

BASE ORGANIZATION

FIGHTING AGAINST EXTREME POVERTY AND EXPLOITATION SINCE 1991

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



Foreword from the Executive Director

We are happy on this remarkable occasion of publishing our annual progress report 2025 which shows 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 local and state actors in its target districts. BASE has specifically worked to raise the living standards of indentured and disadvantaged grassroots communities and excluded children, and has done this through its management of BASE members and professional activists 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 educational inaccessibility in the Lumbini, Sudurpaschim and Karnali Province of Nepal, BASE has launched WASH and educational projects in collaboration with district education coordination unit, local governments and the ministry of social development of the different provinces. To address the horrific problems faced by thousands of bonded laborers and their children, BASE has delivered livelihood projects which ensure economic development, combat child labor, child sexual abuse, child trafficking, human trafficking, and promotion of civic engagement for good governance, basic rights and formal education and promotion of nutrition in the community. In relation to disaster preparedness and response, BASE has engaged in emergency aid and humanitarian support. BASE has contributed to formed and made policy advocacy for the formation and amendment process different policies to make enable environment to access the government services to marginalized, minorities and grassroots communities of local and provincials' governments. 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 has continued throughout the year. BASE's work focuses on all disadvantaged people. We help all exploited and vulnerable groups such as women, children, gender and sexual minorities, people with disabilities, youths, tharu, Madhesi, Dalits, chidimar, Natuwa, badi, Gandharva, Pasi, kori, sonaha, Kusunda, Majhi, Kumal, Raidas, Teli, Mahatawa/ Bhalmansa /Barghar etc. Much of this work takes place in rural areas and other marginalized 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 incredibly supportive of us. Furthermore, our sincere thanks go to the local communities and the civic 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 who have been in direct and indirect contact with our organization. On the whole my gratefulness is overwhelmingly extended to the team of BASE, board members, CMC member, project coordinators and all staffs who managed the publication of the annual report 2025, as well as the efforts of our respective district staffs and implementation units for their added support.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Churna Bahadur Chaudhary". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Churna Bahadur Chaudhary
Executive Director

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Chapter 1:

1. Introduction

Introduction of BASE Organization (Backward Society Education)

Tharus are one of the Indigenous People of Nepal. Before 1983, most of the Tharu boys and girls were working for landlords instead of schooling; for repaying back their parents' loan. Tharus were discriminated by so called high caste, to the attempts of social, economic, and political exploitation, this is why Tharus had been gradually migrated from Dang to Banke, Bardiya, Kailali, Kanchanpur, Surkhet and India.

In January 1985, BASE Organization (Backward Society Education) was founded as a pioneer movement (Charpate Club) to fight against human exploitation within some of Nepal's poorest communities. Under the leadership of Mr. Dilli Bahadur Chaudhary, a social activist and member of indigenous Tharu community, a group of 34 youths raised NRS.735 through cultural shows within Dang District of Western Nepal during the period of Maghi Festival (Tharu New Year). Since the restoration of democracy in 1990 in Nepal, membership of BASE has grown bigger, boasting a membership of over 300,000 people. BASE's continued commitment to fight against the exploitation of bonded labor and slavery, social and political discrimination, illiteracy and poverty of the Tharu people, and other marginalized communities, has inspired a grass-root oriented social movement focused within 8 districts in Lumbini, Karnali and Sudurpachhim province of Nepal. BASE aims to bring about a transformation in the outlook of the downtrodden people, as well as those of their oppressors focusing on other more districts apart from the working districts.

The board members of BASE are known as "People-people", while the administrative staffs are labeled as "paper-people". They engage in policy and procedure formations along with implementation, fundraising, strategic direction, advocacy, monitoring, evaluating and social and public audits. Although most of the projects are designed by "paper-people", this is all following the guidance and research of BASE's "people-people".

Thus, BASE is a mass membership-based organization, and as a pioneer institution, devoted to fighting against exploitation and deprivation of the Tharus, and other marginalized people at the same locality. Started as a grass-roots social movement, it now works through education, social mobilization & community development under the slogan "Education first". The main aim of BASE is to uplift the livelihood of Tharus, excluded and marginalized people in Nepal, whose lives are often characterized by extreme poverty. BASE has been extremely successful in mobilizing a huge group of people not only Tharus, other indigenous people and marginalized groups in Nine core districts namely; Dang, Banke, Bardiya, Kailali, Surkhet, Kanchanpur, East Rukum, West Rukum and Salyan. Apart from this, BASE has been working in other districts of Nepal.

2. Vision:

"Create self-reliant and equitable society in Nepal".

3. 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.

4. Goal:

To create educated, equitable and healthy society by providing opportunities of livelihood, development, education, employment and social inclusion for excluded community.

BASE assumes that BASE members should be aware and mobilized of human rights for absolute use of local resources, capital creation, is the today's basic needs. One cannot for but it is necessary efforts of collective groups for development of vocational skills, capital creation and its mobilization and maintaining human rights. For this existing traditions, customs and culture should not reach for ever, but these should be conserved, promoted and improved in such a way that could forward the societies into improved social culture. Collective efforts are not possible not withstanding social unity and straight for resolving problems. For this people should be organized into groups in order to launch any development programs effectively and smoothly.

5. Approaches and Methodologies:

Approaches: BASE has adopted three conceptual modalities to reach to the beneficiaries in the grassroots level; i) professional staffs, ii) social movement and iii) intermediate organization.

i) Professional Development NGOs

Methodologies; BASE with professional and benefited staffs implements different development projects funded by partners and donors based on the well-equipped and improved sector wise policies and social mobilization (Sanghari Manual) procedure provided by the central committee. In BASE, staffs are called "paper-people" and committee members are called "people-people". Projects monitoring and supervision are being carried out by both paper-people and people-people.

ii) Social Movement

Internal members funding: BASE collects the local resources as internal fund from membership fees and local authorities for sustainability of programs and committees. Democratic governance: BASE different level committees like village committees are established, which works as civil society organization (CSOs) where BASE members are involved., Palika committees (PCs) are elected and selected from active members and district committees are elected and selected from Palika committees and active members. Likewise, the central committee is established, electing from active members and the members of Palika committees and district committees have voting rights for the selection of central committee. These Palilka, district and central committees are consisted of seventeen representatives where two members are nominated by the respective president in each committee. This system is followed next to after five years each. The main function of BASE central committee is to prepare policies, to make it applied by the sectors as well as to coordinate and link with different donors and partners for fund raising.

Central management committee: The roles of the central management committee is to provide strategic oversight to all programs managed by BASE, as well as project and organizational structures.

Composition of central committee: BASE's central committee is made up of the following members:

1. Mr. Dilli Bahadur Chaudhary Founder President
2. Mr. Yagya Raj Chaudhary – Senior Vice President/Acting President
3. Ms. Sangita Chaudhary – Vice-President
4. Mr. Defu Lal Chaudhary – Vice-President
5. Mr. Gopal Chaudhary – Vice-President
6. Mr. Lokjan Chaudhary – General Secretary
7. Mr. Rajesh Chaudhary - Treasurer

8. Mr. Dhurba Bahadur Shah - Secretary
9. Mr. Man Bahadur Chaudhary – Joint Secretary
10. Mr. Deepak Chaudhary- Member
11. Mr. Prashu Narayan Chaudhary - Member
12. Ms. Juna Khadka - Member
13. Ms. Sabita K.C. - Member
14. Mr. Jageshwar Chaudhary - Member

Human resource building: in order to produce and develop village specialists, BASE enhances the technical and non-technical capacity building of the Tharus, other indigenous people and marginalized groups for mobilization, utilization of local resources, and to provide technical assistance to communities.

Members' accountability to general assembly: BASE conducts different orientations and campaigns on concept of development, present situation, projects to members of the different level committees. Project staffs are direct implementers of the program activities and the committee members have to take responsibilities for monitoring and supervision of the programs. The committee members suggest for improved and better implementation. Thus, they have accountability to the beneficiaries. These members are representatives of the general assembly. During the assembly, they have to take decisions for future direction of the organization and programs. In this way, the representatives are accountable for the general assembly.

Local organizing process: civil society organizations (CSOs) are consisted of respective women groups, child and Kishori clubs/organizations, freed-kamaiya groups, freed kamlahari (female bonded labors) groups, poor farmers, youth awareness committees in the settlements. They are the direct beneficiaries of BASE programs.

Mass local membership based: in order to protect and conserve the human rights of the target beneficiaries, BASE at first provides them its membership to joint BASE. This process states "working by the members for the members, and of the members" is called "Membership based Organization". Social justice and rights focus: BASE focus its interventions social movement, different campaigns, and advocacy on burning issues for preservation human rights. Such movements like freed Kamaiya movement for rehabilitation, conflict transformation for peace building, child labor for elimination, human trafficking, land rights and revitalization, of system either of Matawa, Barghar, Bhalmansa or of Mukhiya are the main social justice and rights of BASE.

iii) Intermediate Support Organization

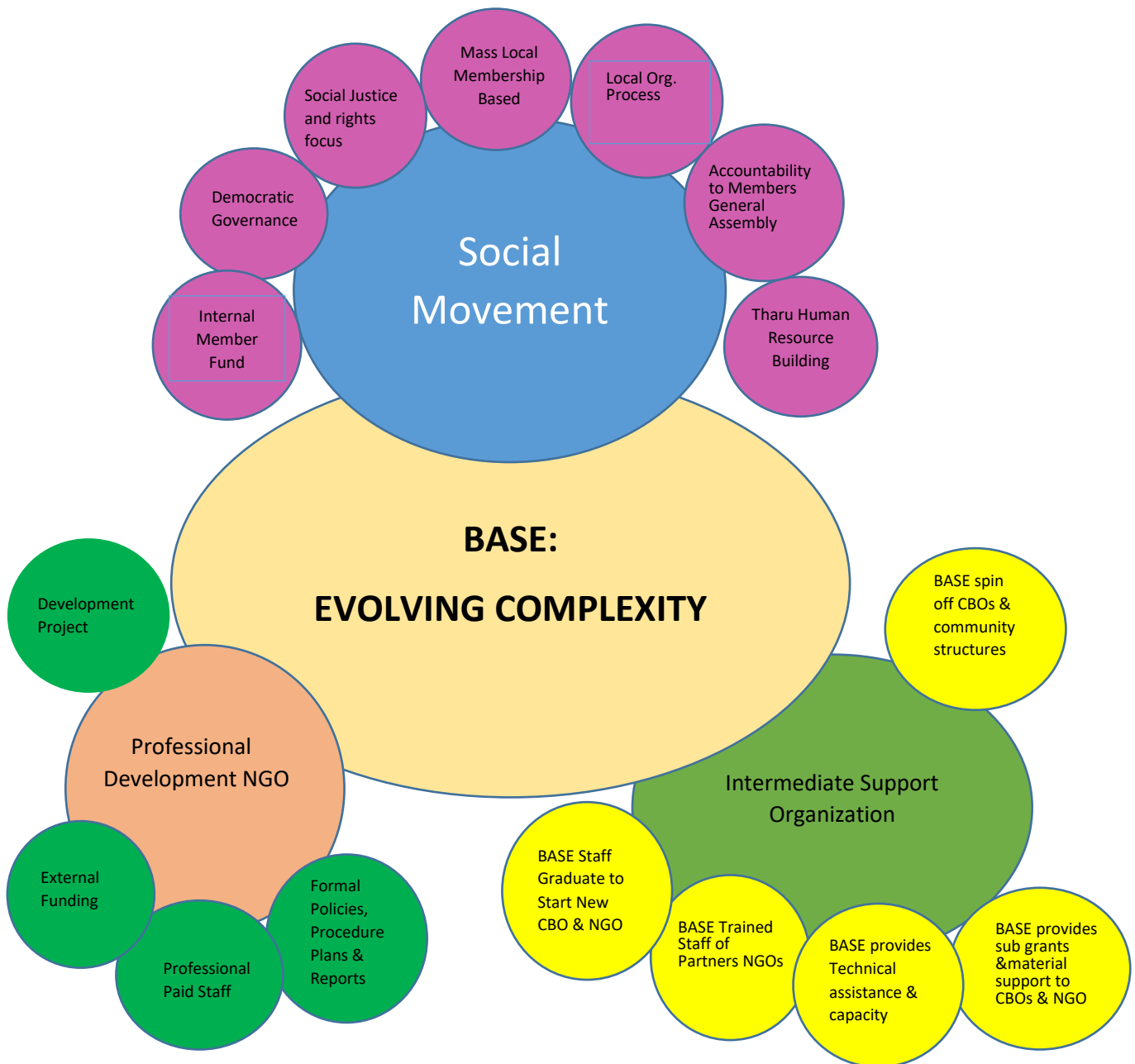
BASE staffs graduate to start new CBO and NGO: Most of the staffs of BASE are from grassroots. One of the strategies of BASE is to produce and develop professional staffs by supporting for higher education within the country or in the overseas. By getting this opportunity, some of them have been deployed by national and international organizations. In addition, some of the staffs and committee members have been experienced on leadership of the organizations and are leading CBOs and NGOs.

BASE trained staff of partner local NGOs: in order to implement programs smoothly and effectively, deliver quality service to the target beneficiaries of the partner organizations (POS) working in indigenous and marginalized communities, BASE entered into partnership for organizational capacity building including staffs of capabilities. BASE has been establishing a network of local NGOs for information dissemination and experiences sharing on development process.

BASE provides sub grants and material support to local CBOs and NGOs: BASE has been institutionally and organizationally strengthening itself and has been becoming capable to handle the sub grants. Therefore, BASE provides sub-grants and materials support to local CBOs and NGOs.

BASE provides technical assistance and capacity building: BASE has produced different human resources within the organization. So, BASE has developed and designed different training packages. Furthermore, BASE conducts various training sessions for staffs, committees and group members, CBOs and NGOs. Similarly, BASE has been technically assisting the group members in agro and non-agro-based program activities. In addition, BASE has also been assisting to the community forestry.

6. BASE: EVOLVING COMPLEXITY



Chapter 2

7. Program Detail

A. Strengthening the Market Development System for Clean Cooking in Nepal

Project Title	Strengthening the Market Development System for Clean Cooking in Nepal	Project period in months	14 Months
Project Start Date	Aug 2024	Project end date	Sep 2025
Total Budget	NPR. 8,900,000.12	Overall Expenditure (Final)	8,646,624.69 (97.15%)
Report submitted by	Nar Bahadur Chaudhari	Report Submitted on	28 Jan 2026

1. Background:

BASE Organization has been implementing the Strengthening the Market Development System for Clean Cooking project in five districts (Dang, Banke, Kapilvastu, Rupandehi, and Nawalparashi) of Lumbini province. The project is funded by SNV/EnDev. The project duration was 11 months (Aug 2024 to Sep 2025). The project supports easy access to clean (electric) cooking in urban and rural communities. This project supports the prevention of environmental pollution through the protection of firewood which is usually taken from the jungle. The project is also contributing to SDG 7 targets which push for a 24% reduction (54%-30%) in households which primarily use firewood for cooking and limiting the use of LPG to less than 40 percent of households.

2. Executive summary

- 5 activities (1. Inception meeting, 2. Demonstration, 3. Installation, 4. school level events/ wall painting and 5. alternative energy sub-committee formation) were conducted over the working period.
- 3686 HHs (people) installed clean electric cooking facilities. Out of 3686, 1972 were female, 1711 were male, and 3 cooktops were installed for institutional use. 155 were Leaving No One Behind (LBON) people. A total of 17774 (Male-8853 and female-8921) people benefited from the clean cooking program.
- 5 Palika alternative energy sub-committees were formed. 3 Palikas (Bardaghat Mun, Ramgram Mun. and Sarawal RM) were from Nawalparasi district and 2 Palikas (Kharuja RM and Baijhnath RM) were included from Banke district.
- A total of 129 (Male-87, female-42) people were orientated about the clean electric cooking through the 3 events (Suddhodharm RM, Rpandehi, Raptisonari RM and Baijhath RM in Banke) of the inception stage.
- 3977 (male-1918, female -2059) people were orientated about the utilisation and safety methods of clean cooking. This was achieved through 99 cooktop usage and safety precaution demonstration events.
- A total NPR. 4150300.00 was co-financed for the installation of clean electric cooking. This fund is initiated by CFUG, different wards of the Palikas.
- **Grand Total NPR 81,65,150.00 (7924900+240250) invested for installation of clean cooking from the SNV Nepal.** For Normal user invested fund is NPR 7924900.00 (per

- household NPR. 2150.00 for 3686 Household) and Leave No One Behind- LNOB user NPR 240250.00 (per person NPR 1550.00 for 155 LNOBs) invested.
- 97.15 % (NPR 86,46,624.69 Out of total budget NPR. 89,00,000.12) budget invested till the end of the project (Sep 2025).

3. Objectives of the project

The goal this project is to enable access to clean (Electric) cooking in 4500 HHs in the working 5 districts. The objectives are as follows-

1. Environment protection by reducing the use of firewood from jungle for cooking.
2. Easy access to clean (Electric) cooking to create clean kitchens and healthy food.
3. To support an increase in consumption of Nepal-produced electricity.
4. To support a decrease in importing LPG and save Nepalese rupees that are being exported.

4. Methodology:

The project was implemented after the inception meeting at the Palika level. The inception meeting was the first step for project implementation in the working area. The meeting created an enabling environment for further implementation. Another important step in promoting clean cooking were the demonstrations. There is a misunderstanding about clean cooking. The consumers did not trust it until they saw its practical uses and this was why the demonstrations took place in different communities. After the consumers saw the demonstrations they were much more interested in using it. During the purchasing of the cooktop, the consumer had to provide their identity card including their citizenship number and family members' details (male, female and total). SNV has enlisted the Last Mile Distributor (LMDs) or supplier for cooktop distribution. Last Mile Distributor (LMD) complete the Result Based Financing (RBF) form for each customer. Then the LMD claimed the incentive of the sold cooktops from the SNV. Sold cooktops were verified from the respective district Market Development Officer (MDO) and recommended for releasing the incentive. There was a provision of financial incentive per consumer: NPR. 2150.00 per set of cooktops. In addition to the normal incentive there was utensil support equivalent with NPR. 1550.00 for the Leave No One Behind (LNOB) people. LNOBs are indicated as- 1) single women led family under 50 years old. 2) Ultra poor (poverty red card holder) family. 3) People with Disability PWDs under 20 to 50 years. and 4) natural disaster affected people. Before the incentive payment to the LMD, at least 15% user's kitchen verification is mandatory. For mass awareness about clean cooking, school level demonstrations and wall painting workshops were also conducted in the working area. For taking the responsibility of the alternative energy and promotion of the clean cooking, the project worked for the creation of alternative energy sub-committees at the Palika level.

5. Accomplished activities/Outcomes

5.1 Inception Meeting at the Potential Palikas:- Three Project Inception meetings were carried out. Out of 3 inception meetings, Banke held 2 events and Rupandehi held 1 event. The objectives of the Palika level meetings were to introduce the local governments to the project, its objectives and modality along with the importance of electric cooking cooktops for household usage. Power point presentations were made during the orientation program. During the inception meetings, demonstrations of electric cooking were also undertaken.



The participants of the meeting included Chairpersons, vice-chairpersons, ward Chairpersons, executive members and chief administrative officers, and officials of local governments as well as representatives of Federation of

Forest User Groups, representatives of community forest user groups, and cooperatives. In total 129 (male 87 and female-42) participants attended the meetings.

Overall impression of the inception meeting remained good and fruitful. The local governments, particularly Mayors, Deputy Mayors, Chairpersons, ward chairpersons, Chief Administrative Officers, Federation of Community Forest User Groups, Cooperatives responded to the program positively and made their commitments to allocate some budget for the program and collaborate.

5.2 Demonstration and BCC events, Safety Audits and other community level events: -

In order to promote and introduce E-cooking solutions as well as create an enabling environment for electric cooktop and for behavior change, clean electric cooking demonstrations have been conducted at the community level. Introduction of the project, status of E-cooking in Nepal, cost effectiveness and post-demonstration interactions were under taken during the demonstration. The use and benefits of induction cooktops were also shared. Between January and Sep 2025, a total of 99 demonstration events were carried out in the project working districts and 3977 people (male-1918 and female -2059) took part.



DEMO at Joyti CFUG Gadawa Dang

Before the demonstration, there was concern amongst community people about the risks of using e-cooktops but these were cleared up after the demonstration. The participants of the demonstration included government officials, community people and cooperative members.

District	# of events	Male	Female	Total
Banke	13	452	282	734
Dang	34	548	760	1308
Kapilvastu	19	426	454	880
Nawalparasi	24	371	362	733
Rupandehi	9	121	201	322
	99	1918	2059	3977

5.3 Installation of clean (Electric) cooking for access to affordable, reliable, and modern energy services: -

From January to Sep 2025, a total of 3686 Households installed Induction stoves. Out of the 3686 HHs, 1972 cooktops were installed for female users and 1711 cooktops were installed for male users and 3 cooktops were to be used institutionally. The highest number (1030 households) of cooktops were installed in Nawalparasi District. 849 induction cooktops were installed in Rupandehi HHs. Dang district facilitated installation in 732 HHs. Banke district installed 574 HHs cooktops and Kapilvastu district installed 501 HHs cooktops. Out of the 3686 HHs, total 125 HHs were from the Leave No One Behind (LNOB) group. Total 17774 (Male- 8853 and female-8921) benefited from the clean cooking program.



Clean cooking distribution in Banshakkti CFUG Bardaghat Nawalparasi

Installation Record of Electric Cooking stove

District	Gender wise				LNOBs	Benefited population		
	Female	Male	Institutional	Total		Female	Male	Total
Nawalparasi	568	459	3	1030	43	2493	2474	4967
Rupandehi	495	354	0	849	36	2055	2039	4094
Dang	364	368		732	31	1772	1758	3530
Banke	276	298	0	574	24	1389	1379	2768
Kapilvastu	269	232	0	501	21	1213	1203	2416
Grand Total	1972	1711	3	3686	155	8921	8853	17774

5.4 School Level events, Wall Painting, Mass Demonstration (during festival and ceremonies):-

5 district wall paintings have been conducted across the working area of the project. In this wall painting the clean cooktops usage process and safety methods have been depicted. A 65 square foot (13*5) sized wall was painted to display the induction cooktops' uses and safety precautions in Pawan Secondary school boundary wall in Ramgram Municipality ward-3 Parasi. Induction cooktops depicted on 96 (12*8) square foot wall in Paroha CFUG building's wall in Sainamaina Municipality ward-4 Rupandehi. Similarly, induction cooktops were displayed in a 40 (8*5) square foot wall painting in Mayadevi Rural Municipality boundary wall in Kapilvastu district. Induction cooktops were displayed on a 45 square foot wall in Rapti Provincial Hospital Tulsipur Dang. Clean electric cooktops' uses and safety methods were displayed in a 75 (10*7.5) square foot wall painting on a Community building's wall in Kohalpur Municipality ward-2 Banke. All these wall paintings will support access to clean cooking at the community level.



Clean cooking DEMO during the Inter-provincial tharu cultural assembly

A 3 days mass demonstration was conducted during the Inter Provincial Tharu cultural assembly in Dangisharan RM-3 Chakhaura Dang. An inter-provincial Tharu cultural assembly was organized by BASE Mahatawa Federation on the 7, 8 and 9 February 2025. During that assembly one stall was booked for displaying clean electric cooktops.

