipality Mrs. Kamalapati Chaudhary had inaugurated the program as a chief guest. Similarly representatives of Gadhwara rural municipality, political parties, CFRD



PLUMBING TRAINING

headquarter Beijing, Kathmandu and BASE team joined the event.

In order to conduct the trainings BASE has done a formal agreement with the Alerty Polytechnical College, Butwal. The expert trainers have facilitated the trainings of plumbing and house wiring with 390 hours theoretical and practical classes. 40 youth in Gadhawa rural municipality have received plumbing training whereas 40 youth in Rapti rural municipality have received house wiring (electrician) training.



TRAINEES GOT THE EMPLOYMENT AT THE CHIEF MINISTER (LUMBINI PROVINCE) OFFICE QUARTER AT LALMATIYA

As per the students, both of the trainings are very effective and useful for skills enhancement as well as employment opportunities because these skills have local, national and international demands. The trainings are conducted under the curriculum of the CTEVT. Most of the trainees were engaged in OJT and made some basic earning from that. This has made them excited and are hopeful for their better income in the future. The training has been completed and CTEVT skills test has been applied so after that test the students will have certified job authority and opportunities. Currently most of the training recipient youth are engaged in



side job with their friends from which they are able to earn for their pocket money and daily expenses. They also feel their social identity is better than before now because people count them as skillful and employed youth. As these skills are market driven, the students are looking forward to have better jobs in big cities and abroad after obtaining CTEVT skills test certificate and they have been preparing the test.

CASE STORY

1. Got confidence to become independent Binod Khatri

Binod Khatri is a son of Mr. Amar Bahadur Khatri and Mrs. Pabitra Khatri of Rapti rural



municipality-3, Masuriya Dang. He is 21 years old. He has one younger brother, Mr. Sanjay Khatri aged 18 years who is studying in grade 12. Father stays away from home in

India for earning. He works in a restaurant as a fast food cook. He earns 18-19 thousand monthlies from there which the family depends upon. There is no alternative income in the family than that. Binod lives in a simple CGI sheet roofed home with his mother and brother.

Binod says, "I am very thankful to China Foundation and BASE organization for providing us the opportunity of the plumbing training. This training is very useful and market oriented too. I go to Kulpani training center for the training. Now we have almost completed our theory part and in the field work for practical OJT. The training has equipped me with the skills on plumbing. The training teacher has effectively taught us the skills through both theory and practical. I have already completed 6 practical field works out of which 3 were in Kulpani and 3 in other places. Sometimes we go to private homes for OJT where we are given basic amount from the owners for our plumbing work. I have got confidence to become independent from this training and field work."

Currently Binod is engaged in plumbing work with his friend Mr. Rajiv Chaudhary, who is also a trainee of the training. They are working in Chief Minister's Province Office in Rapti rural municipality. The province office and ministries of Lumbini province have been shifted to Rapti just before a month so there are more opportunities for our students. Binod has got a business to do plumbing work in a toilet of the ministry with his friend. From this they are going to make good earning.

Binod adds, "The training is important for youth like us and it would have been even

better if the training materials were sent to the training earlier by the Albert Institute. But what we have learnt has made us skillful. I have responsibility of my family so I was working in an electric shop at my village. While working there I got chance to learn house wiring skills also. Now I have got plumbing skills so I have become more confident. One who has these both skills together has more chances to get work because one person can grab the business opportunity of both plumbing and wiring which gives more income and benefit too. Now I am prepared for CTEVT skill test which I expect to have as soon as possible. Until we have that skill test pass certificate we don't get employment opportunities so I request all to make the test soon."

2. Such skills discourage us thinking about going abroad

Niraj Chaudhary



Niraj Chaudhary son of 48 years aged Chedu Chaudhary and 42 years aged Indrawati Chaudhary is 28 years old youth. He is local

resident of Rapti Rural Municipality -8, Pipara Dang. His family's profession is farming. He has one younger brother and one sister. He has been married for 2 years. His wife Seema Kumari Chaudhary is 27 years old. He has one-year old son. His father had been to India and worked in stationery shop for 17-18 years and paid Rs. 25,000/-monthly. He studied in management faculty in +2 level but couldn't pass so he left his study, it has been 5 years now. He had planned for abroad and made passport but could not go due to financial crisis. His grandparents are of old age now so his father has returned from India a year before for family support in farming. They had no resource after father returned.

He was engaged in the plumbing training from the municipality in Rapti Technical Institute in Masuriya but due to the lockdown the training got cancel and he could not complete that. His knowledge was incomplete and now he has forgotten everything due to the lack of practice. He then started doing farming together with his family. They grow seasonal crops and



vegetables. They also sell in the market and get monthly 10-15 thousand income. He then came to know about electrician training, in



which he was interested too. He wanted to develop skills. He says, "The place he lives in has scope of electrician skills so he joined the classes regularly and leant the skills. The work pays good money. Though I am seeking and expect for advance level 2 skill from the organizations that would be more helpful for working professionally but 3 months basic skill has also enhanced confidence in me for work. Now I will keep searching houses for wiring. After the completion of training course, I did listic wiring in house as practical".

Now he wants to work in his own place after learning the skill. He says, "I am very much thankful to China Foundation and BASE organization that supported youths like us to learn skill to stand on our own income, we got good opportunity to get theoretical knowledge along with practical knowledge, if such opportunities are provided for us here then we don't need to think of going abroad."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The contribution of our funding partners and stakeholders is highly valuable to enable BASE to serve for the last three decades in mid and far western regions of Nepal. As we have still long way to go, we believe our partnership will be further strengthened in the days to come. We express our sincere thanks to our donors, local governments, stakeholders, BASE members and network for contributing our mission to work in grassroots with backward and disadvantaged to create self-reliant and equitable society through socio-economic empowerment and responsible action. In spite of so many challenges after the pandemic of COVID-19 we are continuously putting our efforts to serve our people with the support and trust of our partners and stakeholders. We have been able to reach grassroots people through education, WASH, nutrition, livelihood, governance, income generation, research support projects. We thank to the partners with whom we worked together throughout the year of 2022. We are equally grateful to our strategic partners whom we have already worked with and intend towards fruitful partnership in futures. Therefore, we have mentioned the names of both currently working and strategic partners as following.

Donor Logos



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