5.5 Municipal Energy Sub-Committee Meeting (formation of task force for monitoring and follow-up):-

Federalism of Nepal, introduced by the Constitution of Nepal (2015), aims to establish a decentralized governance system by distributing power among federal, provincial, and local levels. As part of this, the oversight of power, drinking water, small hydropower projects and alternative energy falls under the work, duties and rights of the local governments. In order to oversee, monitor, and implement alternative energy, the Local Government Administration Act 2074 has defined this within the jurisdiction of local governments. So, in order to act as focal point for the clean cooking solutions, the project has envisioned to form energy sub- committees at the Palika level. Under this project five Palika (3 in

Nawalparasi and 2 in Banke) energy sub-committees were formed. From now onwards, the project will coordinate these sub-committees related to the interventions as Monitoring and follow up of alternative energy sector. A total of 113 (77 male and 36 female) people attended the meeting, including local government officials and elected representatives. During the meeting respective Palikas selected the focal persons for the energy sector. Summary of the meeting are as follows-

District	Venue	Date	Participants			selected Focal persons
			Male	Female	Total	
Nawalparashi	Bardaghat Mun.	28-Mar-2025	12	7	19	Puskar Kafle
Nawalparashi	Sarawal RM	30-Mar-2025	12	6	18	Ishowari Prasad Khanal
Nawalparashi	Ramgram Mun.	10-Apr-2025	20	10	30	Maheshwor Khanal
Banke	Khajura RM	14-May-2025	15	8	23	Dambar BK
Banke	Baijanath RM	22-May-2025	18	5	23	Raju Ruchal Thakuri
	Grand Total		77	36	113	

6. Expected vs. Achievement of the project results:

Expected vs. Achievement Summary table					
S N	Activities	Target	Units	Achievements	Remarks
1	Installation of clean cooking cooktops	4500	HHs	5403	Out of 5403, 3264 HHs installed in Jan to Jun 2025
2	Printing of installation forms, materials, and safety manuals (IEC Materials)	3	time	3	printed before Dec 2024
3	Inception Meeting at the Potential Palikas	15	events	15	Out of 15, 3 events inceptions conducted in Jan to Sep 2025
4	Demonstration and BCC events, Safety Audits and other community level events	42	events	137	Out of 137, 99 events DEMOS conducted in Jan to Sep 2025
5	School Level events, Wall Painting, Mass Demonstration (during festival and ceremonies)	6	places	5	
6	Municipal Energy Sub-Committee Meeting (formation of task force for monitoring and follow-up)	20	events	5	
7	Procurement of Clean Cooking sets for demonstration and awareness purpose	3	sets	5	Procured before Dec 2024

- total 3686 Households have installed Induction stoves. Out of the 3686 HHs, 1972 cooktops were installed for female user and 1711 cooktops were installed for male user and 3 cooktops

were for institutional usage. Out of the 3686 HHs, total 125 HHs were from the Leave No One Behind (LNOB) group. Total 17774 (Male- 8853 and female-8921) benefited from the clean cooking program.

- 5 Palika alternative energy sub-committees were formed. Out of these 5 palikas: 3 palikas (Bardaghat Mun, Ramgram Mun. and Sarawal RM) were from Nawalparasi district and 2 Palikas (Kharuja RM and Baijhnath RM) were included from Banke district.
- Total of 129 (Male-87, female-42) people were oriented about the clean electric cooking through the 3 inception meetings (Suddhodharm RM, Rpandehi, Raptisonari RM and Baijthath RM in Banke).
- 3977 (male-1918, female -2059) people were informed about the usage process and safety methods of clean cooking. To achieve these 99 demonstration events were conducted.
- NPR. 4150300.00 co-financed for installation of the clean electric cooking in households. This fund is initiated by CFUG, different wards of the Palikas.
- **Grand Total NPR 81,65,150.00 (7924900+240250) invested for installation of clean cooking from the SNV Nepal.** For Normal users, the invested fund is NPR 7924900.00 (per household NPR. 2150.00 for 3686 Household) and Leave No One Behind- LNOB user NPR 240250.00 (per person NPR 1550.00 for 155 LNOBs) was invested.
- 97.15 % (NPR 86,46,624.69 Out of total budget NPR. 89,00,000.12) budget invested by the end of the project (Sep 2025).

Co-funded summary	
District	Initiated fund
Rupandehi	1278600
Banke	1023150
Dang	844250
Nawalparasi	711800
Kapilvastu	292500
Total	4150300

7. Lessons Learnt

- **Coordination and collaboration with CFUG and cooperatives:** - For accelerating the clean electric cooking program effectively, Inception meetings were conducted at the Palika level. Executive committees of the Palika took the lead for the promotion of clean cooking. As the annual budget and programs were already planned and had their budgets allocated, there was no possibility for allocating budget for promotion of clean cooking. In such a situation Palikas were recommended for coordination with local CFUG and cooperatives. Clean cooking project staff coordinated with CFUG and cooperatives. Economically rich CFUGs and cooperatives became ready for investment in the promotion of clean cooking. One of the core objectives of the clean cooking was use the electricity for cooking and preserve firewood from the jungle. Objective of the CFUG's is also for protecting the jungle. CFUGs planned for the promotion of clean cooking. Similarly, active cooperatives were also interested in distributing the clean cooking to their share members. BASE, Cooperatives and CFUG agreed to promote the clean electric cooking collaboratively. By making it a joint effort, the clean electric cooking program was implemented.
- **More focused in clean electric cooking demonstration:** - During the implementation of the clean cooking program at the community level it was found that there is lack of awareness regarding the uses and importance of clean electric cooking. The misconception was that clean electric cooking is expensive and only urban and rich people can afford and use it. There were misconceptions around how electricity can cook food and danger/accidents around using electricity sockets for cooking. There was doubt about high electricity consumption and subsequent increased electric bill payments. The project team responded to this by holding more demonstration events using clean electric cooking and its safety precautions. During the demonstration a practical session of the cooktop's usage process, electricity consumption status,

and cooking time was carried out. After learning about the facts around clean cooking and its importance, local consumers were more willing to start using clean electric cooking in their communities.

8. Challenges

- **Lack of separate section for the regulation of drinking water, electricity and alternative energy-** Constitution of Nepal and Local government operation Act has provisioned a separate section for the rules and regulations of drinking water, electricity and alternative energy. But in practice, there is not any responsible department for this regulation, so it is quite challenging to expand the use of clean cooking.
- **Suppliers reluctant to collect the customers detailed information and fill out the RBF form-** As part of distribution, all the customers' information should be kept including the family members and citizenship number in the RBF form. Some of the suppliers seemed reluctant to fill out the RBF form. They feel it is lengthy process for claiming the RBF initiative.
- **Challenges to find and monitor customer kitchens-** The program mandates that at least 15% of kitchen cooktop usage be monitored. It was easy to track and monitor cooktops distributed to collectives by BASE, but much more difficult to monitor cooktops which were purchased in supplier shops.
- **Very short-term project duration-** During the distribution and demonstrations of clean cooking it was recommended to sell the cooktops with at least a 2 years warranty and retailers did so accordingly but unfortunately the project only lasted a year, creating difficulty around the product marketing and usage.

9. Recommendation

- **It is recommended that there be at least 2 years of implementation** in order to see the impact of the program. The program distributed electric cooktops that had a 2 years warranty. It was promised that the cooktop will be repaired free of cost within 2 years. Unfortunately, the project phases out within only one year. There is not project responsibility for repair and maintenance after the project ends. But the local retailer is committed to repair and maintain the cooktops and materials that they supplied.
- **Need more flexibility in offering the electric Cooktops:** The project recommends the use of Induction electric cooktops. There are some customers who preferred the Infrared cooktops. Users of the infrared cooktops were suspicious of the project for only marketing induction cooktops when both induction and infrared cooktop are clean and electronic. In the future it would be best to promote both and leave the choice up to the customer.

B. Economic Opportunity for the Marginalized Community in Nepal Project

Project Title	Economic Opportunity for the Marginalized Community in Nepal Project	Project period in months	12 Months
Project Start Date	January 2025	Project end date	Dec. 2025
Total Budget	USD \$ 50,000.00	Overall Expenditure (Final)	USD \$ 49820
Report submitted by	Churna Bahadur Chaudhary	Report Submitted on	28 Jan 2026

10. Background:

BASE has been implementing the Economic Opportunity for the Marginalized Communities in Nepal project in Tulsipur Sub-metropolitan City, Dangisharan Rural Municipality in Dang district, Rapti Sonari Rural Municipality Banke District and Thakurbaba Rural Municipality and Barbardiya Rural Municipality in Bardiya District. The period of project is 1 January 2025 to December 2025. The project was funded by Dunn Charitable Family Foundation (Dun Development Corp, 589 Sackett Street Second Floor Brooklyn, NY 11217. The project aims to empower poor, vulnerable marginalized communities through economic opportunities and cultural prevention. The project has targeted the poor, vulnerable Dalit Badi and Gaine/Gandharba community who work as daily wages in low payment and marginalized Tharu women who works as domestic dish washers and daily wages.

The specific objectives of the project are as below:

1. Capacitate low-income household's youth and women with skills development opportunities.
2. Enable economic status of the marginalized families through income generation support and market linkage as well as business promotion.

Rational of the project:

Nepal's 20 % extreme-poverty rate has remained unchanged for twelve years (ILO, 2024), and the most marginalized Tharu, Dalit and other low-caste households—face a “double burden” of job loss and soaring commodity prices in a labor market that produced only 0.8 % formal-wage growth in 2023 (World Bank, 2023). Post-Covid pandemic credit rationing keeps Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) operating at 67 % capacity, the lowest in South Asia (Outreach International, 2024). Annual floods destroyed 167,000 hectares of cropland in Lumbini province in BASE organization working district including Banke and Bardiya in 2021 alone, pushing affected farm households 25 % deeper into debt (Sky Hive, 2023). An estimated 500,000 Nepali workers returned during the Covid pandemic; 42 % remain unemployed and without re-integration capital (ILO, 2022). About 1.1 million cumulative Covid infections and recurrent waves continue to erode household savings and labor productivity (BASE, 2024).

In the rapidly urbanizing corridors in BASE working areas of Ghorahi, Tulsipur and Lamahi in Dang District, women many from Tharu indigenous community, Dalit and other marginalized communities—are trapped in low-paid, irregular work that barely covers the city's escalating food and rent costs. To survive, they urgently need market-relevant vocational training (advance sewing and cutting fashion designing, Agriculture based enterprises including livestock rearing) that can be completed while juggling household duties.

Major achievements highlight of the project in 2025:

SN	Major activities	# of direct beneficiaries	# of groups	Remarks
1	Vegetable farming training and support			
1.1	Vegetable farming training (Male 6 and female 190)- 2 days	-196 person		- 3 person from 61 vegetable group members attended at the vegetable farming training
1.2	Seed distribution and support	-1220 member	61 group	-20 member in a group
1.3	Mushroom farming support	-36 women	1 group	-36 member in a group
2	Modern and traditional dress (sewing cutting)	-66 women	3 group	-22 group member in a training.

	training and support- 60 days			
3	Pig farming training and support to Tharu indigenous community			
3.1	Pig farming training (2 days) to Tharu indigenous community	60	-	- Approximately 3 members from each pig farming groups.
3.2	Pig support to the 360 Tharu women	360	18 group	-20 member in a group.
4	Pig farming training (2 days) and support to Dalit community (Dalit Gaine community)	180	9 group	-20 member in a group.
5	Pickle making training (7 days)	-15	1 group	-15 member in a group
6	Madal (drum) making training and house construction support			
6.1	Madal (drum) making training (8 female and 10 male)- 7days training	-18 persons	1 group	-18 member in a group
6.2	Madal (drum) making house construction support	1 community building	-	
7	Lakh Ko Chura (Bengal making) business training and support (1 group)	19	1 group	-19 member in a group
	Total	1914	95	-More or less 20 members in a group
8	Entrepreneurship network preparation and capacity building training (2 groups)	52	-	-Participants from above group
9	Exposure visit (11 women members)	11	-	- Participants from above group

Project orientation and planning meeting:

After the identification of beneficiaries, an orientation and planning meeting with BASE board members and project team was conducted. Executive Director of BASE shared the concept and its interventions along with target beneficiaries in detail. During the orientation and planning meeting, detail activity plan was prepared for implementation in the field. The orientation and planning meeting were facilitated by Program Director of BASE.

Major activities carried out during 2025:

During the period (Jan. 1, 2025 to Dec. 23, 2025) BASE Organization has carried out the following major activities;

1. Vegetable farming training and support to the marginalized farmers and women:

In Nepal the indigenous women are even more suppressed, marginalized and exploited due to the low economic status. The women in Tharu indigenous community are struggling to access for the economic rights. They have been discriminated, marginalized, excluded, dominated and exploited by the dominant groups. There was the bonded slavery (Kamaiya System) in Nepal where the family use to work in the landlord home as debt bondage laborers. The total population of the bonded laborers is more than 300,000 of 36,000 families and they were got freedom in July 2000 by the government of Nepal.

Out of the 300,000 population of former bonded laborer at least 40% are women workforce in the former kamaiya (bonded labor) prone districts of west Nepal. Therefore, BASE is working for the economic development for those women who are marginalized, poor and socially excluded. BASE is continue empowering them economically and stop them from getting exploited anymore and providing several capacity building training and supports.

1.1 Vegetable farming training/orientation:

BASE organization has provided vegetable farming training/orientation to the 196 farmers and women (male 6 and women 190) from 98 groups in this year. The training participants were selected with the support of local government targeting economically poor, low income and most vulnerable families in 10 municipalities of Dang district. The first lot training was organized from May 20-21, 2025 (2082 Jestha 6 -7 B.S.) in Chakhaura Dang. Similarly, the second lot training was organized from May 22-23, 2025 (2082 Jestha 8-9 BS). The training was divided into two level. The one is about the theoretical session and another is about the practical session about vegetable farming. The trainer/expert was brought from freelancer trainer/expert on agriculture (Diendra Bhujel). The training was organized in 2 groups. The major content of the training was; formation of groups, leadership development, group management, home garden, jholmol preparation (bio-pesticide), off seasonal vegetable cultivation (tunnel, nursery, IPM etc.).

1.2 Seed support status (2025):

After the training the participants were received vegetable seed and they are producing vegetable. They are selling their product in local markets by carrying themselves at early morning. They also consumption vegetable in their home which is also the opportunity to get nutritious meal at home.



After the Seed Support Marginalized Tharu Women selling their product early morning in the local market

A total of 1220 households received seeds at NPR. 300.00 (USD 2.00) per person comprising six nutritionally important vegetable varieties Spinach (Palak), cauliflower, cabbage, carrot, radish, and pea. These crops were carefully selected based on their nutritional value, adaptability to local agriculture based climatic conditions, short growing cycle, and suitability for homestead as well as production for business purposes.

The activity was carried out in close coordination with local people's representative ward members, which ensured transparent and inclusive beneficiary identification, prioritizing households low income household women and farmers with limited income sources. The distribution was complemented by basic orientation and guidance on seed use and homestead as well as small business vegetable cultivation to maximize utilization and productivity at the household level. Overall, the seed mini-kit distribution served as a cost-effective and sustainable entry point for strengthening livelihoods. In each family they are earning minimum NPR 15000.00 to NPR 20,000.00 per month (USD 115 to USD 150).

Vegetable seed support status (2025):

S.N	Name of the Municipality/Rural Municipality	No. of Supported Households	Type of Support	Name of seeds received by individuals
1	Dangisharan Rural Municipality	121	Seed Materials	Each mini kit comprises 7 items (Palak, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Carrot, Radish, Pea and Onion.
2	Shantinagar Rural Municipality	98	Seed Materials	Each mini kit comprises 7 items (Palak, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Carrot, Radish, Pea and Onion.
3	Babai Rural Municipality	143	Seed Materials	Each mini kit comprises 7 items (Palak, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Carrot, Radish, Pea and Onion.

4	Tulsipur Sub Metropolitan City	221	Seed Materials	Each mini kit comprises 7 items (Palak, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Carrot, Radish, Pea and Onion).
5	Ghorahi Sub Metropolitan City	185	Seed Materials	Each mini kit comprises 7 items (Palak, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Carrot, Radish, Pea and Onion).
6	Banglachuli Rural Municipality	70	Seed Materials	Each mini kit comprises 7 items (Palak, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Carrot, Radish, Pea and Onion).
7	Lamahi Municipality	69	Seed Materials	Each mini kit comprises 7 items (Palak, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Carrot, Radish, Pea and Onion).
8	Rajpur Rural Municipality	68	Seed Materials	Each mini kit comprises 7 items (Palak, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Carrot, Radish, Pea and Onion).
9	Gadhawa Rural Municipality	124	Seed Materials	Each mini kit comprises 7 items (Palak, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Carrot, Radish, Pea and Onion).
10	Rapti Rural Municipality	121	Seed Materials	Each mini kit comprises 7 items (Palak, Cauliflower, Cabbage, Carrot, Radish, Pea and Onion).
	Total	1220		

1.3 Mushroom farming support (36 women):

Many Tharu families, historically bonded laborers (Kamaiyas), have received small land allocations from the government but lack sufficient agricultural space. This situation increases the demand for income-generating activities to improve their economic status. Due to economic deprivation and lack of employment, leading to child labor instead of education due to financial constraints and low literacy levels within Tharu indigenous communities.



Training of women/farmer group member attending at mushroom training in Dang

During this reporting period BASE Organization has provided 7 days mushroom farming business training to the 36 women (1 group) in Dang District from Nov. 9-15, 2025 (Kartik 23-29, 2082 BS). The expert of the mushrooms farming was recruited for 7 days and the expert delivered 2 days theoretical session and 5 days for the practical session. The participants were from Tharu indigenous community those are economically poor.

The women received business startup support for big drum for water boiling, pot for the cleaning of grass (silage), silage cutting machine, production of mushroom, tarpaulin, plastic, spray tank for irrigation, big plate, knife, wood etc. The estimated cost for first time to start mushroom farming is of NPR. 150,000.00 for the material purchases (USD 1150). The project has only provided support of mushroom seed and capacity enhancement training on mushroom farming/training. All the training participants shown their interest and increased confidence during training for the mushroom business. All the 35 women are continue doing the mushroom production and there is high potential for expanding income-generating

activities, particularly in mushroom production. Group members started a mushroom business. They are expecting to earning NPR 1,100 (USD 82) daily and NPR 20,000 (USD 150) monthly in local markets.

2. Modern and traditional dress (sewing cutting tailoring and fashion designing) training and support: 60 days training for 66 women (3 group):

In 2025, BASE has organized modern and traditional dress (sewing cutting tailoring and fashion designing) training. The training was simultaneously organized in 3 places from May 4, 2025 to June 15, 2025 (Baishakh 21-Ashar 21, 2082 BS). The training was divided in to 3 groups. One



Sewing and Cutting and fashion designing Training

training was organized in Chakhaura Dang (Tharu Cultural Protection Center Training Hall). The other two training were organized in Dumrigaon Dang (Dumrigaon Cultural Community Building). There were altogether 66 women



Sewing Cutting training participants of Tharu

actively participated in the 60 days long course- fashion designing training. There were three master trainers hired by the BASE Organization. All three trainers delivered the theoretical and practical session separately in 3 different groups.

BASE has identified the most marginalized women, economically poor, Dalits women and other vulnerable women to provide advance level sewing and cutting fashion designing training. There is high demand for the Tharu traditional dresses in both Tharu and non-Tharu community which can also help to preserve the Tharu culture and tradition as well. This type of support is really help to raise the economic condition of the poor and marginalized women. The women are now running fashion designing and tailoring business in a group. They are earning individually minimum NPR 20000.00 per month (USD 150.00). The women tailoring groups are made connection with the "Kosheli Ghar" (gift shop) in Tharu Culture Protection Center Museum in Chakhaura Dang District and selling the product with good price. The women groups are also selling their product to the Tharu villages where the cultural youth club and adult club are formed.

BASE has identified the most marginalized women, economically poor, Dalits women and other vulnerable women to provide advance level sewing and cutting fashion designing training. There is high demand for the Tharu traditional dresses in both Tharu and non-Tharu community which can also help to preserve the Tharu culture and

3. Pig farming training and support to the Tharu indigenous community:

3.1 Pig farming training to the Tharu indigenous women (60 Tharu women):

BASE Organization has provided 2 days pig farming training to the 60 Tharu women in Dang district (3-women member x 20 group) attended at training). The training was organized in two



Pig Farming Training to the women group



Piglet Support to the Tharu Women for Pig Formina

different sessions. The first session training was started from June 9-10, 2025 (2082 jestha 26-27 BS) and June 11-12, 2025 (2082 Jestha 28-29 BS). The training was organized in Chakhaura Tharu Culture Protection Center Museum Hall. The training was conducted by the government officers from Vet. Hospital and Animal Expert Center, Dang Ghorahi -Dr Pratima Bista and Dr. Manoj Oli and

Krishna Neupane. The pig farming was supported to the most marginalized, economically poor women in Tulsipur Sub-metro city Dang. The following is the ward wise status of the pig support.

3.2 Pig farming support status to the Tharu indigenous women (360 women):

During this reporting period 360 Tharu indigenous women member received pig support. Each woman received one female pig and the value of the one female pig is equal to NPR 5500.00 (USD 42). The following is the pig support to the Tharu indigenous women in Tulsipur Sub-metro city in Dang District during the period of Jan. to Dec. 2025.



Tharu Women groups received the piglet for rearing

Pig support status of 2025;

SN	Wards number	No. of Tharu women received pig support	No. of pig received by Tharu women	Number of groups	Remarks
1	6	40	40	3	-The New Hampshire and Duror, Pig are distributed. - The group comprises 20 members in a group.
2	7	55	55	3	
3	8	45	45	2	
4	10	50	50	2	
5	12	45	45	2	
6	13	40	40	2	
7	14	45	45	3	
8	15	40	40	1	
		360	360	18	

It is important to note that 280 pigs are distributed in 2025 budget and 70 pigs is distributed from getting one pig from previous receivers in 2024. Altogether 360 pigs were distributed in 2025. The pigs were distributed to the 75 women in 2024 and 70 women members returned one pigs after the pigs gave birth.

4. Pig farming training and support to the Dalit Gaine/Gandharba community (180 women group member):

During this reporting year BASE has provided pig support to the most marginalized Dalit women Gaine/Gandharba complemented by basic orientation and guidance on pig farming and management skills. The orientation was



Piglate Support Program to Dalit Women for Pig



Pig Farming training participants from Dalit Women (Gandharba Community)

conducted by the government officers from Vet. Hospital and Animal Expert Center, Dang Ghorahi (Dr Pratima Bista, Dr. Manoj Oli and Mr. Krishna

Neupane). The Pigs distribution was conducted in two times in this year. The first distribution was held on Aug. 14, 2025 (Shrawan 29, 2082 BS) and the second distribution was held on Nov. 14, 2025 (Kartik 28, 2082 BS). The following are the status of the Pig distribution in Dalit women Gaine/Gandharba community. There are altogether 9 group comprising 20 members is each group.

SN	Wards number	No. of Dalit Gaine women received	No. of pig received by Dalit women	Number of groups	Remarks
1	6	18	18	1	Each woman received one female pig is equal to NPR 5500.00 (USD 42). The New Hampshire and Duroc Pig are distributed.
2	7	12	12	1	
3	8	20	20	1	
4	10	20	20	1	
5	12	26	26	1	
6	13	20	20	1	
7	14	38	38	2	
8	15	26	26	1	
		180	180	9	

The Dalit Gaine/Gandharba community is one of the most neglected and marginalized and untouchable community in Nepalese society. In west Nepal, there are **6971 population (male 3240 and female 3731) of Gaine/Gandharba** community as per the 2021 census of Nepal. They were begging and went to village to village to earn money or manage to get rice. Traditionally they used to make folk musical instruments i.e. *Sarangi* (bowed short-necked string instrument) and playing/usage training. They are good singer and professional player of Sarangi. They used to go house to house in the villages and perform song with Sarangi –music for their daily income for family subsistence. In present the knowledge and skills of Gaine's are not in practice and their traditional profession is in crisis. They are facing economic difficulties. So, to revitalize the Gaine's skills and knowledge and to



Tharu Women Participated in Pickle Making trainina Oraanized by BASE

protect identity and historical culture it is important to support them as they do not have alternative livelihood option.



Tulsipur-8 Elected Ward member distributed the Pig Support provided by BASE

BASE was provided support to Gaine/Gandharba community to product *Sarangi* (musical instrument) in 2024 as the making Sarangi and performing songs and dance is the traditional profession of the Gaine/Gandharba families. The project was provided support to youth groups of Gaine/Gandharba community for the Sarangi production and market linkage. **However, due to less opportunity for the market to sell Sarangi the business is less success in 2024.**

Based on the learning from 2024 activities of most

vulnerable community Dalit Gaine/Gandhabra, in 2025 BASE has provided for other alternative economic opportunity for them and provided support to Pig farming to 180 women under Dunn Family Charitable Foundation funded project. There is hope to make success as they become in groups. The significant achievement can be expected from the Gaine community as they will transform their lives from "Beggar to Worker".

Along with the pig farming activities BASE has been facilitating to the Dalit Gaine/Gandharba community to register and establish "Musical Academy" in their community by bringing financial support from the government of Lumbini Province, Nepal. The budget for the establishment of "Musical Academy has been ensured from the government. There will be "Musical Academy building construction as well as the varieties of support for the musical instruments. So, the Dalit Gaine/Gandharba community can revitalize their traditional and ancestral profession by providing opportunity to the youths to perform Sarangi and singing songs. The ideas behind is to develop mini tourism destination for the economic opportunity for the Dalit Gaine community in Tulsipur Dang. There is a high possibility to visit by the other community for entertainment.

5. Pickle making training and support to Tharu indigenous and other marginalized women:

BASE Organization conducted an extensive training and demonstration session on pickle preparation from May 25, 2025 to June 1, 2025 (Jestha 12-18, 2082 BS) at Tulsipur Submetro city, ward no. 6, Rajaura village Dang. The event aimed to empower local women who are economically poor, vulnerable and marginalized groups with the knowledge and skills needed to create and utilize pickles effectively. 15 women gained in-depth understanding of pickle preparation using locally available materials such as Mango, Gooseberry (Amala) and Vegetables etc. Detailed information was provided about various types of pickles, their preparation methods, and the importance of maintaining hygiene throughout the process. Women participated in hands-on sessions where they prepared pickles under the guidance of an expert/trainer. Participants learned techniques for cutting, salting, dehydrating, mixing spices, and jarring



Pickle Making Practical Session During the Training in Tharu Women

pickles, ensuring they could replicate the process independently. The training highlighted the economic potential of pickle making, encouraging women to consider it as a viable small-scale business. Women were educated on proper hygiene and safety practices to prevent contamination and ensure high-quality products. Before the training, many participants were unaware of the detailed process and potential benefits of pickle preparation. They expressed curiosity and eagerness to learn new techniques that could improve their livelihoods. After the training, participants showed a significant increase in confidence and knowledge about pickle making. They appreciated the practical, hands-on approach and the comprehensive coverage of both technical and business aspects. In Tulsipur market areas 15 women participants attended the training in a group. All the participants are doing small business from their own home. They are earning individually around NPR 4000.00 to NPR 5000.00 (USD 30 to USD 40) in a month as it is side business of the women from their home.

6. Madal (drum) making training and support to Dalit Badi community:

6.1. Madal (drum) making training (7 days):

The training was conducted on Aug. 9-15, 2025 (Shrwan 24-30, 2082 BS). The total participants were 18 people (8 female and 10 male). For this training the expert is few in the country and BASE Organization has brought the 2 experts from Pokhara (far away from Dang District). The organization has provided training fee for the 2 experts (travel cost, lodging cost and training fee). The training raw material (wood) was managed in Dang district with the coordination and cooperation from private furniture company which is costly.

The following raw materials are needed to make Madal (drum);

- Khari – a kind of materials by mixing rice, black color and cement to maintain strong music of drum.
- Special stone to sharpen the Madal (drum).
- Leather of cows and goats to cover the whole of Madal (drum).
- Other necessary tools (Reanch, knife, Basula- carpenter tools etc.)

6.2 Madal making house construction support:

During this reporting period BASE Organization has constructed one simple community building for the Dalit Badi community to conduct the Madal (drum) making space as the community were facing problem due to limited spaces at their individual home. After the completion of the community building they are running their Madal (drum) making factory in the community building. In total cost NPR 300000.00 (USD 2275) has been provided by BASE organization under the Dun Charitable Family Foundation budget of 2025.

The following is the materials supported by the BASE Organization for the house construction;

- Rud,
- HMT JI sheet,
- Stone (Roda),
- Sand,
- Cement,
- Iron for the trust of community building,
- Nets to make safe and security of the community building,
- Support to construct small pond to manage leather for Madal (drum) making,
- Engineering designing and labor cost.



Musical Instrument Madal Making Industry Installation Process in Badi Community

The *Badi* community is under the Dalit caste and it has one of the most marginalized among other Dalits. The total population of the Badi community in west Nepal is about 11470 (male 5478 and female 5992) as per the Census of 2021 of Nepal. Traditionally, the profession of Dalit Badi community is to product folk musical instrument i.e. Madal (hand drum) and fishing net. There was *Balighare Pratha* (This is the traditional system to run the family economy by Badi people as they used to go in village and make a Madal/hand drum and villagers were collected paddy/rice with the leadership of village head person from each household as a wage and provided to Badi people). Badi communities were managing their economy from this traditional system but now days this traditional system is disappear in the community and this tractional profession are in crisis as due to the poor economic condition they are unable to continue do the *Balighare Pratha*. Most of the Badi community lost their traditional skills and new



Khelraj Nepali Preparing Madal Nepali musical instruments

generation of youth are lacking the skills and knowledge. They do not have alternative source of income. Due to the poor economic condition the Badi women also used to involve in prostitutions (commercial sex worker). They are facing difficult to send their children for school education. Most of the Badi people did not receive citizenship card from Nepal government.

In this situation there is necessary to provide them opportunity to protect their identity and traditional skills and knowledge in producing various types of materials i.e. musical instruments (Madal etc) and other instrument tools so that they could revive their traditional knowledge and skills for their economic development. For the training and construction support of Madal making community house around 18 Badi family (90 member) will benefit from the project for the alternative income source of family. The support will help to break the prostitutions business and support to stand them as an civilized citizen in the society. The support will also help to carry on their children's education for higher level.

7. Lakh Ko Chura (bengale making) business training and support:

The Chidimar are one of 26 groups categorized as Dalit, the lowest of five former castes in Nepal. Caste discrimination is illegal in Nepal and the caste system is considered to have formally ended in 2008 when Nepal broke with Hinduism and became a secular state. But some Dalit sub-castes, like the Chidimar, remain linked with occupations that they practiced under the caste system and are still viewed with distaste by most Nepalis. Chidimar have traditionally caught exotic birds, and their name means “**bird killers**”. Many Chidimar still catch birds, the lingering association has deepened their isolation and poverty, making it harder for them to marry into families outside their caste.

Mostly Chidimar groups lives in the town of Nepalgunj under the BASE Organization working areas, which is total population of **1615 Chidimar (male 827 and female 788)**. There is still practice to catch birds owing to deforestation and shrinking demand, and that each bird sells for around NPR 400 rupees (\$3). Socially and economically excluded Chidimar women are illiterate and were looking for economic opportunities. They are most marginalized vulnerable community in Nepalese society.

Therefore, BASE Organization is going to support them for their skills development through *Lakh ko Chura Or Lakhauta* (Bangles) making training so that they could utilize their skills to generate income for their economic development. One-month course training has been started from 5th December, 2025. Economic empowerment further enables them to decision makings and educates their children that will reduce early marriages, child labor and other discriminations of this caste.

In this year (2025) BASE has targeted to provide *Lakh Ko Chura* (Bangle) making training to 25 Chidimar women. However, the Organization has identified 19 women. The list is as follow for the *Lakh Ko Chura* (Bangle) making.

SN	Name	Address	Age (Years)	Occupation
1	Shiwani Chidimar	Nepalgunj-12	19	Housewife
2	Sitapati Chidimar	Nepalgunj-12	28	Housewife
3	Parbati Chidimar	Kohalpur-15	30	Housewife
4	Ganga Chidimar	Nepalgunj-1	33	Housewife
5	Phulangi Chidimar	Nepalgunj-1	30	Dishwasher
6	Manisha Chidimar	Nepalgunj-1	20	Housewife
7	Amrita Chidimar	Nepalgunj-12	24	Housewife
8	Majhi Chidimar	Nepalgunj-12	30	Housewife
9	Sikhiya Chidimar	Nepalgunj-12	23	Housewife
10	Prem Sagari Chidimar	Nepalgunj-12	28	Dishwasher

SN	Name	Address	Age (Years)	Occupation
11	Binita Chidimar	Nepalgunj-12	30	Housewife
12	Rimjhim Chidimar	Nepalgunj-12	25	Housewife
13	Manju Chidimar	Nepalgunj-12	24	Housewife
14	Soni Chidimar	Nepalgunj-12	22	Housewife
15	Arati Chidimar	Nepalgunj-12	27	Housewife
16	Hiraniya Chidimar	Nepalgunj-12	29	Housewife
17	Puja Chidimar	Nepalgunj-12	23	Housewife
18	Ashmita Chidimar	Nepalgunj-12	21	Housewife
19	Garima Chidimar	Nepalgunj-12	22	Housewife

The socially excluded and economically deprived Chidimar women is excited to learn skills to make *Lakh Ko Chura* (Bangle). They are eager to connect with the *Lakh Ko Chura* making business so that the women will economically empowered. The project initiative will also support to preserve environment through breaking the traditional practice to the killing of birds by Chidimar community. The project will contribute to **"stop killing birds, protect environment"**. The support will be the first for the Chidimar women groups in the society in west Nepal.

8. Exposure to the Tharu indigenous and Dalit Gaine/Gandharba women:

In this year, the participants of the pig farming business training requested to the BASE Organization to organize exposure visit opportunity so that they could learn more about the business. So, as per the request of women group members BASE has organized the exposure program to the 11 Tharu indigenous women to observe the pig farming in different places of Dang District. The objectives of the exposure trip were conducted to build their confidence and gain the skill and knowledge about the pig farming business. The exposure program was organized on Feb. 16, 2025 (Falgun 16, 2082 BS). The participants visited the Pragati Pig Farm in Gairagaon, Ghorahi Sub metro city Dang, Palau Agriculture Farm Tulsipur Submetrocity-14, Dang and Khushi Pig Farm under Tulsipur Sub Metro city -12, Rajhena village Dang. The participants got opportunity to learn about following matters;

- The front side of pig sheds should be managed in south side OR in east side so that sun can be reached easily to the place where pigs spent more time at shed. When the pigs get more sun then pigs grown up faster.
- Learnt about the improved/hybrid pigs about their feeding practice and schedule.
- Gained knowledge on modern practice of pig rearing etc.
- How to clean pig sheds.

9. Entrepreneurship network preparation and capacity building training:

BASE Organization has organized the meeting with the leadership of the women groups on Dec. 16, 2025 in Tulsipur Dang. There were 52 women group leaders attended at the meeting. The major objective of the meeting was to build the women group entrepreneurs network so that the women groups network can organize meeting in periodic basis (proposed 2 times a year) among women groups to share experiences about the business (learning from current business, challenges and how they overcome those challenges etc.). They can also talk about their production so that they could expansion their market in the community as well as markets. This year, the women groups discussed and planning to make a network of pig farming and they have plan to expansion their membership in upcoming years.

10. Social Welfare Council (SWC) monitoring and evaluation:

This is the mandatory of government rule to registration the development project at SWC, Kathmandu Office right after getting funding from donors or development partners. The SWC also visit the project site in the community to monitor of the project. So, BASE is always consulting and coordinating to SWC for project approval, monitoring and evaluation process of activities. BASE is taking approval from SWC and for the period of Jan. 1 to Dec. 30, 2025 the BASE has received project formal approval letter from SWC on Feb. 5, 2025. In the period of 2024 the project was also evaluated by SWC as well. The organization is also responsible to conduct the monitoring and evaluation by SWC about the project for the period of Jan. 1 to Dec. 30, 2025 which is mandatory of SWC.

11. Major Outcomes (2025):

- ✓ 1220 women group member (61 group x 20 members approximately) received varieties of seeds and doing vegetable farming for the extra income.
- ✓ 196 women group members (61 groups x approximately 3 members) have received skill and knowledge on vegetable farming training.
- ✓ 36 women group members (1 group) of poorest families received mushroom farming and started business.
- ✓ 66 Tharu indigenous women group members (3 group x 22 members approximately) received 60 days training on modern and traditional dress tailoring and fashion designing and running tailoring business and earning income.
- ✓ 60 Tharu indigenous community group members (3 members x 20 groups) received pig farming skills. knowledge and management training.
- ✓ 360 Tharu women group members (18 groups x 20 members in each group) received pig support. Due to the distribution of New Hampshire and Duroc pig they are earning good income.
- ✓ 180 Dalit Gaine/Gandharba community member (9 group x 20 member in a group) received Pig farming training and support involved in pig farming business.
- ✓ 18 Dalit family (*Badi* community) received support for construction of Madal (hand drum) making house construction and skill development training.
- ✓ 19 women (1 group x 19 member) of most vulnerable and poorest of the poor Chidimar families involved in "*Lakh Ko Chura*" making (Bangle making) training and they will start business for the earning income.
- ✓ This year, 525 women group members are associated with the 7 new cooperatives and those cooperatives have been formed/registered in 2025. Last year (2024), 450 women already associated with legally registered in 6 cooperatives. In total 975 women are associated with 13 legally registered cooperatives.

12. Methodology/approach of the program:

(a) Group approach for the economic development:

Since last three years, BASE has been applying the unique methods to work with most marginalized and ultra-poor community through the formation of group. BASE formed the women group comprising 15-35 members in a group. With the support of village headman BASE has been conducted quick assessment to finding out the families who are suffering economic problem. Based on the assessment finding the Organization is designing program to support women group member.

There are following basic steps to form and support to the groups and process of building capacity of groups/memebrs.

- ✓ Based on the guidelines of community mobilization of BASE the first step is to conduct the community consultation/meeting with the wider participation of community people including women in settlement basis.
- ✓ Share to the community people and women participants about the objectives and importance of Self-help Group (SHG).
- ✓ Share them about the regular saving, why do the saving?
- ✓ Share them about the benefits of saving.
- ✓ Support to form SHG group, discuss about the role and responsibility of SHG group members. The group composition is from 15 to 35 members in a group.
- ✓ Note down the name list of interested members with their basic information (eg. number of family member, household number, basic information of property of individual members etc.)
- ✓ What short of training the SHG member want to do?
- ✓ Support to prepare the plan for SHG members for the training package.
- ✓ Intervention of project delivery/support in accordance with their interest including support materials for book keeping, record keeping, meeting minute keeping etc. and support to SHG accordingly.
- ✓ Support and facilitate them for the conduction of regular meeting of SHG members.
- ✓ During regular meeting BASE organization facilitate about the importance of cooperative and encourage them to form OR register in a cooperative.
- ✓ Support to do prepare for cooperative registration process. Facilitate to develop some basic guidelines/policies of the groups for cooperative registration process so that they can move towards for cooperative registration. The 3-4 groups can be registered in a cooperative.
- ✓ Link to the cooperative division office for registration.
- ✓ During regular (monthly) meeting SHG group discuss about social problems (eg. importance of education, early child marriage, child labor, trafficking, importance of education, drug addiction, moral education to the youths towards parents/ elders, health, sanitation and hygiene and community development.
- ✓ Provide technical support to mobilize group saving within the groups/cooperative's members.

13. Demand and challenges:

- ✓ Mostly, the Tharu indigenous family were bonded labor (Kamias) and they got freedom in July 2000 however they received small piece of land from Nepal government. They do not have enough land to do the agriculture activities. So, there is high demand by Kamaiya families for the income generation activities to grow their economic status.
- ✓ Some of the marginalized indigenous groups such as *Raji, Sonaha, Kusbandhya, Gane/Gandhanrba, Badi, Pariyar, Chidimar, Natawa, Pasi, Bankariya* etc. are deprived from the economic opportunities which resulted to send their children in schools and compelled to send them as child labor for earning.
- ✓ There are other most marginalized and untouchability community such as the *Natawa* is one of the endangered groups in Nepal and their population are around 2896 (male 1478 and female 1418). Some other groups within the untouchability categories are *Pashi/Dusada/Pasawan* (endangered group), *Gaine/Gandharba, Rajhi, Kushbaha / Koiri Sonaha, Bankariya* etc. There is dire need to provide support for the economic development. There are some social problems within the untouchability community such as early child marriage and child labor.
- ✓ The nutrition level of *Natawa, Pasi, Sonaha, Bankariya, Gaine/Gandharba* and *Badi* community is lower comparing to other community as they are suffering from food scarcity. The citizenship is another problem which resulted to get government services as well as education opportunity. For this BASE is doing lobby and advocacy to provide citizenship to the *Badi, and Gaine/Gandharba* community from the government.

- ✓ Due to illiteracy and low level of education of untouchability community member they face the problem to get employment.
- ✓ The enrollment for school education of untouchability community is lower. If they enrolled but they have practice to dropped out from the early grade of school.
- ✓ There is discrimination by the elite community due to untouchability practice and if untouchability community member goes to the outside of village they did not get employment opportunities. They also face the difficulties as they are not allowed to use public tap for the collection of drinking water facility.

14. Risks:

- In the Tharu indigenous community still there is practice to send their children as a *Kamlahari* (girl child labor) at hotels and restaurants in the local or regional markets which is risk for their lives as they lack the education opportunities.
- There are several women groups members involved in small entrepreneurs facilitating by BASE organization for their capacity development support for the economic development and if the facilitation and support stop then they may dissolve their groups without basic maturation in business.
- With the support and facilitation by BASE there are altogether 13 cooperatives (in 2024: 6 cooperatives and in 2025: 7 cooperatives) registered in government cooperative division office. All the cooperatives members are belonging to the rural women, poor family, economically marginalized so they need support for their institutionalization process including system strengthening of cooperative. If the support lacks there is risk to discontinue cooperative due to less capacity of the cooperative members.

15. Good impact/ practice:

- The support of 18 Dalit Badi families (90 member) will help to break the prostitutions business and support to stand them as a civilized citizen in the society. The support will also help to carry on their children's education for higher level.
- In the past the children from marginalized community dropped from 3-4 grade from school and now they are continuing their education in higher level.
- The child labor and child marriage practice is in decreasing trend due to economic support from the project.
- The significant achievement can be expected from the Gaine/Gandharba community as they will transform their lives from "Beggar to Worker".
- In the Tharu indigenous community the nutrition level is good as they have vegetable farming which has supported to cover the portion of nutritious meal from varieties of vegetable.
- The Tharu indigenous community have practice to conduct regular meeting and saving practice of groups which is gradually increasing group funds for the future sustainability. They are buying some goods from their group saving such as seeds and fertilizers. The saving money is helping to send their children at schools as well.
- During group meeting there is practice to discuss about their social problems and way forward to solve those problems together.
- The Tharu indigenous community are traditional practice to work in groups so the support strategy and model is easy to replicate in other areas/ districts.
- In Badi community the Madal making business is become successful model as they show good encouragement. If they increase markets linkages it would support to increase their economic development.

- There is good opportunity for BASE Organization to align this project with government system which is high possibilities for the replication in other areas. So, the community people in other areas will have opportunity to get benefit from the interventions.

16. Stories

i. By the Cutting Sewing training- life become easy: Ms. Sangita Chaudhary

My name is Sangita Chaudhary and I am 27 years old. My home is located at Dumrigaun, Ward No. 6, Tulsipur Sub-metropolitan City, in the Dang district of Lumbini Province. There is a total of 3 family members in my family, including me, my younger brother, and my father. My mother fell ill when we were young when I was 12 and my brother was 9 years old. Because of our weak financial condition, we could not afford to get her treated in a good hospital. Due to that illness, my mother passed away. After her death, we felt orphaned. My father did not have any skill knowledge, so he could not find a good job. We faced problems managing the household. My father struggled to raise and educate the two of us siblings by working as a wage laborer in the market.

Due to the poverty, I could not study beyond Grade 9, and my brother could not study beyond Grade 5. We had to drop out of school mid-way. Since my father had to go out to work as a laborer, the responsibility of looking after my brother, cooking in the mornings and evenings, and managing the household all fell on me. To help my father financially, after finishing the chores at home, I also started washing dishes in other people's houses in the market. This job provided very minimal pay (only NPR. 5,000 rupees a month). As I grew older, working in other people's homes became risky. When the employers and their sons started looking at me inappropriately, I quit that job and started staying home. When my brother grew a bit older, he also started working as a laborer and painting houses in the market. This brought some ease to the household. However, we were still unable to manage enough money to run the household or pay for treatment when someone fell sick.

At that time, I heard from a local worker of the BASE organization that they were offering cutting and tailoring training. I requested to join the training and shared my problems. Seeing my family's financial situation and problems, the BASE organization provided me with the opportunity to learn cutting and tailoring. In the first phase, I received basic cutting and tailoring training in 2024. Through that training, I learned to stitch garments, including common items like school dresses, shirts, trousers, midis, suruwals, and kurthas. However, although I learned to stitch, the finishing was not very good, which made it difficult to continue working.



Traditional Tharu Women and Girls dress prepared by Sangita Chaudhary



Marginalized Girl Sangita Chaudhary working on her tailoring after the Training

At that time, the BASE organization also offered advanced cutting and tailoring training on 2025. This

training refined my stitching skills. During the advanced training, I specifically got the opportunity to learn how to sew dresses that reflect the traditional art and culture of the Tharu community. After completing the training, we started stitching clothes that primarily reflect Tharu culture, such as *Jama Pagiya*, *Gonya*, *Lehenga*, *Choliya*, *Dainaha*, and *Tenihas*. Other women in the village had also received the training alongside me. Once we all started stitching clothes together, the BASE organization, which provided the training, coordinated with the Tharu Cultural Museum to arrange for the purchase and sale of the clothes we made at the museum and Koseli Ghar (gift shop). Since then, we have started earning a good income. Currently, I earn up to NPR 800.00 (USD 6) daily from stitching clothes, with a monthly income reaching up to NPR 20,000.00 (USD 152).



Sangita Chaudhary wearing to show the Tharu cultural dress Jama Pagiya which use to wear during the marriage ceremony of Tharu Community prepared by herself.

This income has helped my household, and I am saving some money. I want to thank the BASE organization for providing the opportunity for training and the Don Charity Family Foundation for providing financial support. Due to high participation during the training, I only got the opportunity to learn the stitching part of the work. My cutting skill is incomplete. I am still having problems with designing the cuts. After receiving training related to cutting from the organization, I plan to open my own tailoring shop. I am also saving the necessary funds for that. Furthermore, I would be even more grateful if the organization would provide training in embroidery and boutique skills to support the tailoring work.

ii. Success Story of a Successful Pickle Entrepreneur: Nima Chaudhary

My name is Nima Chaudhary, and I live in Tulsipur Sub-metropolitan City ward no. 9 Ramnagar. There are 5 family members in my family, husband and wife and three children. There is no more land to cultivate the crops to maintain the livelihood and bring up the child with education. My husband uses to work as the labor but due to the lack of education and skill knowledge he couldn't get good jobs. It is hindering our daily lives and our children's education. We are still staying on the rental house.

For years, our family grappled with severe financial instability. The agricultural yield was insufficient to cover our basic needs, let rising costs of higher education of the children. Although my husband eventually worked as a labor employment our poverty, managing the household and the children's academic and medical expenses single-handedly remained an uphill battle to us.



Marginalized community women participated in Pickle making training.

The Turning Point; Skill Acquisition: Seeing no way out, I approached the BASE organization after learning about their pickle making training program. Recognizing my plight, they enrolled me in a training course in the beginning of January 2025 about 7 days. In the training I learned to make the pickle making and packaging process with market demand. During the time various types of pickles, including mango, lemon, radish, carrot, fish, and meat pickles making process has been learned.

After the training I have started to make the pickle in home in different types. I use to make the pickle of meat, mixed vegetable (ginger, pea, radish, carrot), tomato, chili, lemon, mango, fish Timur is most commonly known as Sichuan Pepper (or Szechuan Pepper). However, it is a specific variety native to the Himalayas. I use to sell my pickle in local market and I also used to prepare the pickle in demand based. For the marketing of the pickle shop I used the social media like Facebook, Viber and Tiktok. Some time I use to provide service of pickle in abroad in different countries (Malaysia, Dubai, Saudi, and Quarter).



Marginalized Women Nima Chaidhary Preparing Pickle of Mixed Vegetable

From the Pickle selling I am earning approximately NPR 25000.00 (USD 190) per months. Sales fluctuate, demand peaks during festivals and religious ceremonies.

This venture has done more than just sustain my family including the livelihood and education of our children. Before this, many of us were confined to household chores and had no employment opportunities. Thanks to the BASE Organization, we were able to gain valuable skills, financial support, and business opportunities. I am deeply grateful for this support and hope to continue receiving your guidance in the future.

C. Transforming Lives Through Nutrition- Specific:

1. Project Information

Project Title	Transforming Lives Through Nutrition- Specific	Project period in months	12 Months
Project Start Date	July 1, 2024	Project end date	June 30, 2025
Total Budget	NPR 20067668	Overall Expenditure (Final)	NPR 19708190
Report submitted by	Suresh Chaudhary	Report Submitted on	28 Jan 2026

2. Backgrounds

The Transforming Lives Through Nutrition program is a vital, integrated nutrition initiative designed to combat the persistent issue of malnutrition and improve the overall health and well-being of vulnerable populations in the Dang district of Nepal. Malnutrition remains a significant public health concern in the region, contributing to high rates of child morbidity and mortality, impaired physical and cognitive development, and poor maternal health outcomes. Recognizing this urgent need for comprehensive nutritional interventions, the Transforming Lives Through Nutrition program has been strategically designed to create sustainable improvements in nutrition by addressing both immediate and underlying causes of malnutrition. The Transforming Lives Through Nutrition Program initiative takes a holistic approach, recognizing that malnutrition is a multi-dimensional issue influenced by food security, healthcare access, sanitation, education, and social norms. It goes beyond the traditional focus on food provision by integrating health services, capacity building, community engagement, and behavior change

strategies to promote long-term improvements in nutritional outcomes. Furthermore, the program aligns with national nutrition strategies and global frameworks like the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) ensuring that local efforts contribute to broader, global commitments.

The program targets all the local level of Dang Districts; 7 Rural municipalities (Rapti, Gadhawa, Rajpur, Banglachuli, Babai, Shantinagar, and Dangisaran), 1 Municipality (Lamahi), and 2 sub-metropolitan cities (Tulsipur and Ghorahi), areas identified as having particularly poor nutritional indicators. These locations were selected based on a combination of factors, including high prevalence of acute malnutrition, limited access to healthcare services, socio-economic vulnerabilities, and local government priorities. By focusing on these high-need areas, the program aims to ensure that support reaches those who need it most; children under five, pregnant and lactating mothers, and families living in poverty.

By fostering collaboration among local governments, healthcare providers, and community stakeholders, the Transforming Lives Through Nutrition program aims to build a resilient, nutrition-sensitive health system. This approach not only addresses immediate nutritional needs but also strengthens the capacity of communities and health systems to prevent malnutrition in the future, ultimately transforming lives and paving the way for a healthier, more prosperous Dang district.

3. Objectives of Project

The project is designed to combat acute malnutrition among children aged 6 to 59 months and improve the wellbeing of mothers and infants through a multi-faceted approach. It emphasizes capacity building, community mobilization, nutritional support, and strengthening health systems.

4. Accomplished Activities:

4.1. Conduct review meetings at birthing centers to monitor progress, identify challenges related to breastfeeding practices, and provide support for improving

BASE Organization implemented MBFHI review meetings under the Transforming Lives Through Nutrition project in Rapti Basic Hospital, Panchakule Health Post, Gadhawa Health Post and Banglachuli Hospital to assess progress, identify gaps, and strengthen breastfeeding and maternal–newborn care practices. A total of 31 participants (21 female and 10 male), supported by four trained facilitators, engaged in participatory reviews that enhanced understanding of key MBFHI components such as early initiation of breastfeeding, rooming-in, and breastfeeding counseling. The reviews identified facility-specific strengths and challenges, including staff workload, documentation gaps, and resource limitations, while fostering coordination between municipal health authorities and health facilities. Overall, the activity met its quarterly target, reinforced quality improvement and accountability at facility level, and generated actionable recommendations for capacity building, improved supervision, and stronger recording and reporting systems to sustain MBFHI standards.



S. N	Municipality Name	Venue	Participants			Gender		
			Total Participant	Total Trainer	Total Others	Male	Female	Other
1	Rapti Rural Municipality	Rapti Basic Hospital	18	2	5	7	11	0

S. N	Municipality Name	Venue	Participants			Gender		
			Total Participant	Total Trainer	Total Others	Male	Female	Other
2	Babai Rural Municipality	Panchakule Health Post	13	2	9	3	10	0
	Total		31	4	14	10	21	0

4.2. Conduct orientation sessions on the updated Breast-Milk Substitutes (BMS) Act at Mother- and Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (MBFHI) designated health facilities.

BASE Organization conducted orientation sessions on the updated Breast-Milk Substitutes (BMS) Act at MBFHI-designated health facilities—Rapti Basic Hospital, Panchakule Health Post, Gadhawa Health Post and Banglachuli Health Post; integrated within MBFHI review meetings to strengthen health workers' knowledge and legal compliance in protecting and promoting breastfeeding. Implemented under the Transforming Lives Through Nutrition project with technical support from Helen Keller International and facilitated by the Health Office, Dang Nutrition Focal Person, the sessions reached 31 participants (21 female and 10 male) and covered key BMS Act provisions, roles of health workers, and restrictions on promotion of breast-milk substitutes. Despite time constraints and varying levels of prior knowledge, the activity effectively linked policy enforcement with quality Maternal Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) service delivery, enhanced coordination among health authorities and facilities, and demonstrated that integrated, government-facilitated orientations are a cost-effective approach requiring continued reinforcement for sustained compliance.



S. N	Municipality Name	Venue	Participants			Gender		
			Total Participant	Total Trainer	Total Others	Male	Female	Other
1	Rapti Rural Municipality	Rapti Basic Hospital	18	2	5	7	11	0
2	Babai Rural Municipality	Panchakule Health Post	13	2	9	3	10	0
	Total		31	4	14	10	21	0

4.3. Establish Mother-to-Mother Support Groups at community level to facilitate promotion of early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding

BASE Organization established a Mother-to-Mother Support Group in Rapti Rural Municipality-5, Kalapani, on November 20, 2025, with a follow-up sharing session on December 21, 2025, to promote early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding through peer support and community engagement. Implemented under the Transforming Lives Through Nutrition project with technical support from Helen Keller International, the activity was facilitated by the Nutrition Focal Person of Rapti Basic Hospital and FCHVs, ensuring strong linkage between community and facility-based services. A total of



30 pregnant and lactating women participated across the two sessions, with increased attendance in the follow-up meeting, reflecting growing trust and interest. Key discussions focused on optimal breastfeeding practices and practical problem-solving, while challenges related to time constraints and limited meeting space were noted. Overall, the activity demonstrated that Mother-to-Mother Support Groups are an effective, scalable platform for sustaining community-level breastfeeding promotion and strengthening continuity of MIYCN care from facility to household level.

S. N	Municipality	Venue	Participants			Gender		
			Total Participant	Total Trainer	Total Others	Male	Female	Other
1	Rapti Rural Municipality	Rapti Rural Municipality-5 Kalapani	12	1	6	0	12	0
2	Rapti Rural Municipality	Rapti Rural Municipality-5 Kalapani	18	2	2	0	18	0
	Total		30	3	8	0	30	0

4.4. Strengthen awareness efforts for Vitamin A supplementation targeting infants aged 6–11 months, with a specific focus on reaching underserved and hard-to-reach areas through localized community engagement and communication strategies:

During the national Vitamin A supplementation campaign conducted on 6–7 November 2025, BASE Organization supported awareness and community mobilization efforts under the Transforming Lives Through Nutrition project to improve coverage among infants aged 6–11 months, particularly in underserved and hard-to-reach areas. With technical support from Helen Keller International and close coordination with local governments and health systems, 125 Female Community Health Volunteers were mobilized to conduct household-level counseling and community-based communication. As a result, 580 infants (298 male and 282 female) were reached and supported to receive Vitamin A supplementation, ensuring equitable gender coverage. Despite challenges related to difficult terrain, limited caregiver availability, and short campaign duration, the activity strengthened community–health system collaboration and demonstrated the effectiveness of FCHV-led, localized engagement in increasing participation in national micronutrient campaigns.



S.N	Total FCHV Mobilized	Total Child (6-11 months)	Female child	Male Child
1	125	580	282	298

4.5. Organize community-based screening events to identify acute malnutrition in children aged 6–59 months and facilitate their referral for appropriate treatment and follow-up care.

During the FY 2025, BASE Organization conducted extensive community-based screening for acute malnutrition among children aged 6–59 months under the Transforming Lives Through Nutrition project, with technical support from Helen Keller International. A total of 373 screening events were organized across ten municipalities in Dang District, resulting in the screening of 13,041 children using MUAC, anthropometric measurements, Z-score calculation, and edema assessment in line with national



IMAM guidelines. The screenings identified 1,241 children with Moderate Acute



Malnutrition and 93 children with Severe Acute Malnutrition, all of whom were referred to appropriate health facilities and IMAM/OTC services for treatment and follow-up. Despite challenges related to geographic access, high turnout, and caregiver follow-up, strong mobilization of FCHVs and health workers enabled wide coverage, strengthened community–facility linkages, and demonstrated the effectiveness of community-based screening in early detection and timely referral to improve child nutrition outcomes.

Mass Screening Findings			
Municipality	Total MAM Children	Total Screened Children	Total SAM Children
Babai	104	1,096	3
Banglachuli	32	552	1
Dangisharan	83	716	4
Gadhawa	104	1,237	13
Ghorahi	232	2,910	13
Lamahi	116	1,000	15
Rajpur	88	847	7
Rapti	78	834	8
Shantinagar	99	790	12
Tulsipur	305	3,059	17
Dang	1,241	13,041	93

4.6. Conduct counselling sessions to the caregivers of screened children based on their assessment category using message slips.

BASE Organization conducted structured counseling sessions for caregivers of children aged 6–59 months screened for acute malnutrition under the Transforming Lives Through Nutrition project, with the objective of translating screening results into appropriate household-level action. Using tailored message slips, FCHVs, nutrition facilitators, and health workers provided personalized counseling to 13,692 caregivers across Dang District, addressing optimal infant and young child feeding, balanced diets,



m micronutrient intake, treatment adherence, follow-up, and timely care-seeking based on each child’s assessment category (Normal, MAM, or SAM). All caregivers of children identified with MAM or SAM received targeted guidance to support recovery, while caregivers of normal children received preventive counseling to reduce future risk. The use of illustrated message slips strengthened message retention across literacy levels, and strong engagement of community-based health workers enabled wide coverage, demonstrating the critical role of caregiver counseling in improving nutrition outcomes.

Municipality	Caregiver Counseling Number
Babai Rural Municipality	1,099
Banglachuli Rural Municipality	519
Dangisharan Rural Municipality	774
Gadhawa Rural Municipality	1,315
Ghorahi Sub-metropolitan City	3,059
Lamahi Municipality	1,083
Rajpur Rural Municipality	869
Rapti Rural Municipality	874
Shantinagar Rural Municipality	871
Tulsipur Sub-metropolitan City	3,229
Total	13,692

4.7. Conduct onsite coaching at Outpatient Therapeutic Service Centers to strengthen the implementation and quality of Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) services.

BASE Organization conducted 19 onsite coaching visits at Outpatient Therapeutic Service Centers across multiple municipalities of Dang District under the Transforming Lives Through Nutrition project, with technical support from Helen Keller International, to strengthen the quality of Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition services. A total of 98 participants, including health workers and service providers (62 female and 36 male), received hands-on coaching focused on screening, admission and discharge criteria, appetite testing, management of RUTF and Supercereal Plus, caregiver counseling, referral, follow-up,



and documentation in line with national IMAM guidelines. Facility-specific gaps were identified and addressed through on-the-spot guidance, improving health workers’ confidence and practical skills in managing MAM and SAM cases at outpatient level. Despite challenges related to staff time constraints, variable caseloads, and documentation practices, the coaching approach proved effective in translating guidelines into practice and highlighted the importance of regular mentoring and supportive supervision to sustain quality IMAM service delivery.

S.N	Municipality Name	Venue	Participants		Gender		
			Total Participant	Total Others	Male	Female	Other
1	Tulsipur Sub Metropolitan city	Duruwa Health Post	5	4	2	3	0
2	Rajpur Rural Municipality	Bajpur -3 Pratapur(Bela Health Post)	7	3	2	5	0
3	Gadhawa Rural Municipality	Gangapraspur Health Post	7	5	4	3	0
4	Rapti Rural Municipality	Rapti Basic Hospital	7	2	3	4	0
5	Tulsipur Sub Metropolitan city	Doghare BHSC	5	4	1	4	0
6	Dangisharan Rural Municipality	Hekuli Health Post	3	8	0	3	0
7	Tulsipur Sub Metropolitan city	Manpur Health Post	4	6	1	3	0
8	Tulsipur Sub Metropolitan city	Halwar Health Post	6	3	3	3	0
9	Tulsipur Sub Metropolitan city	Tulsipur-19 Tapopani (Bijauri Health Post)	6	4	3	3	0
10	Lamahi Municipality	Satbariya Health Post	5	5	3	2	0
11	Tulsipur Sub Metropolitan city	Urahari Health Post	5	5	3	2	0
12	Tulsipur Sub Metropolitan city	Fulbari Health Post	4	5	2	2	0
13	Shantinagar Rural Municipality	Shantinagar -7 Dubichaur BHSC	4	4	0	4	0
14	Tulsipur Sub Metropolitan city	Tarigaun Health Post	5	6	0	5	0
15	Babai Rural Municipality	Hapure Primary Hospital	5	4	1	4	0
16	Gadhawa Rural Municipality	Kalakate CHU	2	3	1	1	0
17	Gadhawa Rural Municipality	Gobardiya Health Post	8	7	3	5	0
18	Gadhawa Rural Municipality	Gobardiya BHSU	3	9	1	2	0
19	Gadhawa Rural Municipality	Gadhawa -6 (Gadhawa Health Post)	7	10	3	4	0
	Total		98	97	36	62	0

4.8. Orient and involve local stakeholders (religious leaders, activists) for awareness, identification, and follow up of MAM/SAM cases at targeted communities

BASE Organization conducted an orientation and engagement session on 26 December 2025 at Chakhaura Tharu Resort under the Transforming Lives Through Nutrition project, with technical support from Helen Keller International, to strengthen community-level awareness, identification, referral, and follow-up of MAM and SAM cases. The session brought together 19 religious leaders and community activists from Tulsipur Sub-Metropolitan City, Dangisharan Rural Municipality, and Shantinagar Rural Municipality, and focused on basic concepts of child malnutrition, recognition of



MAM and SAM signs, referral pathways, and the importance of community-based follow-up. By engaging trusted local influencers, the activity enhanced linkages between communities and the health and nutrition system, improving the potential reach to underserved households. Despite challenges related to limited time and low female participation, the orientation demonstrated the value of multi-municipality engagement and highlighted opportunities for more gender-inclusive, follow-up-oriented stakeholder involvement to strengthen community-based surveillance and continuity of care.

S. N	Municipality Name	Venue	Participants			Gender		
			Total Participant	Total Trainer	Total Others	Male	Female	Other
1	Tulsipur SMC, Dangisharan R.M & Shantinagar R.M	Chakhaura Tharu Resort	19	2	4	19	0	0

4.9. MPAC meeting

BASE Organization conducted 10 Municipal Project Advisory Committee (MPAC) meetings across project-supported rural municipalities and sub-metropolitan cities in Dang District between 10 October and 5 December 2025, with technical support from Helen Keller International, to strengthen coordination, oversight, and municipal ownership of the Transforming Lives Through Nutrition project. A total of 225 participants (164 male and 61 female), including elected representatives, municipal officials, health coordinators, and key stakeholders, reviewed quarterly progress, discussed implementation challenges, and provided strategic guidance to align project activities with local health and nutrition priorities, plans, and budgets. The meetings enhanced accountability, improved coordination, and generated context-specific recommendations to address implementation bottlenecks. Despite challenges related to limited discussion time and lower female participation, the MPAC platform proved effective in reinforcing local ownership, enabling timely problem-solving, and supporting the integration of nutrition priorities into municipal systems.

S.N	Municipality Name	Total Participant	Gender		
			Male	Female	Other
1	Gadhawa R.M	19	15	4	0
2	Rapti R.M	16	14	2	0
3	Dangisharan R.M	21	13	8	0
4	Shantinagar R.M	21	18	3	0

S.N	Municipality Name	Total Participant	Gender		
			Male	Female	Other
5	Rajpur R.M	15	10	5	0
6	Babai R.M	26	21	5	0
7	Tulsipur SMC	27	18	9	0
8	Lamahi M	33	20	13	0
9	Ghorahi SMC	33	25	8	0
10	Banglachuli R.M	14	10	4	0
	Total	225	164	61	0

4.10. Organize and support World Breastfeeding Week (August 1st-7th, 2025) events across MBFHI-designated health facilities to promote awareness and best practices in breastfeeding.

During World Breastfeeding Week 2025 (August 1–7), BASE Organization, in coordination with local health offices and MBFHI-designated facilities, organized a wide range of awareness and counselling activities under the theme “*Prioritize breastfeeding: Create sustainable support systems.*” Events were conducted at Banglachuli Hospital, Hapure Primary Hospital, Gadhawa Health Post, and Rapti Basic Hospital, as well as additional non-MBFHI facilities across 10 local levels of Dang District, reaching a total of 879 mothers (668 lactating and 211 pregnant). Activities included health education sessions, counselling demonstrations on early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding, mother support group discussions, and information exhibitions, which enhanced mothers’ knowledge, confidence, and breastfeeding practices while strengthening health workers’ counselling skills in line with MBFHI standards. The initiative fostered collaboration among health institutions and local governments, promoting breastfeeding-friendly environments; however, challenges such as limited trained staff and low involvement of fathers were noted, highlighting the need for continued capacity building and broader family engagement.



Breast Feeding Counselling (August 1st to August 7th 2025- Budgetary)								
SN	Local Level	Name of Health Facility	# of Lactating Mother	# of Pregnant Mother	# of Children			
					< 6 months	6-11 months	12-24 months	>24 months
1	Banglachuli R.M	Banglachuli Hospital	81	24	14	18	37	12
2	Babai R.M	Hapure Primary Hospital	82	34	34	10	38	0
3	Gadhawa R.M	Gadhawa Health Post	73	28	13	19	40	1

Breast Feeding Counselling (August 1st to August 7th 2025- Budgetary)								
SN	Local Level	Name of Health Facility	# of Lactating Mother	# of Pregnant Mother	# of Children			
					< 6 months	6-11 months	12-24 months	>24 months
4	Rapti R.M	Rapti Basic Hospital	97	14	17	34	44	2
	Total		333	100	78	81	159	15

SN	Local Level	Name of Health Facility	# of Lactating Mother	# of Pregnant Mother	# of Children			
					< 6 months	6-11 months	12-24 months	>24 months
1	Tulsipur SMC	Dongpur HP, Ranagaun CHU and Doghare BHSC	72	49	29	19	24	0
2	Dangisharan R.M	Dangisharan Basic Hospital, Prasodda CHU and Nandragaun BHSC	83	6	23	19	37	4
3	Shantinagar R.M	Dubichaur BHSC, Shantinagar HP and Ragaicha BHSC	56	15	21	18	17	0
4	Ghorahi SMC	Nayabazar UHC, Narayanpur HP and Dhikpur HP	39	20	25	11	3	0
5	Lamahi M	Satbariya HP, Kolahi UHC and Sonpur HP	35	9	13	6	16	0
6	Rajpur R.M	Bela HP	33	6	14	12	7	0
7	Gadhawa R.M	Gobardiya HP	17	6	0	5	12	0
	Total		335	111	125	90	116	4

4.11. Local level review meeting and interaction workshop

BASE Organization, with support from Helen Keller International, successfully conducted a series of local-level stakeholder meetings and review workshops under the Transforming Lives through Nutrition (TLTN) project from May 14 to 28, 2025, across ten municipalities in Dang District. These events aimed to review Year 1 progress (July 2024 – June 2025), share mass screening results of children aged 6–59 months, and collaboratively plan for the upcoming fiscal year. The workshops were attended by diverse

stakeholders, including rural municipality leaders, health and agriculture officers, and other sectorial representatives. Each session featured presentations on project achievements particularly in Vitamin A and Deworming campaigns, IYCF, IMAM, and breastfeeding interventions (components of TLTN project) as well as the mass screening results. The meetings provided a valuable platform for multi-sectoral collaboration and planning. Participants appreciated the project’s community-focused approach and expressed strong commitment to integrating nutrition into local plans and budgets for sustainability. Key outcomes included agreements to strengthen health-agriculture coordination, prioritize capacity building, and continue quarterly review meetings. The active engagement and ownership shown by local governments demonstrated their readiness to support nutrition-sensitive development, ensuring the continuity and impact of TLTN interventions in the region.



Participants Details:

Local Level	Gender		Government Staffs	Journalist	Local Representative	Other	Total
	Female	Male					
Babai RM	11	17	19	1	8		28
Banglachuli RM	7	28	23	1	11		35
Dangisharan RM	6	23	15	1	11	2	29
Gadhawa RM	7	21	16	4	7	1	28
Ghorahi SMC	11	37	17	3	25	3	48
Lamahi Municipality	9	17	13	1	8	4	26
Rajpur RM	4	18	13		8	1	22
Rapti RM	9	15	8	1	12	3	24
Shantinagar RM	6	18	14	1	6	3	24
Tulsipur SMC	5	25	13	2	13	2	30
Total	75	219	151	15	109	19	294

4.12. Meeting with health office and local health coordinator

A district-level review and coordination meeting with health office and local health coordinator was conducted on May 26, 2025, at Vingreli Village Resort, Ghorahi Dang. The meeting was jointly organized by BASE in collaboration with the Health Office, Dang and brought together key participants, including representatives from the District Health Office and Health Coordinators and Nutrition Focal Persons from all 10 local levels of Dang District. The main purpose of the meeting was to review the progress and achievements of the TLTN project to date, share the results of the mass screening of children aged 6–59 months, and collect suggestions for improving upcoming planning and implementation.





During the meeting, the project team presented key accomplishments, including intervention outcomes in areas such as Vitamin A supplementation, deworming, IYCF, and IMAM services components of TLTN Project. The results from the recent mass screening with a focus on identifying Moderate and Severe Acute Malnutrition (MAM/SAM) cases and referral mechanisms. Participants actively engaged in discussions, provided constructive feedback, and recommended strengthening community outreach, timely referrals, and integrated coordination among health units. The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to enhance local-level ownership, data-driven planning, and collaborative efforts to further improve child nutrition outcomes in Dang District.

Participants Details:

Health Office Dang: 4 officers

Nutrition Rehabilitation Center: 1 focal person

Local Health Coordinator: 9 from local level

Nutrition Focal person: 9 from local level

4.13. Joint Monitoring

On May 4, 2025, a joint monitoring visit was conducted at Gobardiya Basic Health Unit in Gadhawa Rural Municipality, where BASE supported the establishment of an Outpatient Therapeutic Center (OTC). The support included the provision of anthropometric equipment, IEC materials, and job aids to strengthen integrated management of acute malnutrition. The visit was attended by representatives from the Health Office Dang, District Coordination Committee (DCC), Gadhawa RM Health Coordinator, Ward Chairperson, health post in-charge, and BASE staff. The monitoring team observed that the OTC was functional, with all supported materials in active use. Health workers demonstrated good knowledge and application of malnutrition screening protocols, and IEC materials were being used effectively during counseling sessions with caregivers.



The team appreciated BASE's contribution and acknowledged the improved readiness of the health facility to address malnutrition. However, some gaps were noted, such as the need for additional space for counseling and periodic refresher training for health workers. Stakeholders recommended regular follow-up, enhanced community awareness, and potential scale-up of the OTC model to other areas. The visit concluded with a shared commitment to continued collaboration between the local government, district authorities, and BASE to sustain and improve nutrition services in the region.

5. Project Major Achievements:

In the FY 2025 the major achievements of the project are given below:

❖ Strengthened Facility-Based Maternal and Child Nutrition Services:

- MBFHI review meetings were successfully conducted in two rural municipalities, improving health workers' understanding of early breastfeeding, rooming-in, and counseling.

- Orientation sessions on the updated BMS Act were integrated into MBFHI reviews, enhancing legal compliance and linking policy enforcement with quality MIYCN service delivery.
- ❖ **Enhanced Community-Level Breastfeeding Promotion:**
 - A Mother-to-Mother Support Group was established and operationalized in Rapti Rural Municipality, engaging pregnant and lactating women to promote early initiation and exclusive breastfeeding through peer support and follow-up discussions.
- ❖ **Improved Micronutrient Coverage:**
 - 125 FCHVs were mobilized to support the national Vitamin A supplementation campaign, reaching 580 infants aged 6–11 months, with equitable gender coverage, including underserved and hard-to-reach areas.
- ❖ **Early Detection and Management of Child Malnutrition:**
 - 373 community-based screening events were conducted across Dang District, screening 13,041 children (6–59 months) and identifying 1,241 MAM and 93 SAM cases, which were referred for appropriate treatment and follow-up.
 - Structured caregiver counseling using message slips reached 13,692 caregivers, improving adherence to treatment, feeding practices, and follow-up care.
- ❖ **Capacity Building of Health Workers:**
 - Fifteen onsite coaching sessions were conducted at OTC centers to strengthen IMAM Service delivery, covering screening, treatment, counseling, referral, and documentation, improving health workers' confidence and practical skills.
- ❖ **Community Engagement for Malnutrition Detection:**
 - Local stakeholders, including religious leaders and activists, were oriented to support awareness, early identification, referral, and follow-up of MAM/SAM cases, enhancing community-based surveillance.
- ❖ **Strengthened Project Coordination and Local Ownership:**
 - Ten MPAC meetings were conducted across municipalities, involving elected representatives, municipal officials, and health stakeholders to review progress, address bottlenecks, align activities with local plans, and enhance accountability and ownership.
- ❖ **Cross-Cutting Achievements:**
 - Effective gender inclusion with active participation of female health workers and caregivers.
 - Integration of project interventions with existing government systems, maximizing efficiency and sustainability.
 - Use of participatory approaches and practical tools (message slips, hands-on coaching) improved knowledge retention and application of MIYCN and IMAM guidelines.

6. Challenges'

- ❖ **Human Resource Constraints:**
 - High workload of health workers limited their full participation in review meetings, coaching sessions, and orientations.
 - Competing household responsibilities of caregivers affected attendance in community sessions.
- ❖ **Geographic and Access Barriers:**
 - Hard-to-reach areas and difficult terrain reduced coverage and required extra effort for community mobilization and screening.
- ❖ **Limited Participation and Representation:**
 - Low female representation in some orientations and MPAC meetings reduced inclusivity.
 - Initial engagement in community support groups was limited, requiring time to build trust and confidence.
- ❖ **Variations in Knowledge and Skills:**

- Differences in prior exposure to MBFHI guidelines, BMS Act, and nutrition concepts among participants required additional clarification.
- Inconsistent documentation practices at health facilities constrained monitoring and assessment.
- ❖ **Time and Resource Limitations:**
 - Short campaign durations and limited session times restricted in-depth discussions on complex topics like legal compliance, referral mechanisms, and follow-up.
 - Limited infrastructure and meeting spaces at community and facility levels constrained effective interaction.

7. Lessons Learned:

- ❖ **Effectiveness of Participatory Approaches:**
 - Joint review meetings, group discussions, and stakeholder orientations foster ownership, practical problem-solving, and knowledge application.
- ❖ **Value of Community Engagement:**
 - Mother-to-Mother Support Groups, FCHV-led mobilization, and involvement of local leaders enhance awareness, early detection, and follow-up of malnutrition cases.
- ❖ **Integration Maximizes Efficiency:**
 - Combining BMS Act orientation with MBFHI reviews and integrating project support with national campaigns reduces costs and increases reach.
- ❖ **Capacity Building is Key:**
 - Hands-on coaching and mentoring at OTC centers improve health workers' skills and confidence more effectively than classroom-based training alone.
- ❖ **Importance of Gender-Inclusive Participation:**
 - Female participation among health workers, caregivers, and stakeholders is critical for wider community reach and effective adoption of MIYCN practices.
- ❖ **Use of Practical Tools Strengthens Outcomes:**
 - Illustrated message slips, case scenario discussions, and on-the-spot guidance support retention of information and adherence to guidelines.
- ❖ **Linkages Between Facility and Community Improve Continuum of Care:**
 - Strong coordination between health facilities, municipal authorities, and community structures ensures early identification, treatment, and follow-up of MAM and SAM cases.

8. Case Study/ Success Story

Enhancing Access, Improving Outcomes: Success of New OTCs in Acute Malnutrition Management in Dang District

Dang District, located in Nepal's Inner Terai and framed by the Sivalik Hills and the Mahabharata Range, is known as Asia's second-largest valley and comprises ten local levels. Despite the critical importance of easy access to care for conditions like acute malnutrition which require long and continuous treatment, the district previously had only twenty-nine widely dispersed OTCs, which limited the availability and reach of acute malnutrition management services. Recognizing this need, Transforming Lives Through Nutrition Project supported the establishment of new OTCs by providing complete anthropometric measurement equipment (Weighing scale, height board, length board, MUAC tape) and IEC materials to ensure that families could access timely treatment for malnourished children without

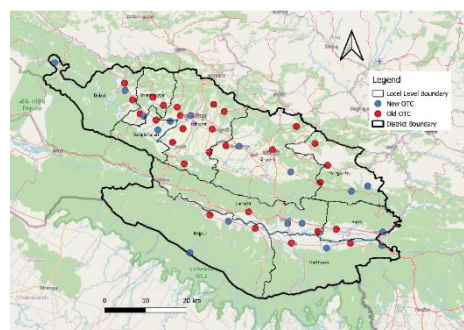


Figure 1: Location of OTCs

interrupting their household and livelihood activities. The establishment of 17 new OTCs across Dang District in Year II marked a significant improvement in acute malnutrition management. Previously, families had to travel long distances to reach existing OTCs, which often delayed treatment and increased the risk of discontinued treatment among Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM).

The new OTCs were established in strategic locations through close coordination with the Health Sections of the local governments, providing reliable and easily accessible service points for caregivers. Introduced at different times during Year II, these centers enrolled 344 MAM children; representing 21.3% of the district's total MAM enrolment; and 34 SAM children, accounting for 25.6% of total SAM enrolment. This ensured timely treatment initiation and consistent follow-up for affected children.

The proximity of the centers made it easier for caregivers to attend follow-ups, contributing to uninterrupted treatment and improved outcomes. By the end of Year II, 283 cases (262 MAM and 21 SAM) had been discharged from the new OTCs. Among MAM cases, 224 children (85.5%) were discharged as cured, closely aligning with the SPHERE standard, while 8.4% were discharged as defaulters and no deaths were reported.

For SAM cases, 12 children (57.1%) achieved cure, which remains below the SPHERE benchmark, similarly defaulter is 4.8% and no deaths of SAM case has been reported. Overall, the new OTCs demonstrated strong early performance and contributed significantly to improved acute malnutrition management in the district.

The Transforming Lives Through Nutrition Project also strengthened the existing OTCs by providing refresher training to health workers, onsite coaching, IEC materials to support effective case management, and tin trunks for proper storage of supplements such as Super Cereal, RUTF, and Baal Vita. In Year II, combining results from all OTCs, the project supported the management of 1,618 MAM and 132 SAM cases. Of the MAM cases, 1,348 children were discharged, with 84% achieving cure and 6.8% recorded as defaulters, while referral, migration, and non-cured cases remained low. Among the 132 SAM cases, 66 children were discharged during Year II. Of these, 45.5% were cured, and 28.8% were referred to ITCs or higher centers for further treatment.

The success of the newly established OTCs demonstrates the impact of bringing essential services closer to communities. With ongoing support, regular monitoring, and strong community engagement, these centers are well positioned to further enhance acute malnutrition management and advance the project's goal of ensuring healthier lives for vulnerable children.



Service user receiving service from New OTC- Goberdhiya BHSC



Service user from new OTC, Kalakate

D. WASH for Gender and Adolescent Inclusive School in Nepal (WASH GAINS)

1. Introduction

Project Title	Economic Opportunity for the Marginalized WASH for Gender and Adolescent Inclusive School in Nepal (WASH GAINS) Community in Nepal Project	Project period in months	36 Months
Project Start Date	April 2023	Project end date	31 March 2026
Total Budget	NPR. 190,506,509	Overall Expenditure (Final)	NPR. 53,188,651.31
Annual budget of the project (January-December 2025)	NPR. 57,510,317.23	Expenditure January-December 2025	
Report submitted by	Jagdish Chaudhary	Report Submitted on	28 Jan 2026

WASH GAINS is a three years project being implemented from April 2023 to 31 March 2026. The crux of the project is to upgrade schools as three-star schools increasing retention, and completion of girls and children with disabilities (CWDs) aged 11-20 in education in all 33 coverage schools of Gulariya, Barbardiya, Thakurbaba, Madhuvan Municipality and Geruwa Rural Municipality of Bardiya district. To achieve this target, project is sensitizing those all students to improve their hygiene behavior mobilizing students, teachers, School Management Committee/Parents Teachers Association representatives in close coordination with concerned local government for the sustainability of the project. Further, it is also influencing at policy level localizing and implementing procedures related to WASH in Schools of those local governments and schools with advocacy, lobby and campaigning to sustain the interventions of the project.

OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT:

The project seeks by March 2026 to enhance the quality learning environment for adolescent girls and children with disabilities in targeted schools of Bardiya, Nepal. The project will do this by working with schools, the wider community and authorities to improve access to sustainable, inclusive WASH services and menstrual health. At the impact level the project seeks to contribute to the achievement of SDG 4, ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education in Nepal.

INTERVENTIONS:

Following are the output wise interventions carried out under WASH GAINS project

Output 1: Schools, Local Government, CSOs are oriented, capacitated and influence to ensure right to education and implement WASH in school procedure and other plans/policies

Activity 1.1. Conduct LG level networking and coordination meetings on prioritizing of education and WASH resources in municipal plans.

The events were organized in May in all five Municipalities. In the meeting there was participation of municipal level stakeholders. First of all, project detail information such as implemented major activities, progress, learning, challenges, activities and budget for upcoming fiscal year were shared to the participants. After sharing those information, open floor was opened for interaction discussed



Figure 2. Multi-stakeholder's barrier analysis event at Madhuvan Municipality

for the sustainability of the project. In total there were total 103 (male: 77 and female: 26) participants in the events:

Activity 1.2. Conduct multi-stakeholder barrier analysis to identify problems require changes and integrate it at LG Level

Multi-stakeholder's barrier analysis has been organized in June and July in all 5 municipalities of Bardiya District in order to review the last year's progress and re-plan the targets on behalf of WASH in school's intervention. During intervention, a brief presentation comprising objectives and identified barriers in schools was shared to the participants in order to set the context. Then concept of five building blocks (1. Policy, Strategy, Planning and Government Leadership. 2. Organizational Management, Capacity and Coordination. 3. Financial Management. 4. Service delivery, Behavior change, DRR resilience infrastructures 5. Monitoring, Accountability and Regulation) was shared for further group work as the event primarily depends on it. Based on building blocks, the participants were divided where all them interacted in their individual group based on the criteria and mentioned the findings. As per group exercise, they worked on Action Plan template. Eventually, all five group presented their works. In total there were 152 participants (male: 126 and female: 26) in all five events.



Figure 3. Municipal level coordination meeting at Barbardiya Municipality

Activity 1.3. Promote Shikshya Kachahari for social accountability & responsiveness of duty bearers and service providers in addressing the issues on Education and WASH. Workshops at school levels:

Five events of Sikshya Kachahari organized on July, August and November 2025 where there was presence of concerned local government authorities such as Mayor and Deputy Mayor, child club representatives, LG level child club network representatives, chair of SMC (School Management Committee) and head teachers from WASH GAINS project school running schools and out of project schools. The objective of the event was to make service providers and duty bearers accountable to address issues of WASH & MHH facilities and sensitize for quality education. In total there were 284 (male: 167 and female: 117) participants in the events.



Figure 4. Sikshya Kachahari event at Geruwa Rural Municipality

Activity 1.4. Joint Monitoring and follow-ups for sector performance monitoring at local level.

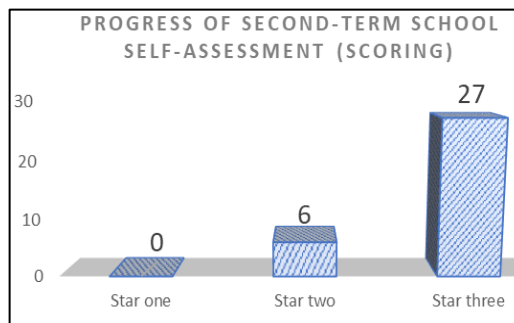
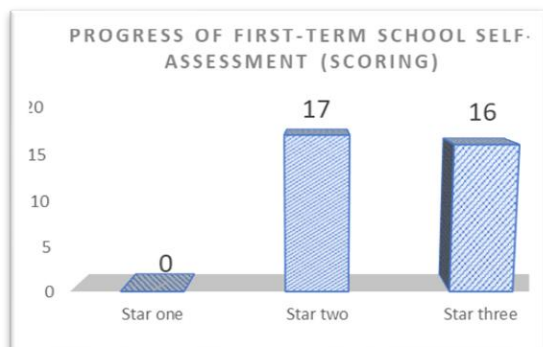
Joint events were organized for ownership and sustainability of WASH facilities to contribute on quality education where there was involvement of Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Head of concerned sections, Social Development Committee Coordinator and ward representatives from municipality who first of all observed WASH facilities' functionality status, availability of handwashing soap, regular repair and maintenance status, and cleanliness of those WASH facilities being accompanied with SMC chair, head teacher and WASH focal teacher of concerned schools.

Later on, the monitoring team organized a brief meeting with school representatives and discussed over the scoring of school self-assessment based on their WASH facilities observation and interacting with child club and Kishori club members. Finally, the monitoring team suggested to teachers, SMC and PTA members to continue the progress for quality education. There were total 109 (male: 75 and female: 34) participants in five events.

Activity # 1.5. Undertake mapping exercise of WASH in school progression Plan of 14 schools with star approach at RM levels for motivating to execute SIP commitments (School self-assessment)

1. School self-assessment:

Based on WinS procedure, school self-assessment is organized twice in a year. On the basis of this provision, School WASH Coordination Committees (SWASHCCs) organized first term of self-assessment events in July & August and second term in November of 33 schools so as to review the update of earlier star progress and to make progression plan for further improvement. Based on achieved progress. In total there were 400 (male: 243 and female: 157) participants in 33 events.



2. Three Star Declaration:

Out of 33 schools 19 schools were declared as three-star schools in 2025. During the inauguration event, chief guest provided 3-star declaration letter and rewarded the three-star Icons. Head teachers welcomed to all the participants and thanked to all for the participation of the program. During welcome speech, they shared briefly how the schools got three by the support of supporting agencies and committed on sustainability of WASH structure with behavior change of Students and utilizing operation and maintenance fund for the proper functionality of those WASH services in schools.



Figure 5. Three-star declaration at Sukra Secondary School, Madhuvan Municipality

During the event, adolescent girls performed dance on six hygiene behavior change jingle to reflect the message of hygiene behavior to all the audiences. Students shared their experience on benefit such as sufficient availability of safe drinking water, regular sufficient water with soap for handwashing, functional toilet, good facilities for the disposal of used menstrual pad and clean environment in the schools for good learning environment after achieving of three-star level. In the meantime, students performed their dance with cultural dress as well.

Three-star events were chaired by School Management Committee (SMC) chairpersons of all those schools where there was presence of Chief guest was Lumbini Province Social Development Minister in 6 schools of Barbardiya, Madhuvan and Geruwa Rural Municipality. Federal government's Former Irrigation minister and recent Member of Parliament was chief guest of 2 schools of Barbardiya Municipality. Mayor of concerned municipalities were chief guest for 11 schools of concerned municipalities. There was also the participation of Chief Executive Officers, ward chairs, section heads, head teachers and parents in the interventions.

Activity 1.6. Orientation to teachers on WinS (2 days orientation 5 events)

The four events of two days training on WinS was organized to build capacity of teachers of 132 beyond the project schools of all five municipalities on WinS procedure for its execution. Both theoretical and practical session were executed so as to build the capacity of teachers for the formation of SWASHCC, school self-assessment, star validation process, maintain operation and maintenance fund in schools and its mobilization, resource leverage with local government, sanitation and hygiene behaviour change in their respective schools to create enabling learning environment for the regularity and retention of especially adolescent girls and children with disabilities. To concretize their learning, field observation to three star approved schools was organized where the WASH focal teacher shared how those schools could able to improve the schools as three-star schools. Furthermore, all the teachers practiced on school self-assessment, make progression plan and process of star validation practice so that they could easily undertake it after the completion of training.

Finally, head of education section of the respective municipalities again requested to the participated teachers to share report of formation of School WASH Coordination Committee (SWASHCC), school self-assessment details for star validation process as soon as possible. Total 132 teachers (male: 94 and female: 38) of non-project schools and 17 Education Section Officials of all five municipalities participated in all five events of training.

Activity 1.7. Refresher Training to Teachers on Hygiene Behavior Change

In total 125 (Male: 75, Female: 50) teachers were involved in the training refresh their capacity on Hygiene Behavior Change (HBC) and thereby to deliver the HBC session in 33 schools' students from grade to above. The three days training was organized in four slots in July 2025 based on the Manual Designed previously by the support of Local level to federal level expertise.

The refresher training was organized inviting LG representatives and Education Section chiefs. The session had been delivered as per the result of the pre-test of the teachers and measure the knowledge increased by the post test at the end of the session. Meanwhile, HBC package materials were distributed to all participants so that they could use it while delivering those sessions to students.

Activity 1.8. Refresher training to teachers on Rights Package

Four slots of refresh training on rights package organized so as to refresh the learning of teachers on rights session delivery. There was consultation with each local government to conduct rights package refresher training to the teachers who delivered the rights session in previous year of the project. Those local governments also supported to deliver the message of training and then, project team followed up to them to invite in the training. This training organized in July 2025 following the manuals of Rights Package developed by WASH GAINS project in previous year of the project. There was total 102 (male: 77 and female: 25) teachers participated in the training.

Activity 1.9. Review with teachers on HBC session delivery (municipal level event)

This event was organized to review progress of HBC session delivery to students and in order to Collect feedback with them for the sustainability of the HBC session delivery. Therefore, there occurred, first of all, teachers' school-wise group division and group work based on provided check list by project team. In five events, there were total 125 teachers (male: 70, female: 55) teachers. The detail of organized event is mentioned below:

Best Practices of students:

1. Proper management of gardening.
2. Students avoided junk food and taking tiffin from their home.

3. Adolescent girls are confidently asking sanitary pad even with male teachers during their menstrual period.
4. Donation of handwashing soap and sanitation materials by students and teachers.
5. Regular internal HBC teachers' review meetings were conducted, enabling untrained teachers to learn and practice HBC concepts.

Plans for Sustainability:

1. Students and teachers are managing waste based on its nature. Degradable waste would be turned into bio-fertilizer for the proper management of gardening.
2. Schools will demonstrate HBC behaviors through extra-curricular activities.
3. Extra-curricular events will be organized led by adolescent girls and children with disabilities for raising awareness.
4. Continuation of donating handwashing soap and sanitary materials during birthday celebration of students.
5. All trained HBC teachers will continue HBC sessions on the last Friday of every month.

Activity 1.11. Teacher Review meeting on Rights session delivery (municipal level event)

Teachers Review meeting for the Rights session delivery to the students was organized for the reflection of learning and progress of session delivery capturing best practices and challenges of teachers on behalf of behavioral part of students in terms of their rights thereby to interact on sustainability of rights sessions' delivery. First of all, there was school-wise group division and assignment was provided by project team based on check list as mentioned below. There were total 101 (male: 77 and female: 24) teachers in the events.

Major Best Practices Identified:

1. Child Rights session has increased confidence to raise their voice with teachers.
2. Students are providing opportunity to children with disabilities (CWDs) to sit front rows to respect their rights to education.
3. Students are accountable to clean their class room and school premises in regularly.
4. Students are able to tell to caretakers for the regular management of safe drinking water when there is no water, and lacking chlorine.
5. Increased class attendance rate and increased participation extra-curricular events by students.

Major Plans for Sustainability:

1. Continuity of interaction on rights and accountability for students through extra-curricular events.
2. Continuity of rights session in periodic basis through extra-curricular events.
3. Daily sharing on sanitation during assembly time and motivate students to clean school premises.
4. Regular operation and maintenance of WASH facilities.
5. Motivation to the best students and linkage with parents for parenting education.

Activity 1.12. Orientation to Teachers on complaint hearing mechanism procedure

The training was organized for 69 teachers (male: 38, female: 31) in order to strengthen teachers' capacity to handle complaints effectively in schools. Orientation documents were prepared based on Complaints Hearing Mechanism Guideline endorsed by government of Nepal. First of all, school wise group work was undertaken based on following contents:

Group Work:

- Process of formation of Complain Hearing Committee in school
- Process of complain hearing in school
- Experience sharing of challenges and achievement of complain hearing in school.

After completion of school wise group work, they presented their work and following are the findings on formation of complain hearing committee:

Findings:

- Out of ten schools, three schools (Balvidya Basic, Kusumadevi Basic and Janajyoti Basic School) of Barbardiya Municipality had no complain hearing committee.
- Out of ten schools of Barbardiya Municipality, two schools (Nepal Pragik Basic and Shanti Basic School) has complain hearing committee but it is not formed based on guideline.
- Out of ten schools of Barbardiya Municipality, only five schools have complaints hearing committee formed based on guideline.
- Schools of other municipalities have formed complain hearing committee in accordance of Complaints Hearing Mechanism Guideline.

Learning:

- Complain Hearing Box needs to be installed at accessible and at students' building for their convenience and confidentiality.
- Empower to the student to file issues in complain hearing box.
- Complain needs to be addressed and students should be treated positively.

Output -2 By 2026, sustainable, inclusive, and accessible WASH facilities are established/rehabilitated within 33 targeted schools

Activity 2.1. Nudge Painting:

In January 2025, construction works related to nudges painting by the support of hired painter was carried out in all 33 schools for the habit formation of students for the proper use of WASH facilities in schools. The detail of work is mentioned below:

- Foot print painting in all 33 schools.
- Slogan painting and message writing completed in all 33 schools.

Activity 2.2. Incinerator Improvement Work

To enhance menstrual hygiene management, the new 1 ft x 1.5 ft size hole with metal cover is being constructed in 19 schools' incinerator of all 5 LGs for used sanitary pad storage. Secure lid fabrication is underway to ensure hygienic containment. The improvement work is being carried out based design of incinerator designed in 3rd year of the project as it is more effective and easier to dispose used pads. Earlier designed incinerator had no external hole to add the collected used sanitary pads in waste bin in girl's toilet.

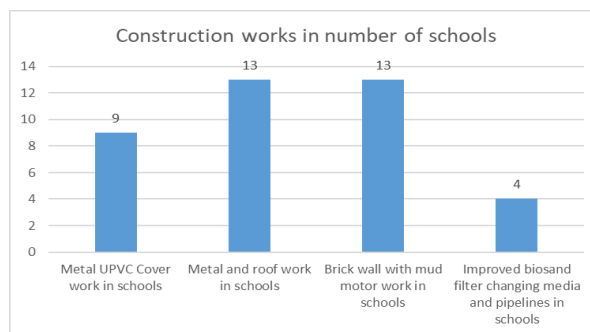
Activity 2.3. Bio-sand filter improvement in schools

Repair and maintenance of the existing bio sand filter based on need based in 4 schools. Total 5 sets of bio-sand filter was maintained as media for water filtration was not functioning properly. After the renovation, those bio-sand filters are working properly and there is management of safe drinking water.

SN	School Name	Bio-sand filter maintained	Municipality
1	Balvidya Basic School	1	Barbardiya
2	Dhurba Secondary School	1	Gulariya
3	Janajyoti Secondary School	1	Thakurbaba
4	Trivuvan Secondary School	2	Madhuvan
5	Panchajanya and Anshuvarma Secondary School	2	Bardiya
6	Trishakti Secondary School	1	Gulariya

Activity 2.4. Additional Construction work:

Construction work has been completed in December to address the request of schools to maintain water moderate cool in hot season. Specially, Metal UPVC work and brick masonry work has been executed in in this month. Detail of work is mentioned below:



Activity 2.5. Post-safety and accessibility Audit

Post-safety and accessibility audit were organized in 3 schools in January and 15 schools in February where construction work completed at the end of 2024. The purpose of those events was to identify whether WASH facilities are accessible or not for small children, adolescent girls and children with disabilities (CwD) according to the standards mentioned in the Accessible Physical Structures and Communication Services Directive 2069 by using national-level checklists. There were total 346 (male: 220 and female: 126) in 18 events. Following are the process of the event mentioned below:

- During this event, there was orientation to SMC/PTA, head teacher, Child club, Palika level technical person, children with disability on rights of persons with disability based on UNCRPD.
- Work division like coordinator, Interviewer, Photo taker, note keeper, measurer which made the work easier and completed in time.
- Practical use of WASH facilities by persons with disability (Wheel chair user) in order to identify whether the WASH facilities are accessible and inclusive or not.
- Finding sharing based on achieved during practical session and respondent views –using standard check list. While sharing the finding, the participants got the idea of accessibility and inclusion which is mandatory in schools.



Figure 1. Post safety & accessibility audit at Janajyoti Secondary School, Bangai, Barbardiya Municipality

Activity 2.6. Public audit and Handover of construction work:

Public audit and handover organized in 15 schools in February and 3 schools in March so as to share responsibility of construction work in sustainable way to schools and to share estimated budget and real expenditure along with detail of other construction works to the stakeholders.

Firstly, all the invited participants observed WASH & MHH facilities constructed in schools where WASH focal teacher briefed to the participants. Later on, detail information of construction was shared to the participants by sub-engineers and after being agreed on the shared information the participants clapped to pass the shared budget and construction work. Members of child club and Kishori club also raised their views on convenience created by WASH facilities and their ongoing support for the sanitation campaign in schools. Further, they also expressed that HBC session is also contributing them for the proper use of WASH facilities in schools. Later on, Mayor and deputy mayor as the chief guest reflected their response for the sustainable use of those facilities enhancing hygiene behavior of students who are key users of those WASH & MHH facilities in schools. Finally, SMC chair closed the events committing regular support from all the stakeholders in upcoming days for the quality education in their schools. There was total 752 (male: 396 and female: 356) participants in 18 events.

Activity 2.7. Refresher Training on caretakers for O & M of install facilities for sustainability

A two-days refresher training on Operation and Maintenance was organized in December month to refresh the knowledge of caretakers on operation and maintenance of WASH facilities for its sustainable use. The training was facilitated by WASH focal person of Geruwa Rural Municipality. Participants were oriented on different water treatment methods, with particular emphasis on the operation and maintenance of bio-sand filters. In addition, a presentation and discussion were conducted on drinking water quality standards to enhance participants' understanding of safe water requirements.

The second session focused on the chlorination process for drinking water and the proper installation of fittings and accessories in water storage tanks. This session also covered the operation and maintenance aspects through an interactive and participatory discussion.

In the third session, all participants were engaged in hands-on practical exercises of WASH facilities using pipes, fittings, and maintenance tools. The session was highly interactive, with active participation from all trainees. There were total 31 caretakers (male: 27 and female: 4) in the training.

Activity 2.8. Water Quality Test

Based on WASH in School procedure, WASH GAINS project supported all 33 schools to conduct water quality test twice with the technical support of Nepal Standard valid water quality testing agency called ENPHO which tested 21 parameters of collected water samples. Drinking Water quality test was conducted in June and December 2025. After collecting those water quality test report from the vendor, it was handed over to concerned schools orienting on its findings to head teachers and WASH focal teacher. The water quality test showed all the water normal based on its standard.

Activity 2.9. VCA (Vulnerable Capacity Assessment) in schools

Wall painting having dimension of 3x4 square feet has been carried out in all 33 schools. The purpose of this painting was to support on indicator nine (Disaster Response) of school self-assessment tool and to show the mapping of the vulnerability and capacity assessment in schools. This work was completed by the technical support of hired painter.

Activity 2.10. National WASH (NWASH) Training

A two-day NWASH training organized in August month so as to strengthen municipal capacity for evidence-based WASH planning and monitoring through enhanced use of the NWASH system, water quality data, and inventory updates for decision-makers (Mayors, Deputy Mayors, CAOs) and

implementers (WASH focal persons, IT personnel). As per sharing with WASH focal persons of local government, there is lacking for the timely update of WASH intervention's progress in N-WASH system. Therefore, organizing this training was more relevant and contextual to sensitize the LGs to contribute the prevailing lacking and gap.

Activity 2.10. Mentoring with teachers and SMC/PTA on proper documentation of Operation & Maintenance fund collection and utilization

Out of 33 events, 15 events organized in September and 18 events were organized in November to sensitize teachers on systematic record-keeping of operation & maintenance fund in schools. During intervention, there was participation of SMC chair, head teacher, Accountant teacher, WASH focal teacher, Parents Teacher Association (PTA) chair of the schools. First of all, five members of O&M committee was formed to collect that fund, its mobilization in upcoming days. After interaction on above mentioned agendas, financial staff led the session. They observed the financial documents regarding O&M fund and ledger maintaining procedure. As per their sharing most of the schools were maintaining single entry system. In total there were 476 (male: 334 and female: 142) therefore, based on this finding, guided them to continue the same process maintaining efficiently.

Findings:

- Absence of Formal Accounting System: All 18 schools do not have a structured account book or accounting system for the O&M Fund.
- Irregular Record Keeping: Records are maintained only when funds are received, leading to inconsistent tracking.
- Inadequate Monitoring: There is no regular process of monitoring the fund's usage at the school level.
- Out of 18 schools 12 schools have O&M account in bank and cooperative Ltd. And out of 12 schools 9 schools have O&M fund of NPR. 514,179.00.

Activity 2.11. Water Safety Plan (WSP) training

Water safety plan (WSP) organized for the enhancement of theoretical and practical skill of schools for the step by step preparation of water safety plan to contribute on three-star grading of schools. This training organized in five schools of five municipalities in November for the assurance of safe drinking water in schools as provisioned by the WinS procedure analyzing hazards and making plan to address those challenges by schools. There was participation of School WASH Coordination Committee (SWASHCC) members, caretakers and WASH focal teachers in the event. In total there were 79 (male: 56 and female: 23) participants in five events. Following are the contents delivered in the training:

Contents of the event:

- Quality of drinking water, parameters and effect.
- Role & responsibility of SWASHCC
- Execution of School Safety Plan
- Observation of WASH facilities and interaction on finding
- Committee formation so as to monitor school safety plan

Activity 2.12. Publication of HBC Massage on LG Calendar (Mural Painting)

Mural Painting implemented based on the agreed campaign theme with LG officials to sensitize parents' awareness for menstrual hygiene and quality education of children with disabilities. For this work, a well skilled



and qualified painter was hired to paint the message of mural painting.

Project team coordinated with all five municipalities to select the location for mural painting. While sharing with LG team required criteria such as size and access for visibility at public place was shared and finally finalized the venue making agreement including terms and condition such as 12x8 feet size, at least five years of safe duration and no any claim of cost by concerned municipalities. In total five Mural painting has been made in December month on wall of public building so that more people can see it and disseminate the information at their communities for the quality education of adolescent girls and children with disabilities.

Activity 2.13. Wall/Poster printing/Calendar Printing (Pad Disposal Instruction board and Brail Scripted Board)

Pad disposal instruction pad designed, made and installed in near accessible toilet's incinerator whole of 33 schools to address the recommendation of consultant who organized the survey of menstrual waste management of school in last year. The purpose of making that board is to form/change habit of adolescent girls in disposing used sanitary pad during their menstrual pad

In the same manner, Brail scripted board was designed, made and tested by a blind teacher and thereby installed near accessible toilet's incinerator whole of 33 schools as per the recommendation of WASH GAINS technical partner called NFD-N. The motives of this work are to make accessible and inclusive use for children with disabilities during their menstrual period.

Detail of works:

SN	Pad disposal instruction board (Acrylic board) number	Brail scripted pad disposal instruction board (Brass board) number	Brail scripted Accessible toilet board (Brass board) number
1	61 pieces for 33 schools	33 pieces for 33 schools	33 pieces for 33 schools

Output 3: By 2026, 13,000 targeted adolescent girls and boys (including CwDs), have improved knowledge on children’s right to education, disability inclusion, right to water and sanitation and inclusive WASH including Menstrual Health and Hygiene (MHH).

Activity 3.1: Awareness raising Event through peer-to-peer learning School level:

In the month of November 2025, a total of 33 peer to peer learning through kishori club and others meetings were conducted so as to provide knowledge on WASH, MHH rights to the peer groups. During the event, a brief sharing of the objectives was shared amongst the participants. WASH GAINS project staff facilitated to review on their learning of education and MHH rights. Based on their sharing again the facilitator shared same topics i.e. education rights and menstrual hygiene rights demonstrating flip charts to guide the discussion so that peer groups learn effectively. Later on, participants got divided into groups and decided for peer teaching in upcoming days. Total 687 (girls: 419 and boys: 268) students participated in the events of 33 schools and got clear on right approach for students.



Figure 6. Peer group meeting at Pashupati Secondary School, Geruwa Rural Municipality

Activity 3.2. Street Drama Demonstration:

Twenty events of street drama were performed in December based on campaign theme: Parental Awareness Campaign for Menstrual Hygiene and Quality Education for Children with Disabilities agreed during Campaign Design workshop carried out in May 2025 jointly with WASH GAINS team and authorities of all five Municipalities. While preparing for the drama demonstration, there was coordination and consultation with local government as this campaign had to be done jointly with municipality as per common understanding during campaign design workshop.



Figure 7. Street Drama performance at Jaynagar, Barbardiya Municipality

Key Issues highlighted in the Drama:

- Proper disposal of used sanitary pads in toilets.
- School regularity of adolescent girls during menstrual period.
- Emotional challenges and barriers faced by children with disabilities in attending school.
- Importance of disability-friendly infrastructure in schools.
- Meaningful participation of children with disabilities in all activities.
- Protection and utilization of the rights of children with disabilities through parental and stakeholder support.

Activity 2.3. International Menstrual Hygiene day celebrations

All five municipalities launched MHH day celebration on 28 May to raise awareness of parents on MHH for the quality education of children with disabilities (CwDs) and adolescent girls. First of all, a jingle was played to mark this celebration. Later on, presentation was shared which was entirely related to obstacles and support on menstrual health and hygiene (MHH) of adolescent girls and children with disabilities. Further, it focused on how those children are managing it, how their family is supporting them and how they are being supported in school during menstrual period.



Figure 8. International Menstrual Hygiene Day at Gulariya Municipality

When presentation was going on, children with disabilities shared their story related to challenges and support being provided by their family, teachers and their friends. Parents also raised their regular support to their children for the support of education. Meanwhile, all the participants observed the brief photo story of children with disabilities and adolescent girls facing their challenges and getting support to achieve education. In total there were 416 (male: 156 and female: 260) participants in those events.

Action point:

Based on the interaction of MHH day launching celebration, these are the findings of action point to address by concerned stakeholders:

- Supportive device (such as wheel chair and walker) support to CwDs.
- Regular support to children with disabilities and adolescent girls to manage their menstrual period.

Activity 3.4: Rights Session delivery in schools:

Teachers of all 33 schools have completed delivering all four sessions (Child rights, Education rights, WASH rights and responsibility & accountability) of Rights. Now students are able to raise their voice for the regular management of handwashing soap, teaching for leisure period, proper maintenance of toilet, regular management of quality pad and giving opportunity to children with disabilities to stay at front row of class.



Figure 9. HBC session delivery at Janajyoti Basic School, Barbardiya Municipality

Activity 3.4. Hygiene Behavior Change (HBC) session delivery:

Teachers of all 33 schools have completed delivering all six sessions (proper handwashing with soap, hygienic food, safe drinking water, proper utilization of toilet, proper waste management and menstrual health & hygiene) of HBC sessions. Now junk food restriction in schools and premises of schools are clean and regular hand washing practice is conducted by students. The hygiene behavior's good practice has been replicated to small children below class five. Adolescent girls are leading to conduct extra-curricular events related to MHH rights. Schools able to carry out regular class of adolescent girls even during their menstrual period.

Activity 5.1.1. Mid-Term Survey

Background:

Mid-term survey organized in September month mobilizing 16 enumerators to assess progress against targets and identify gaps & challenges of the interventions. To conduct the event, first of all, those enumerators were oriented and capacitated on survey tools, questionnaires, and data collection protocols. Practical mock sessions were conducted, followed by constructive feedback to strengthen the capacity of participants. The participants were also oriented on Safeguarding policy.

Data Collection Process:

A. Survey Design:

A cross-sectional descriptive survey was conducted covering 33 schools in Bardiya district. The survey targeted students, teachers, local government (LG) representatives, School Management Committee/Parent Teacher Association (SMC/PTA), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and O&M caretakers/WASH focal teachers.

B. Sample Size:

The sample size was determined using a **99% confidence interval, 5% margin of error**, and 10% non-response rate. Based on these parameters, the calculated sample sizes were:

- Students: 1,280
- Children with Disabilities (CwDs): 133
- Teachers: 200

C. Sampling Approach:

- Students: Randomly selected from class rosters proportionate to each school's enrollment, with inclusion of CwDs.
- Teachers: Randomly selected ensuring representation across grade levels.
- LG representatives, SMC/PTA, CSOs, and O&M caretakers: Selected purposively for Key Informant Interviews (KIIs).

D. Data Collection Tools and Techniques:

- Student interviews were conducted digitally using mWater mobile-based surveys.
- KIIs were conducted with teachers, SMC/PTA members, CSO representatives, LG officials, and O&M caretakers.
- Spot checks were carried out to assess functionality, cleanliness, inclusiveness, and accessibility of WASH facilities.

E. Quality Assurance

- A two-day orientation (5–6 September) was conducted for 14 enumerators, 2 supervisors, and 1 WASH facilities spot checker.
- Mock sessions were held, and feedback was provided for improvements.
- The consultant, Mr. Shekhar Raj Devkota, conducted field monitoring and provided on-site coaching.
- The PMEL Officer ensured effective coordination with LGs, schools, and managed logistics.

Key Achievements of the project:

- After being influenced with Multi-stakeholders' Barrier Analysis events, Thakurbaba municipality has endorsed School Water Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH in School) Procedure as well as Operation and Maintenance Procedure. In the same manner, Barbardiya Municipality has endorsed O&M Guidelines and executing accordingly.
- Gulariya Municipality has planned to upgrade at least one schools at each ward, Madhuvan Municipality has planned to rank up at least three schools as three-star schools in its Policy for fiscal year 2082/083 B.S.
- Local governments have allocated budget for WASH in School and Operation & Maintenance support to schools in fiscal year 2082/083 B.S as mentioned in below table:

Municipality	Allocated budget
Thakurbaba	53,00,000.00
Barbardiya	1700,000.00
Geruwa	31,80,000.00
Gulariya	660,000.00

- In 2025, 29 schools have scored as three-star schools and 19 schools are declared as three-star schools. It increased by 27 schools as three-star school with self-assessment and no any schools were declared as three in previous year.
- In case of out of project schools, 33 schools (Gulariya: 17, Geruwa: 14 and Barbardiya: 2) have conducted school self-assessment. Out of them 13 schools have reached star one and 3 schools have reached as star two schools.
- Gulariya Municipality has supported to four schools providing Rs. 635,000 in total as a motivational support which are approved as three-star schools.
- All 33 schools are functional, accessible and inclusive idented conducting safety & accessibility audit by WASH GAINS project.
- Shanti Basic School Barbardiya-2 Kumragaon of Barbardiya Municipality constructed 80-metre-long pathway in school premises of 1.25 metre breadth. For this work schools utilized of NPR. 61,300.00. In the same manner, Janachahana Basic School of Thakurbaba Municipality utilized total NPR. 61,000 for the construction of 26-metre-long pathway rights before the date of three-star declaration ceremony.
- Due to regular coordination and advocacy with municipalities, WASH facilities constructed under WASH GAINS project are uploaded in N-WASH portal of federal government.
- Students and teachers are donating had washing soap to schools which has contributed on hygiene behaviour change of students.

- Due to regular peer to peer empowering meeting of adolescent girls of Thakurbaba Municipality are able to demand quality sanitary pad. The sanitary pad provided by that municipality was not comfortable for use.
- Out of 11,970 students of all 33 schools, 9439 (78.86%) students have reached rights sessions and 8765 (73.22%) have reached to Hygiene Behavior Change (HBC) sessions.
- Out of 133 children with disability of 33 schools only 114 (85.71%) got reach to rights session and 107 (80.45%) got reach to HBC session.

Learning of the project:

- Capacity Building support to teachers and LG officials for the ownership and sustainably of the project.
- O&M support and motivational subsidies for three star approved school for the Sustainability of WASH
- MHH facilities reduces absenteeism specially during menstrual period.
- Avoidance of junk food contributing on waste management in schools.
- Linkage to schools with communities for O&M fund collection
- Guideline/policy implementation for the replication and sustainability

Challenges/Risk:

- Frequent tiger attack in Bardiya which created fear to staff while travelling to field.
- Schools remained closed for a week due to Gen-Z movement and few planned events were carry forwarded to next month.
- Nationwide teachers strike in April 2025 compelled all schools to be shut down for a month. Therefore, planned activities for May were postponed and shifted to June moth.

E. Transforming Lives Through Nutrition (iDE)

Project Details

Project Title	Transforming Lives Through Nutrition (Nutrition Sensitive)	Project period in months	12 Months
Project Start Date	July 22, 2024	Project end date	June 30, 2025
Total Budget	NPR.18093274.09	Overall Expenditure (Final)	1808972.18
Report submitted by	Manoj Chaudhary	Report Submitted on	28 Jan 2026

Introduction

An integrated nutrition program is essential for addressing the ongoing challenge of malnutrition and improving overall health and well-being. The Transforming Lives Through Nutrition (TLTN) initiative has been implemented by BASE Organization (Backward Society Education) across 10 local areas in Dang District, including Tulsipur Sub-Metropolitan, Ghorahi Sub-Metropolitan, Lamahi Municipality, Bangalachuli, Rajpur, Gadawa, Babai, Shantinagar, Dangisaran, and Rapti Rural Municipality. This comprehensive program focuses on improving the health and nutrition of children aged 6 to 59 months, while also promoting the well-being of mothers and families. The TLTN project primarily targets the

monitoring of acute malnutrition and the implementation of the Mother Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (MBFHI) at birthing centers. Through a variety of strategic and collaborative approaches, the program aims to strengthen the capacity of healthcare personnel and Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs), streamline screening processes, and provide vital nutritional support. Additionally, the TLTN will work to improve data collection, analysis, and reporting mechanisms across the district. The main goal of the project is to encourage the consumption of nutritious foods and dietary diversification, ultimately reducing malnutrition in Lumbini Province.



Objectives

- **To reduce the prevalence of acute malnutrition among children aged 6 to 59 months** within the ten targeted local areas of Dang. This is a critical aim, focusing on the most vulnerable age group and a condition that can hinder their growth and development significantly. The project is likely employing strategies like regular screening, early detection, and providing therapeutic and supplementary feeding to achieve this.
- **To strengthen the capacity of the local health system to deliver quality nutrition services.** This includes training healthcare workers and Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs) on various aspects of nutrition assessment, counseling, and management of malnutrition.
- **To enhance the data collection, analysis, and reporting mechanisms for nutrition-related information** within Dang District. Accurate and timely data is essential for monitoring the progress of the project, identifying areas that need more attention, and making informed decisions about resource allocation and intervention strategies.
- **To promote dietary diversity and the consumption of nutritious foods at the household level.** This involves educating families about the importance of a balanced diet, encouraging the use of locally available nutritious foods, and potentially supporting initiatives that improve access to diverse food sources.

Major Project Interventions

Organize/participate in coordination/update meetings with Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committees at ward level (multi-sectoral architecture of the government)

The project prioritized strengthening the Government’s multi-sectoral nutrition and food security architecture through regular coordination and update meetings at the local and ward levels. As planned, all 14 coordination/update meetings were successfully organized and participated in, achieving the annual target across 14 intensive wards in seven rural municipalities of Dang District. These meetings convened members of the Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committees, including representatives from local government, health, agriculture, education sectors, and community stakeholders, with a total participation of 238 individuals (109 male and 129 female). Key discussions focused on progress updates, challenges, clarification of roles and responsibilities, and alignment of



nutrition-sensitive agri-food system interventions with local plans and priorities, thereby strengthening inter-sectoral coordination, improving information sharing, and enhancing local ownership and accountability for nutrition and food security actions at ward level.

Organize/participate in coordination/update meetings with Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committees at local level (multi-sectoral architecture of the government)

The project successfully organized and participated in coordination and update meetings with Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committees (NFSSC) at the local and ward levels, strengthening the government's multi-sectoral architecture for nutrition and food security. Against a target of seven events, all seven meetings were conducted across seven rural municipalities of Dang District. These coordination forums facilitated inter-sectoral dialogue, information sharing, and alignment of nutrition-sensitive interventions among stakeholders, with the participation of 212 members, including 159 males and 53 females.



Organize live cooking demonstrations preparing nutrient dense foods targeting children under 2 years and HHs with pregnant and lactating women during nutrition sessions

The project organized live cooking demonstrations during nutrition sessions, including preparation of kheer from banana and pumpkin, and provided orientation on food diversification in daily diets to promote nutrient-dense foods for children under two years of age and households with pregnant and lactating women. Against a target of 49 events, a total of 55 demonstrations were successfully conducted across all rural municipalities, exceeding the planned target. These sessions offered practical, hands-on learning opportunities to enhance knowledge and skills on nutritious food preparation using locally available ingredients, engaging 1,707 participants (33 males and 1,674 females) and contributing to improved infant and young child feeding and maternal nutrition practices.



Organize home garden training

The project organized home garden training sessions across all rural municipalities to strengthen household food security and promote dietary diversity through increased production of nutritious foods at the household level. Against a target of 28 trainings, a total of 40 sessions were successfully conducted, exceeding the planned target. The trainings focused on practical skills such as garden layout, seasonal vegetable selection, organic manure use, and basic pest management,



and engaged a total of 1,202 participants, including 18 males and 1,184 females, thereby contributing to improved availability and utilization of diverse and nutritious foods within households.

Pit construction materials (3m X 1m) and worms

Pit construction materials (3m × 1m) and worms were provided to support vermicomposting practices across all rural municipalities. Against a target of 10 units, a total of 12 pits were successfully constructed and equipped with the required materials and earthworms, exceeding the planned target. This support enhanced households' capacity to produce organic manure locally, contributing to improved soil fertility, sustainable home gardening, and environmentally friendly waste management practices in the intervention areas.

Develop demonstration plots close to health facility, school for community level utilization

Demonstration plots were developed near health facilities and schools to promote community-level learning and utilization of improved agricultural and nutrition-sensitive practices. Against a target of 7, all 7 demonstration plots were successfully established as planned. These plots are being used as practical learning sites for community members, students, and service providers, facilitating hands-on demonstrations, knowledge sharing, and increased adoption of improved practices at the community level.



Introduce small-scale livestock farming, such as poultry especially targeting landless HHs

To strengthen household nutrition and livelihoods among the most vulnerable groups, the project introduced **small-scale poultry farming** for landless households with SAM/MAM children across all rural municipalities. This intervention aimed to improve access to nutritious animal-source foods while generating a sustainable source of income. Against a target of 200 households, **266 households were successfully reached**, exceeding expectations due to strong community demand and effective coordination with local stakeholders. Early results indicate improved household food consumption, increased economic resilience, and greater engagement of caregivers—particularly women—in nutrition-sensitive livelihood activities.



Provide nutrient dense diversity kits with high-quality seeds, seedlings, and input support during nutrition sessions

To strengthen household production and consumption of nutrient-dense foods, the project distributed nutrient-dense diversity kits—including high-quality seeds, seedlings, and essential agricultural inputs—through community-based nutrition sessions across all rural municipalities. The integration of kit distribution with nutrition counseling ensured that households not only received inputs but also gained practical knowledge on their nutritional value, cultivation, and use for improved diets, with a strong focus on engaging caregivers, particularly women, as key agents of change in household nutrition. Against a target of 8,652 participants, 5,451 individuals were reached during the reporting period (282 males and 5,169 females), with high female participation confirming effective targeting of primary caregivers and vulnerable households. The intervention is expected to contribute to improved dietary diversity, increased year-round access to nutritious foods, and better nutrition outcomes for women and children, especially those at risk of malnutrition.



Repair/maintenance/install/support basic WASH facilities in health facilities based on assessment result

Repair, maintenance, installation, and support of **basic WASH facilities**—including repair of water taps, installation of drinking water filters, and provision of dustbins—were implemented in health facilities based on assessment findings to ensure safe, functional, and inclusive services. Against a target of **5 health facilities, 17 facilities** were supported, significantly exceeding the planned target due to high identified needs and strong coordination with local authorities. The improved WASH infrastructure has strengthened infection prevention and control, enhanced service quality, and improved the overall health facility environment, contributing to safer maternal, newborn, and child health services.



Organize/support mass sensitization and counseling sessions through health workers, female community health volunteers and partner on WASH, maternal, infant and young child nutrition and health services, and other services

Organize/support **mass sensitization and counseling sessions** were conducted through health workers, Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs), and partner organizations to promote **WASH practices, maternal, infant and young child nutrition (MIYCN), health services, and other essential services** at the community level. Against a target of **489 sessions, 289 sessions** were completed during the reporting period, with outreach reaching **35 males and 5,920 females**, reflecting strong engagement of women as primary caregivers and service users. The sessions enhanced community awareness, improved knowledge of healthy behaviors, and strengthened linkages to available health and nutrition services.



The high female participation demonstrates effective mobilization through frontline health workers and FCHVs and is expected to contribute to improved hygiene practices, caregiving behaviors, and utilization of maternal and child health services.

Provide WASH kit (soap, potty, reusable baby napkin, bucket with mug etc.) during nutrition sessions e.g. Growth Monitoring and Promotion sessions

WASH kits including soap, potty, reusable baby napkins, buckets with mugs, and other essential items were provided to SAM/MAM households during nutrition platforms such as Growth Monitoring and Promotion (GMP) sessions to promote improved hygiene and child care practices. Against a target of 2,500 households, 467 households were supported during the reporting period, reaching 17 males and 450 females, with the majority being mothers and primary caregivers. Distribution was integrated with counseling on hygiene, sanitation, and safe child care practices to reinforce behavior change. The intervention is expected to contribute to improved household hygiene, reduced risk of infection, and better nutrition and health outcomes for children with acute malnutrition.



Appreciate/honor HHs with WASH items, which demonstrate better improvement in WASH behaviors

Households that demonstrated significant improvements in WASH behaviors were formally appreciated and honored with WASH items to incentivize positive practices and foster community-level behavior change. Against a target of 15 households, 22 households were recognized, directly benefiting 94 household members. This recognition mechanism strengthened motivation, reinforced good hygiene and sanitation practices, encouraged peer learning, and contributed to the wider adoption of improved WASH behaviors within the community.



Orient/sensitize HWs, FCHVs and partner about WASH, Agriculture, new GMP guideline 2079 etc.

Orientation and sensitization sessions were conducted for health workers (HWs), Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs), and partner staff on WASH, agriculture, and the new Growth Monitoring and Promotion (GMP) Guideline 2079, among other relevant topics. Against a target of 14 events, 16 events were successfully completed, reaching 204 participants (46 males and 158 females). These sessions enhanced frontline workers' technical knowledge and coordination capacity, strengthening the quality and consistency of WASH, nutrition, and agriculture service delivery at the community level.



Project review workshops

Project review workshops were organized to assess implementation on progress, reflect on lessons learned, and strengthen coordination among stakeholders. Against a target of 7 workshops, all 7 workshops were successfully conducted, engaging 185 participants (129 males and 56 females). The workshops provided a platform for joint review, experience sharing, and adaptive planning,



contributing to improved project performance and informed decision-making for subsequent implementation phases.

Special day celebration (International days)

Special day celebrations were organized to mark international observances, including Global Handwashing Day, to raise awareness and promote positive hygiene behaviors at the community level. The event engaged 62 participants (5 males and 57 females), with strong participation from women and caregivers. The celebration reinforced key handwashing messages, encouraged community dialogue, and supported the adoption of improved hygiene practices to reduce the risk of disease transmission.



Strengthen and regularize Food security and Nutrition steering committee meeting at Palika level

Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committee meetings were strengthened and regularized at the Palika level to enhance multi-sectoral coordination and governance on nutrition and food security. A total of **14 meetings** were conducted, engaging **155 participants (82 males and 73 females)**. These forums facilitated effective coordination among line agencies, enabled joint planning and monitoring, and reinforced local ownership, contributing to more coherent and effective implementation of nutrition and food security interventions at the local level.

Capacity building of FCHV in homestead food production and agri inputs support.

Capacity building training and support was provided to **22 Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs)** from selected intensive wards on **homestead food production and the appropriate use of agricultural inputs**. The training strengthened FCHVs' technical knowledge and practical skills, enabling them to more effectively support households in adopting nutrition-sensitive agriculture practices and promoting diversified food production at the community level. In addition, the FCHVs were provided with **agricultural inputs** to facilitate practical application of the skills gained and to support demonstration and replication of improved practices within their communities.



Seasonal vegetable seed/ seedling/ sapling support malnourished families via CBFs

Seasonal vegetable seeds, seedlings, and saplings were provided to malnourished households (SAM/MAM) through Community-Based Facilitators (CBFs) across Dang District to strengthen household-level food production and improve access to nutritious foods. The support was aligned with seasonal planting calendars and accompanied by basic guidance on cultivation and utilization to maximize production and dietary benefits. A total of 1,257 SAM/MAM households were reached through this intervention, enabling families to produce nutrient-rich vegetables at the



household level, enhance dietary diversity, and improve year-round food availability. This intervention is expected to contribute to improved nutrition outcomes for vulnerable children by reducing reliance on purchased foods and strengthening household resilience.

Farmer exchange (peer learning) visits

Farmer exchange (peer learning) visits were organized to facilitate hands-on learning, experience sharing, and exposure to improved agricultural production and market practices. A total of 41 farmers (20 males and 21 females) participated in structured visits to Community Learning Centers in Banke and Gobardiha, an agriculture farm in Kohalpur, and the Haatbazaar in Tikapur, Kailali. During the visits, participants interacted directly with lead farmers and practitioners, observed practical demonstrations on homestead food production and improved farming techniques, and gained insights into post-harvest handling, value addition, and market linkage mechanisms. The peer learning approach strengthened farmers' confidence, encouraged knowledge exchange, and is expected to support the adoption and replication of good agricultural and marketing practices within their own communities, contributing to improved livelihoods and nutrition outcomes.

Major Achievements

- Strengthened multi-sectoral nutrition governance: Successfully organized and participated in 14 ward-level and 7 Palika-level Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committee (NFSSC) meetings across Dang District, engaging 450+ government and community stakeholders, which improved inter-sectoral coordination, role clarity, joint planning, and accountability for nutrition and food security actions.
- Improved nutrition knowledge and practices: Conducted 55 live cooking demonstrations reaching 1,707 participants, predominantly women, enhancing practical skills on preparing nutrient-dense foods for children under two and pregnant and lactating women using locally available ingredients.
- Enhanced household food security and dietary diversity: Delivered 40 home garden trainings, engaging 1,202 participants, alongside support for vermicomposting (12 pits), 7 demonstration plots, and seasonal seed/seedling support to 1,257 SAM/MAM households, strengthening sustainable household food production and year-round access to nutritious foods.
- Expanded nutrition-sensitive livelihoods: Introduced small-scale poultry farming to 266 landless SAM/MAM households, improving access to animal-source foods, household income, and livelihood resilience, with strong engagement of women caregivers.
- Reinforced nutrition through integrated input support: Distributed nutrient-dense diversity kits to 5,451 participants during nutrition sessions, effectively linking behavior change communication with practical inputs to promote improved dietary diversity and nutrition outcomes.
- Strengthened WASH services and behaviors: Supported 17 health facilities with basic WASH improvements, conducted 289 mass sensitization and counseling sessions reaching over 5,900 women, distributed WASH kits to 467 SAM/MAM households, and recognized 22 households for exemplary WASH behaviors collectively improving hygiene practices, infection prevention, and service environments.
- Built frontline capacity and learning systems: Oriented 204 HWs, FCHVs, and partners on WASH, agriculture, and the new GMP Guideline 2079; built capacity of 22 FCHVs on homestead food production with agri-input support; organized farmer exchange visits for 41



farmers; and conducted 7 project review workshops, strengthening service quality, peer learning, and adaptive project management.

- Promoted community awareness and ownership: Celebrated Global Handwashing Day and other international days with strong community participation, reinforcing key hygiene messages and sustaining community engagement.

Challenges and their mitigation measures

Challenges		Mitigation Measures	
Seasonal constraints affecting timely delivery of agricultural inputs and activities (e.g., seeds, seedlings, home gardening, vermicomposting)		Activities were phased according to local cropping calendars, and distribution was prioritized for the most vulnerable SAM/MAM households. Follow-up support was planned for the next suitable planting season.	
Lower-than-planned coverage for some community-level activities due to time limitations and competing community priorities		Implementation was integrated with existing platforms such as GMP sessions, nutrition meetings, and health outreach to maximize reach and efficiency without compromising quality.	
Uneven participation of men in nutrition and WASH-related activities		Community mobilization increasingly targeted male household members and local leaders, while continuing to prioritize women as primary caregivers to ensure behavior change at household level.	
High demand for WASH infrastructure support exceeding planned targets		Assessment-based prioritization was applied in coordination with local governments, enabling resources to be redirected to high-need facilities and leveraging local support where possible.	
Limited availability and workload of frontline workers (HWs and FCHVs)		Capacity-building sessions were streamlined and combined with regular meetings; training-of-trainers and peer learning approaches were used to optimize time and coverage.	
Behavior change requiring sustained follow-up beyond single events		Practical demonstrations, recognition of model households, provision of take-home inputs, and repeat messaging through FCHVs and CBFs were used to reinforce adoption of improved practices.	
Logistical challenges in organizing exchange visits and multi-sectoral meetings across dispersed locations		Early coordination with Palikas, clustering of activities, and joint planning with stakeholders helped reduce travel and scheduling burdens and ensured full achievement of planned events.	

Disaggregated Data of the Participants:

Dalit		Disadvantaged Janajati		Disadvantaged Madhesis		Muslims		Others (Brahmin/Chhetri)		Total	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
64	1817	392	8397	88	1430	15	241	426	5998	985	17883

Case Story

Empowering Local Entrepreneurship Through Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture

Ishwori Bahadur Pun, a resident of Dangisharan–2, Saruwadada, is a progressive farmer and Community Business Facilitator whose livelihood has been transformed through the support of the **Transforming Lives Through Nutrition (TLTN)** Project. Before the intervention, Mr. Pun depended on traditional farming practices with limited income and low market integration. Today, he operates a sustainable agri-enterprise that strengthens household nutrition, contributes to local markets, and builds community resilience.



With technical and entrepreneurial support from the project, he established himself as a **Tricho-vermicompost entrepreneur**, receiving hands-on training in home garden management, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), poly-house tunnel cultivation, nursery raising, mulching technologies, and the preparation of jholmol and biopesticides. These climate-smart and eco-friendly practices have improved soil fertility, increased crop productivity, and significantly reduced reliance on chemical inputs. As a result, Mr. Pun now produces a diverse range of nutritious vegetables throughout the year and successfully markets his produce locally, while also supplying tomatoes to local markets and in **Salyan as well**, demonstrating the scalability and commercial potential of sustainable agriculture at the community level. From just **three kathas of land**, he generated approximately **NRs. 100,000** from tomato production alone. In parallel, as a Community Business Facilitator, he has developed outlet markets for **tricho-vermicompost** through agrovets such as **Deep Agro-vet** and **Ramesh Agroveta**, as well as individual farmers, selling around **5 quintals valued at NRs. 12,500**, while utilizing the remaining compost on his own farm. Motivated by growing market demand, he further strengthened his enterprise by adding **one buffalo** to support sustainable organic input production for vermicompost. Building on this success, Mr. Pun is now planning to **register and certify his tricho-vermicompost through recognized certifying agencies**, enabling formal market access and long-term business growth.



In his role as a Community Business Facilitator, he actively shares knowledge and skills with fellow farmers, promotes improved agricultural practices, and encourages farming as a dignified and viable livelihood option. Reflecting on his journey, he states, “What is not possible in our own homeland? If opportunities and skills are available here, why should we go abroad for employment?” His story powerfully demonstrates the transformative impact in strengthening local food systems, improving nutrition outcomes, fostering self-reliance, and creating sustainable rural livelihoods. He further expressed deep gratitude to the project for its support, noting with pride that he won first prize in tricho-vermicompost production at the Agricultural Fair organized by Dangisharan Rural Municipality, a recognition that symbolizes both enterprise success and community trust.



F. Access to Justice for Children

Project Title	Access to Justice for Children	Project period in months	8 Months
Project Start Date	August 2025	Project end date	March 2026
Total Budget	NPR. 10,246,433.89	Overall Expenditure (Final)	5181834.01
Report submitted by	Pinky Dang	Report Submitted on	Feb 2026

1. Background

BASE organization has been doing several interventions i.e. campaign, empowerment, capacity building, policy dialogues and formulation facilitation, research, rescue and rehabilitation of children through child rights, child protection, expanding policy and many other projects. Recently BASE Organization has successfully accomplished Preventing Early Child Marriage and Child Marriage Free Nepal Campaign projects in partnership with Just Rights for children in Nepal Organization. After these projects, there is a need of follow-up and carryover the additional and effective interventions to stop child marriage, child sexual abuse and child labor, therefore BASE will implement the proposed relevant activities to support marginalized children and communities where early marriages prevalence is comparatively higher. In addition to this, BASE is going to provide technical facilitation to the local government in terms of fulfilling policy gaps to ensure child protection from the grassroots levels. Similarly, BASE is going to identify, response and manage the cases of child marriage, child sexual abuse and child labor by providing them with legal, social and economic assistance. In order to protect children and prevent them from getting in to child marriages, abuses the project will focus on empowerment, collaboration with the government as well as policy advocacy activities. Children will get in to the schools which is one of the major factors that can play vital role in stopping them from getting married at their early ages. Similarly, awareness campaign and mobilization of the BASE network along with the activists for empowerment including follow-up the cases to ensure they get legally and socially addressed will be additional actions to prevent early marriages. In addition to these policy and law enforcement by making local and provincial government accountable will be pressurized to gain optimum results in stopping child marriages. We will engage media too for wider coverage of the actions, results and access to information.

The project interventions will be delivered in Lumbini, Karnali and Sudurpaschim provinces of Nepal which have highest percentage (40%, 48% and 45% respectively) of child marriages after Madhes province. The government of Lumbini Province has developed a 10 years strategy (by 2078 BS) to end child marriage in the province so our interventions will support achieving the strategic objectives of the government declaring Lumbini Province Child Marriage free. Similarly, other provinces will also have such strategies to own the child protection policies with the resource allocation for children. This is a 9 months project that shall start from August 2025 to April 2026. The local and provincial government along with the stakeholders will be coordinated in its interventions to reach the needy communities and put collaborative approaches for securing better impacts of the project. Likewise, BASE's board members and staffs will receive capacity development trainings to increase competitiveness on project management and documentations.

2. Objectives of the project

Project goal: The project is going to contribute and align with Nepal Government's Child Marriage Free Nepal by 2030 and the specific objectives of the project are;

Objectives:

a) Prevention of child marriage, child sexual abuse and child labor by;

- Facilitating on fulfilling policy gaps, lobby for resource allocation of local governments
- Encouraging enforcement and implementation of policies, laws at local levels
- Increasing awareness and understanding on child marriage laws as well as rights of children through campaigns

b) Protection of children from abuses by;

- Working with local government, police administration, schools and the communities where there is a high prevalence of child abuse
- Collecting cases and supporting their registration for national and provincial social protection schemes

3. Accomplished activities/Outcomes

a) Policy and budget analysis of Palika;

- i) **Advocate and facilitate for policy revision, implementation and budget allocation at Palikas:** Significant progress has made in the area of policy development and research. Drafting of Child Protection Policies for Gurbhakot and Barahatal municipalities of Surkhet district and Ghodaghodi and Gauriganga municipalities of Kailali district moved forward, laying the foundation for stronger local systems to protect children’s rights.
- ii) **MoU with the local government:** BASE has formally signed MoU with 55 local governments of Lumbini – 31 Palikas, Karnali -6 Palikas and Sudurpaschim – 18 Palikas for collaborating to policy formulation, implementation of laws, and budget allocation as well as campaigning. This has helped to develop strong relationship and accountability between BASE and the government to establish joint efforts to child protection. The campaign interventions have been delivered to almost of the Palikas whereas we have selected 31 Palikas for the first year to intensively work on child protection to make tangible results. Based on that below is the list of 31 Palikas we have been implementing our project activities;

SN	Palika	Province	District
1	Bangalachuli RM	Lumbini	Dang
2	Tulsipur SMC	Lumbini	Dang
3	Gadawa RM	Lumbini	Dang
4	Lamahi Mu.	Lumbini	Dang
5	Dangisharan RM	Lumbini	Dang
6	Shantinagar RM	Lumbini	Dang
7	Babai RM	Lumbini	Dang
8	Bansgadhi Mun.	Lumbini	Bardiya
9	Barabardiya Mun.	Lumbini	Bardiya
10	Badhaiyataal RM	Lumbini	Bardiya
11	Madhuban Mun.	Lumbini	Bardiya
12	Raptisonari RM	Lumbini	Banke

SN	Palika	Province	District
13	Baijanath RM	Lumbini	Banke
14	Narainapur RM	Lumbini	Banke
15	Janaki RM	Lumbini	Banke
16	Kailari RM	SP Province	Kailali
17	Godawari Mun.	SP Province	Kailali
18	Tikapur Mun.	SP Province	Kailali
19	Janaki RM	SP Province	Kailali
20	Ghodaghodi Mun.	SP Province	Kailali
21	Joshiapur RM	SP Province	Kailali
22	Bedkot Mun.	SP Province	Kanchanpur
23	Shukklaphanta Mun.	SP Province	Kanchanpur
24	Belauri Mun.	SP Province	Kanchanpur
25	Krishnapur Mun.	SP Province	Kanchanpur
26	Birendranagar Mun.	Karnali	Surkhet
27	Barahataal RM	Karnali	Surkhet
28	Gurbhakot Mun.	Karnali	Surkhet
29	Bheriganga Mun.	Karnali	Surkhet
30	Lekbesi	Karnali	Surkhet
31	Guransh RM	Karnali	Dailekh

b. Support to on ground case interventions;

- i) **Identify cases of child marriage, child sexual abuse and child labor:** BASE has mobilized its project team and network members to identify cases of child abuses from the communities and schools. Till December 2025, BASE has collected and documented the cases as described below;

Province	District	Child Marriage case	Child sexual abuse case	Child Trafficking/Labor
Lumbini	Dang	48		
	Banke	39	1	
	Bardiya	10		
Karnali	Surkhet	2		
Sudurpaschim	Kanchanpur	19		
	Kailali	46	1	

- ii) **Manage and respond to the cases:** All of the cases have been documented and timely responded through social and legal perspectives as per the need. We have provided required assistance to the victims and their families through case registration, case facilitation, counseling, rescue, rehabilitation, interview with children, families, police. Those cases who has required legal assistance have been legally supported by coordinating with JRCN legal team. 1 case of child sexual abuse from Tikapur Kailali is being legally supported by BASE and JRCN. The victim and parents have



been provided counseling support and now the case has been registered in the District Court and being followed up by BASE's team and JRCN legal officer.

iii) **Monitor and follow up the cases:** After the response and reporting the cases the project team are regularly monitoring and follow up the status of the cases.

iv) **Child Marriage survey:** BASE organized has conducted child marriage survey in 31 Palikas of three provinces; Lumbini, Karnali and Sudurpaschim. This survey included comprehensive field visits, interviews, and coordination with local leaders and stakeholders to collect reliable and relevant data on the prevalence, causes, and trends of child marriage in the target areas. The information gathered through this work has been instrumental for future planning, advocacy, and program design. Children, Youth, Women, Survivors, Traditional/Faith leaders, Teachers, Govt. staff and house owners have been KIs for interview.



c. Campaign with government;

i) **Orient, Engage and Mobilize BASE network/members, youth and traditional leaders:** BASE has oriented and mobilized its network members. They have been helpful to coordinate with the local government and deliver campaign activities into communities and schools. They have also been empowering the communities against child marriage.



ii) **Print and Disseminate Code of Conduct on Child Marriage Prevention in the schools:** BASE has practiced disseminating Code of Conduct on Child Marriage Prevention in the schools. It has promoted accountability of SMC, PTA, School teachers and students themselves. This has impacted positively among children and stakeholders that Child Marriage should not happen. BASE disseminated code of conduct to 13 schools till December 2025.



d. Support to NGO (Project support activities);

i) **Project orientation and planning meeting to board, staff and partners:** One day project orientation and planning workshop has been conducted to BASE's board and staffs. A detail project plan has been developed and finalized to carry out the planned activities in timely and successfully manner.

Project orientation to the staff carried out on 27th October, 2025 at BASE central office, Tulsipur Dang. The concept of the project along with its goal, objectives, activities, expected outcomes and role of staff described in detail. Similarly, DIP has been prepared to execute the activities in the selected Oalikas of selected 8 districts i.e. Dang, Banke, Bardiya, Kapilvastu and Rupadehi of Lumbini Province. Kailali and Kanchanpur districts of Sudurpaschim Province and Surkhet district of Karnali Province. The team has learnt about the concept and plans of campaign to be carried out in the working areas along with case collection strategies through the orientation given by JRCN team. The team have reported to their duty stations. One project office has been operated in Dhangadhi. POs are doing coordination with the stakeholders for the project. On 31st

October, 2025, Orientation to the Child Rights Activists of Kailali and Kanchanpur districts provided by PO in Dhangadhi office and their monthly action plans have been developed.

- ii) **Project sharing meeting with MPAC (Municipal Project Advisory Committee):** BASE Organization has conducted MPAC meetings with all of those prioritized 31 Palikas of Lumbini, Karnali and Sudurpaschim province. Palika representatives, staffs and media have attended the meetings in which BASE team has share about the project deliverables. All of the Palikas have extended their cooperation towards the project to stop child marriage and ensure child protection.



4. Expected vs. Achievement of the project results

- Action oriented and productive in adding the MoU with Palikas along with case identification and management. Similarly, MPAC meetings have been useful to deliver about the project goal, objective, activities and gather collective cooperation's from the local governments and stakeholders. Most of the activities have been accelerated to contribute to project achievements.
- We have been able to stop child marriage and facilitate to justice for sexual abuse cases.
- Moreover, we have initiated Child Marriage Free Nepal Campaign to contribute to the global campaign as well as SDG for stopping child marriage from schools, communities and Nepal.
- Launch event of Child Marriage Free Nepal; 100 Days Campaign in collaboration with JRCN and National Child Rights Council was conducted in Tulsipur Dang on 28th November, 2025 with the presence of stakeholders, government officials, students, media. The event was initiated with the street drama against child marriage, candle lighting and pledging to stop child marriage.
- BASE Organization has expedited the project plans by several coordination meetings with the local governments as well as other stakeholders i.e. police, attorney officials. The project team conducted several field visits to monitor and assess the implementation of key initiatives. These visits focused on school-level campaigns, community-level campaigns, Code of Conduct dissemination, child marriage survey, meetings with Palikas, and the status of local policy drafting. Likewise, identifying the cases of child marriage and child sexual abuses has knocked the communities to make them realize those are the harmful as well as illegal practices and they are being monitored from BASE Organization. Local governments have acknowledged BASE as a prime actor to intervene on child protection which has strengthened the coordination.
- The Code of Conduct dissemination was successfully completed in 13 schools. In addition, the Child Marriage Free Nepal Campaign was carried out effectively, reaching students, teachers, local government representatives and parents in 21 schools with coverage of 3426 participants. The major accomplishments this month was the 7 successful community-level campaign events held in the villages with 172 Barghar and women participants which helped raise awareness among community members about the harmful effects of child marriage and the importance of child rights. Likewise, 1 event of campaign with 24 father leaders in Dang district was effectively interacted and pledged during the event of another project of BASE Org.
- Significant progress was also made in the area of policy development and research. Drafting of Child Protection Policies for Gurbhakot and Barahatal municipalities of Surkhet district and Ghodaghodi and Gauriganga municipalities of Kailali district moved forward, laying the

foundation for stronger local systems to protect children's rights. Meanwhile, the child marriage survey has been completed in 31 Palikas of three provinces. 51 cases of child marriage and 1 case of child sexual abuse have been identified and documented. CSA case is being legally supported for the justice.

- All major activities planned for this period advanced substantially, and the project remained on track despite some scheduling adjustments due to municipal timelines. Strong coordination with local authorities, stakeholders, and community members contributed to the continued energy.

5. Challenges

- **Many child marriage cases involve couples living together** without being formally married.
- **Coordination was not possible** due to the municipal heads being busy with internal party programs.
- Reducing child marriage is challenging because many parents consider it a normal practice.
- Limited resources to make a coverage in many Palikas created challenges in completing activities as per the planned targets.
- Community people are also reluctant to talk and respond openly.
- Increasing cold weather may affect in achieving the target of campaigns timely.

6. Lesson Learnt

- We learned the importance of planning early and being flexible when coordinating with municipal leadership to adjust for busy schedules and changing timelines.
- Regular contacts and meetings with the agencies working on child protection would contribute to meet the aim more effectively and efficiently.

7. Photos and Media coverage



G. Child Marriage Free Nepal

Project Title	Child Marriage Free Nepal	Project period in months	4 Months
Project Start Date	December 2024	Project end date	March 2025
Total Budget	NPR. 38,71,000.00	Overall Expenditure (Final)	3873800.63
Report submitted by	Pinky Dang	Report Submitted on	Feb. 23, 2026

1. Background

Child Marriage Free Nepal Campaign is a nationwide campaign to rapidly eradicate child marriage in Nepal. The campaign aimed to eradicate child marriage in Nepal through the following main activities:

- Working at the district and community level where child marriage is prevalent,
- To raise awareness among the youth about their rights,
- To raise awareness about Nepal's laws on child marriage,
- Assisting communities and families in joining social security schemes at the national and provincial levels,
- Encouraging the implementation of laws related to child marriage,
- Involve more communities in monitoring the progress of the campaign against child marriage.

The Child Marriage Free Nepal Campaign is different from other campaigns because it combines youth and community awareness with effective implementation of laws and practical support to engage and engage families in social programs.

2. Objectives of the project

- To involve everyone in the prevention of child marriage and make them to take ownership.
- Join hands in the global campaign to end child marriage.
- Working hand in hand to achieve the goal of Nepal government in child protection.
- To increase wide and large public awareness.
- Encourage the children of the future country by maintaining a common understanding about child rights.

3. Accomplished activities/Outcomes

3.1 National level Campaign: -

- On December 31, 2024, a commitment signing ceremony was held at Baluwatar in the presence of Honorable Prime Minister Mr. KP Sharma Oli to formally promote the Child Marriage Free Nepal Campaign. This marked a significant step towards ending child marriage in the country. On the occasion Honorable Lumbini Pradesh Ex-Chief Minister Mr. Delhi Bahadur Chaudhary, rights activist/lawyer Mr. Bhuvan Ribhu, child marriage victims and a team of campaigners presented a signed letter of



commitment to the Honorable Prime Minister. The Honorable Prime Minister expressed his solidarity and expressed his best wishes for the success of the campaign.

- On December 31, 2024, a formal program and commitment signing ceremony was held at Hotel Himalaya, Kupandole, Lalitpur under the chairmanship of Mr. Naval Kishore Shah Soodhi, Honorable Minister of Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare.
- A candle lighting program was held on December 31, 2024 at Bhrikutimandap, Kathmandu in the presence of students and media persons to show solidarity against child marriage.



3.2 Provincial level Campaign: -

Karnali Province

On January 24, 2025, Honorable Chief Minister participated in a formal program organized at Nepal National Secondary School, Surkhet. About 500 people participated in the event, including representatives of various government and non-government organizations, survivors of child marriage and students from nearby schools.



The program was facilitated by journalist Mr. Devendra Sejuwal and the chairmanship was held by the general secretary of BASE organization Mr. Lokjan Chaudhary. Honorable Chief Minister Yamal Kandel along with various speakers - Mr. Sachin Kumar Baduwal, Deputy Chief of District Coordination Committee, Ms. Mamta Nangal, Coordinator of Karnali Pradesh, and student and activist Ms. Pooja Adhikari gave their views on the program.

Lumbini Province

On January 27, 2025, Lumbini Province Chief Minister Honorable Mr. Chet Narayan Acharya, signed the letter of commitment at the Rapti Valley Chief Minister's office in Deukhuri, Dang and expressed his good wishes and positive commitment. A delegation of officials, employees, youth activists, people who have survived child marriage, students and media workers of BASE organization met the Honorable Chief Minister at the office.



A formal program was organized on the occasion, which was facilitated by Mr. Pinky Dangi, Program Director of BASE organization. She informed about the purpose, concept and activities of the campaign in different parts of the country.

Similarly, child marriage survivor and activist Mrs. Sunita Chidimar shared her experience and urged to end child marriage as it destroys the future of children. Chief Secretary of the State Government Mr. Baburam Adhikari and other officials were present in the program. All the representatives had signed the letter of commitment. Besides the Chief Secretary addressing the delegation, the Hon'ble Chief Minister appreciated the campaign.

Sudurpaschim Province

On January 25, 2025, Sudurpaschim Province Chief Minister, Honorable Mr. Kamal Bahadur Shah, signed a letter of commitment expressing his commitment to end child marriage. The program played a role as a powerful medium to connect BASE organization with the national and state level campaign against child marriage. Leaders of various political parties, government officials, community leaders and school children participated in the program.



During his speech, Honorable Chief Minister said "child marriage is a social malpractice" and emphasized that "it leads to suicide incidents, divorces, disruptions in education and negative impact on economic sectors." He discussed the initiatives taken by the Nepal government to end child marriage and pledged that the government of Sudurpaschim Province would welcome such initiatives, would always be ready to cooperate with the BASE organization and would take all necessary steps to strengthen the campaign. He also, urged the entire community to collectively support this important campaign and contribute towards social reform.

On January 26, 2025, a program was organized in Dhangadhi sub-metropolitan city of Kailali district for the promotion of child marriage free campaign. The program was attended by State Minister of Economic Affairs Honorable Mr. Prakash Bahadur Bam, Member of Sudurpaschim Province Assembly Honorable Tulsi Devkota, representatives of various political parties, community leaders, students, teachers, people who survived child marriage and senior citizens. Representatives of national and local non-governmental organizations (INGO/NGO) also participated in the program.

The participants emphasized that child marriage is still widespread especially in remote, backward and economically poor communities, due to lack of access to education, poverty and socio-traditional values, and emphasized the need to take immediate action to solve the problem. The event was attended by 286 people, including human rights activists, community leaders and representatives of organizations working on child rights. The event served as a means to exchange ideas, strengthen networks and unite the common struggle against child marriage.

This Province level inaugural program was a decisive moment of the Child Marriage Free Nepal Campaign, which brought stakeholders from all the provinces and across the country together on a single platform to unite in the goal of ending child marriage through joint efforts. A commitment letter was personally signed and collected by the participants during the event. Various people shared their views and experiences on child marriage in the program under the Child Marriage Free Nepal Campaign. Among them, the life stories told by those affected by child marriage were particularly heart touching.

Honorable Sher Bahadur Deuba (Former Prime Minister) signed a commitment to end child marriage:

On February 8, 2025, an inter-provincial Tharu cultural conference and festival was organized at Dangisharan Rural municipality ward no-3 Chakhaura Dang. Honorable Sher Bahadur Deuba, Chairman of Nepali Congress and former Prime Minister, signed a letter of commitment to end child marriage in the presence of thousands of people. The Chief Minister of Lumbini Province, leaders of various political parties, and representatives of the Tharu community were the key participants in the program. The

participants came from Kanchanpur, Kailali, Bardia, Banke, Surkhet, Dang, Kapilvastu, Rupandehi and Nawalparasi (Bardghat Susta West) districts.

During the signature on the pledge, former Prime Minister Deuba congratulated the BASE organization for starting the campaign against child marriage and said that he would fully support the campaign. He referred to child marriage as a criminal act and made it clear that children should not be tied to such an unjust bond. He said "Children are the future of the country, it is imperative that they get basic rights." He added that he is confident that child marriage will also be completely eradicated from the society of Nepal, referring to the fact that the BASE organization has successfully worked to end bonded labor.



3.3 School and Community Level Campaigns:

Dang District

On January 24, 2025, rallies, orientation programs and commitment letter collection programs were organized in schools and communities in different local levels of Dang district under the Child Marriage Free Nepal campaign. Students, teachers, parents, community leaders, youth and women's groups actively participated in the programs.



In the rallies, slogans against child marriage were raised and awareness messages were conveyed, while orientation programs were conducted to inform about the impact of child marriage, legal aspects, children's rights, and the role of the community. In addition, a commitment letter was personally signed and collected from the participants. These programs aimed to raise awareness against child marriage in schools and communities, convey a strong message among the youth and make everyone responsible.

Municipality	Ward no.	School	No. of participants
Tulsipur sub-metropolitan city	18	Janakalyan Higher Secondary School	300
	6	Mahendra Secondary School	200
	4	Shree Gurujajur Higher Secondary School	350
	10	Janajyoti Secondary School	65
	10	Galaxy English Secondary School	75
Ghorahi sub-metropolitan city	9	Nardevi Secondary School	190
	10	Adharbhut School	60
Dangisharan RM	7	Life Vision English School	100
	7	Ma.vi. Butaniya	100
	3	Birendra Secondary School	200
	2	Gyanodaya English School	100

Municipality	Ward no.	School	No. of participants
Rajpur RM	2	Janajyoti Secondary School	350
Lamahi Municipality	5	Shree Khim Bahadur Shah Secondary School	200
Rapti RM	6	Gyanodaya Secondary School	300
Gadhawa RM	5	Ma.Vi. Chainpur	350
Shantinagar RM	5	Lokpriya Vidhyamandir	90
	5	Adarsh Secondary School	60
Babai RM	7	Saraswoti Secondary School	250
	6	Bhanubhakta Secondary School	150

On February 25, 2025, another program was organized at Shree Siddha Ratna Secondary School located at Ghorahi sub-metropolitan ward no.10, where a rally and pledge were collected. About 250 students and teachers actively participated in the program. The participants in the rally went around the city with placards and slogans carrying anti-child marriage messages, which raised public awareness at the local level.



Around 20,000 commitment letters have been collected from various districts of all the seven provinces of the country, which shows the increasing participation and support of the campaign from the citizen level to end child marriage.

4. **Expected vs. Achievement of the project results:**

- Child marriage free campaign is included in the policy and program of FY 2082/83 of Lumbini Province government.
- Succeeded in getting commitments for prioritizing policies and programs for child marriage prevention and control in all provinces.
- It has helped in attracting the attention and responsibility of the government.
- Taking the Child Marriage Free Nepal campaign as a model, the program has been designed in other countries.
- The campaign was found to have an effective role in increasing public awareness and creating pressure.
- Another project is being prepared to be implemented.

5. **Lessons Learnt**

- Campaigning for greater public awareness is an effective medium that can expose powerful voices by involving all government, policy makers, and stakeholders.
- The campaign plays a vital role for the attention from the village community to the national and international level.
- It creates collective pressure as well as making everyone feel responsible.
- It is necessary to continue and follow up the campaign and document its effects.

6. **Statements of the Stakeholders:**

- a) **Honorable Minister Nawal Kumar Shah Sudi of the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens said:** "The campaign has started and it will spread all over Nepal. I myself and our ministry are moving hand in hand in this great campaign for the safety of children. Laws are not enough, it is also necessary to implement them. We must now put the law into practice and not limit it to paper. For that, the time has come to implement it at all levels."
- b) **Honorable Yamlal Kandel, Chief Minister of Karnali Province:** "Karnali Province is a province with a high rate of child marriage, where remoteness is a major challenge. There is a lack of adequate policies and guidelines to address this issue, which needs to be prepared now. I pledge to take ownership of this campaign and emphasize the preparation of necessary policies and guidelines to all government agencies, so that child marriage can be stopped. This campaign is very important in terms of spreading awareness among the communities."
- c) **The statement of Honorable Chet Narayan Acharya, Chief Minister of Lumbini Province:** "I welcome the delegation including the students and wish for the success of this campaign being conducted across Nepal. As of now, Lumbini Province has the highest rate of child marriage, which has various reasons behind it. One of them is lack of empowerment, and the other is misconceptions and traditional thinking - according to which some rural areas still believe that 'girls should be married before menstruation'. As this campaign has started and is being spearheaded by BASE in Lumbini Province, I would like to suggest that First of all, public awareness should be given priority."
- d) **The statement of Honorable Kamal Bahadur Shah, Chief Minister of Sudurpaschim Province:** "I would like to emphasize that child marriage is a social malpractice, which leads to suicide incidents, divorce, education and negative effects on the economic side. The Government of Nepal is implementing various initiatives to control child marriage and the government of Sudurpaschim Province has been welcoming such initiatives. We are always ready to cooperate with the BASE organization and will adopt all necessary measures to make this campaign more effective. I request the entire community to come together, support this important movement and contribute to the improvement of society."
- e) **The statement of State Minister of Economic Affairs of Sudurpaschim Province, Honorable Prakash Bahadur Bam:** "Child marriage free campaign is really a commendable work. Child marriage is a bad practice in our society. Being married before the internal organs are physically developed seriously affects the health of children. According to the law of Nepal, the minimum age of marriage is set at 20 years. I am committed to cooperate in this campaign as the Minister of State for Economic Affairs. Also, all levels and sections of the society should unite in this campaign. I urge you to be a part and support with solidarity."
- f) **Honorable Tulsi Devkota, a member of the Sudurpaschim Province Assembly, said:** "The law alone is not enough to end child marriage. It is a violation of children's rights to marry girls when they are not mentally and physically ready. Marrying at a young age increases the chances of premature death of both mother and daughter. Therefore, parents and children need to understand this seriously. The government of Sudurpaschim Province is always ready to cooperate and move forward jointly to end child marriage. We are committed to making Nepal a child marriage-free country."
- g) **Mr. Baburam Adhikari, Chief Secretary of Lumbini Province, said:** "This campaign is an important and useful initiative, and to carry it forward effectively, I suggest that at least one volunteer should be mobilized as an activist or monitor in each ward, who can inform and submit reports on the incidents of child marriage to the relevant authorities. A network of volunteers is very necessary to discourage and end child marriage permanently. A one-time campaign cannot solve the problem, it should be conducted continuously."
- h) **Mr. Sachin Baduwal, Deputy Head of District Coordination Committee of Surkhet District, Karnali Province said:** "This campaign needs to be extended to all the districts of Karnali Province, especially in those remote areas where child marriage is the most prevalent. There is a

need for mutual coordination between organizations working on child rights, so that the effectiveness of the campaign can be increased and concrete results can be obtained."

- i) **Child marriage survivor Ms. Sunita Chidimar (Nepalgunj, Lumbini Pradesh) says:** "I am a child marriage survivor myself, so I have bitter experience of early marriage. I got married at the age of five and became a mother at the age of fifteen. I barely survived the pain of childbirth. I had to suffer mentally and physically, and many other girls have also suffered. To be is to fall into hell it ruins life. So, I make a humble request to everyone: Please end child marriage from our country."
- j) **Child marriage survivor Ms. Sushila Chaudhary (Dhangadhi, Sudurpaschim Pradesh) says:** "I got married at the age of 14. Now I am 18 years old and I have two small children. In our family, my husband, father-in-law and I live with two children. My husband is in India. Sometimes it is very difficult to find time to take care of the children or go to work. My father-in-law is old and cannot work, so he takes care of the children and I go to work."

7. Photos and Media coverage



National Campaign inauguration session



Provincial Level Campaign Program

H. Expanding Provincial Policy Network (EPPN) Project

Project Title	Expanding Provincial Policy Network (EPPN)	Reporting period with months	January to December 2025 (12 months)
Project Start Date	January 2025	Project end date	December 2025
Total Budget	7,177,437.00	Overall Expenditure (Final)	6,652,806.99
Report submitted by	Indra Bahadur Chaudhary	Report Submitted on	February 6, 2026

2. Background

Nepal government has practices on new government structures of Federalism. For the effective implementation of the federalism the level of governments has formulated many acts and policies. There are some acts yet to be prepared, amendment and introduced and some of the important policies has been made with minimum engagement of the concern target groups and stakeholders. There is lacking on the effective implementation of the policies, guideline and act.

The Lumbini province is very ethnically diverse province. The total population of Lumbini is 5,122,078 of which the number of males is 2,454,408 (47.92 %) and the number of females is 2,667,670 (52.08 %). The largest group is the Magar with 14.58%. The second largest is the Tharu indigenous with 14.30%. The Khas/Chhetri (14.24%), Hill Brahmin (11.27%), Kami (6.01%), Damai (1.93%), Kurmi (1.73%), and others most vulnerable and marginalized community are 22.6 % (CBS, 2021). The most marginalized and vulnerable groups in Lumbini province are always away from main stream of development. They never get a platform to put their voices. They have fewer opportunities in political participation and always discriminated from the state. They have nominal access to the resources of the government and few of the get the opportunity for the participation and empowerment.

BASE is implementing the Strengthening Sub-National Governance Program as part of the Expanding Provincial Policy Network initiative in Lumbini Province, with technical and financial support from The Asia Foundation (TAF). The project, with a total budget of NPR 6925659.00, aims to enhance the participation of marginalized and indigenous communities such as women, gender and sexual minorities, people with disabilities, youths, Tharu, Madhesi, Dalits, Chidimar, Natuwa, Badi, Gandharva, Pasi, Kori, Soni, Majhi, Pattharkatta, Kumal, Raidas, Kusunda, Teli in provincial planning budgeting and policy-making processes. These policy network groups are informally structured to represent community concerns and advocate for their inclusion in provincial policies, laws, and directives. The network comprises political party members, human rights activists, legal advocates, journalists, Dalit representatives, women's rights activists, persons with disabilities (PWDs), gender and sexual minorities, religious minorities, traditional leaders, and other civil society representatives.

The policy dialogue process follows a structured approach, beginning with policy gaps, issue analysis based on the 5P framework (Problem, People, Process, Power, and Policy), followed by stakeholder selection, coordination meetings, the main policy dialogue, and follow-up activities. Policy analysis and Issue analysis is conducted using insights from context analysis research, stakeholder consultations, and media sources. Additionally, coordination and consultation meetings with local and provincial

governments are ongoing. A key component of the project is the capacity building of network members and staff, which follows a standardized approach. BASE remains committed to addressing sensitive issues responsibly and ensuring effective information dissemination on government priority issues while continuously refining strategies based on lessons learned and emerging challenges.

3. Executive summary (Max. one page)

The Expanding Provincial Policy Network project has successfully achieved to conduct 78 events of dialogues, follow up, meeting, initial coordination, sharing and capacity building workshop with the maximums engagement of the stakeholders, where 921 stakeholders were engaged, in policy dialogue, fostering coordination between province government, marginalized community, local governments, community-based organization, and civil society. Among the total stakeholders 790 were men, 128 women, 3 from Gender and Sexual minorities. In terms of ethnic representation 427 were Brahmin/Chhetri, janjati- 374, Dalit- 50, and 70 belongs to other marginalized and minorities groups.

From the facilitation of dialogue process 5 different policies, act and guideline (Formation of Act for the institutionalization of the Tharu community's customary system law, value and good practice, Annual planning guideline, formation process of health insurance coordination committee guideline, draft policy of Cultural Tourism and the suggestion committee report document which include the problem identification, actionable recommendations and action plan with responsibility of the tires of government regarding the Karnali River basin management had handed to the Lumbini Province Government and Sudurpaschim Province Government, regarding this report the chief of the Bardiya National park has forward the process of amended of the guideline 2053) formation and reformation of Lumbini province has been drafted and submitted to the respective line agencies for the further process.

During the year 2025 4 new issues (Formation of the guideline, act of Gaushala cattle management act of Lumbini province and Formation of Act for the institutionalization of the Tharu community's customary system law, value and good practice, Revenue management process of Lumbini and the Analysis of the present situation after the Gen-Z movement) have been identified in government priority area to identify policy gaps, leading to targeted interventions. The analysis has been held in 5P (Profile/Problem, Process, People, Power, Policy) process for the dialogue

In this period dialogue has been held on total 9 different issues of Lumbini province priority areas like (Formation of act on Cattle Management, formation of Matawa Barghar Bhalmansa Act of Lumbini province, Cattle management Gaushala operation, Revenue management process of Lumbini province, consumer rights protection management in Lumbini province, Cultural Tourism act development in Lumbini Province, effective implementation of health insurance in Lumbini Province, ensuring the participation of Marginalized Group in Planning process, Karnali River-basin management facilitation and policy support and the Analysis of the present Situation of Lumbini after the Gen-Z groups movement.

Moreover, BASE has strengthened the capacity of the 39 persons (26 men, 12 women, and 1 individual from a gender and sexual minority, 12 Dalit, 12 Janajati, 13 Brahmin/Chhetri, 2 from other minority community and 3 were from person with disability) of provincial policy network group members from marginalized and minorities groups and support group member from parliament members under this

project. In the training, thematic wise committee members of Lumbini province and policy network groups member enhanced their skills and deepening their understanding of policy network, constitutional rights of marginalized community, stakeholder engagement, supportive evidence for lobbying for rights including the role of communities in shaping policy, explored the roles, strengths, and impact of coordination and networking group members and support provided by the support groups for motivating participants to engage actively in social activities have been acknowledge.

From the policy level dialogues has supporting to the outcome 1 of the SNGP IR 1.1. Dispute resolution systems and mechanisms are operational across the three tiers of government, IR 1.2. Increase clarity on roles and functions across three tiers of governments and increased the coordination among the governments and IR 1.3. Intergovernmental coordination mechanisms are operational across the three tiers of government.

4. Project Goal and Objectives of the project

Goal: The policy formation, budgeting and planning process of Lumbini province government will be inclusive leading to increased coordination and collaboration between the province government, non-governments organization and provincial level stakeholders (civil society, private sector, associations, cooperatives, unions, and community organizations).

Following are the main objectives of the project.

- ✓ To support inclusive policy formation/reformulation in Lumbini province through the engagement of most marginalized groups, state actors, stakeholders, private sectors, who previously not actively involved including the local government's representative.
- ✓ To strengthen the capacity of the provincial stakeholders (CSOs, CBOs, private sector and marginalized groups) through the awareness in policy formulation/reformulation and effective service delivery mechanism.

5. Methodology and Approaches:

The project will work closely with Lumbini province government, line ministries, departments, thematic parliament committees, provincial planning commission, directorates, local governments, Civil Society Organizations, network from marginalized communities and minority groups. The project will be focused on the policy deliberation of provincial government priorities area and sector.

Before the policy discussion issues and the policies gaps will be analyzed using existing practices, mini research through one to one meeting, consultation, coordination with related stakeholders which will build the close relation and trust building on the facilitation process. The policy dialogue process follows a structured approach, beginning with policy gaps, issue analysis based on the 5P framework (Problem, People, Process, Power, and Policy), followed by stakeholder selection, coordination meetings, the main policy dialogue, and follow-up activities. Policy analysis and Issue analysis is conducted using insights from context analysis research, desktop review of the secondary data, stakeholder consultations, and media sources.

In the support of the expert and the facilitator the project staffs prepared the concept note (Paper presentation) related to the issues. The paper presentations were held by the expert during policy dialogue including the policy gaps, finding, and potential solution. The presented paper has been distributed to the participants of the policy dialogue for the fruitful feedback. The policy dialogues have been organized in both interactive and panel discussion. The setting arrangements have been considered as the Multi-stakeholder dialogue setting in round including the panel discussion as needed. All the plan activities led by the facilitators, staffs and the expert in the priority area of the provincial government including the issue and policies related to or focused to women, gender and sexual minorities, people with disabilities, youths, Madhesi, Dalits. All the events of coordination, discussion and consultation archived and documented for the proper implementation of the decision made. Before the conduction of policy discussion, the project staffs have ensured the GEDSI friendly venue as well as participation. In the dialogue program at last, the commitments, decisions, comment and feedback from the stakeholders, government line agencies and other participants has been collected and documented. It has handover to the concern stakeholders. Based on the commitments and decision made during the policy dialogue BASE project staffs and facilitator did the follow up with the concern authorities for the proper implementation and lobby and advocacy.

6. Accomplished activities/Outcomes:

5.1 Project Start-up meeting:

The BASE Organization held a start-up meeting for the Expanding Provincial Policy Network (EPPN) Program on May 19, 2025 at project office Tulsipur Dang. The main objectives of the meeting was to update project staff, senior staff, and members of the Executive Committee on the project's goals, objectives, and planned activities, establish a common understanding and collaborative environment for implementing the project activities and ensure regular monitoring and coordination by the Executive Committee members for the effective execution of the program. The meeting was attended by project facilitators, staff, and senior staffs from the BASE Organization, and members of the Executive Committee. A total of 22 people participated, including 16 men and 6 women. Of the attendees, 3 were from the Brahmin/Chhetri community and 19 were from the Janajati community. This meeting played a crucial role in ensuring clarity, coordination, and accountability in the program's implementation.

5.2 Regular meeting of Dialogue Forum and Provincial Policy Network:

The provincial dialogue forum, policy network groups and policy support group's 4 events of regular meeting were organized to facilitate discussion on major provincial issues and promote participation from the marginalized and minorities group including the government representatives and stakeholders. A total of **66 people** participated in the meeting, consisting of 49 men, 16 women and 1 from gender and sexual minorities group. According to the ethnic breakdown of the participants 26 from the Brahmin/Chhetri community, 14 from the Dalit community, 15 from the Janajati community and 11 were from other marginalized communities and from the total 66 participants 4 were from people with disability. The provincial policy network meetings played a crucial role in highlighting important provincial burning issues, situation update, strengthening coordination and cooperation between government representatives, stakeholders, dialogue facilitators, and assisting in the identification and addressing of issues, policy gaps and policy advocacy for from marginalized communities. This type of dialogue has helped to include the

interests and voices of marginalized communities in policy and decision-making processes. It has also contributed to increasing the active participation of group members, creating a structure and space for dialogue, and preparing a common platform for advocacy on various issues of the target groups.

5.3 Initial Coordination Meetings:

The BASE Organization conducted a total of four initial coordination and consultation meeting with the aim of identifying major issues observed in Lumbini Province and strengthening relationships among stakeholders. In the coordination meeting a total of 31 stakeholders participated among them 25 men and 6 women were participated. According to the ethnic representation, 16 were from the Brahmin/Chhetri community, 11 from the Janajati community, 3 from the Dalit community and 1 from other marginalized groups were presented. This meeting was instrumental in identifying existing problems within different sectors of Lumbini Province and helped to build trust, foster coordination, analyze issues, and create a collaborative environment among stakeholders in preparation for a policy dialogue. During the coordination meeting, different ministers, secretaries, line agencies, sectors committee members, parliament members of the Lumbini province and the stakeholders from private sectors and marginalized group were presented.

5.4 Issues Analysis meeting:

BASE has conducted 29 events of issue analysis meetings to identify the government priority area, issues and policy gaps in different four issues. During this reporting period 4 different issues were identified for the further dialogue process. These issues are the high priority issues of Lumbini Province government. During the issue analysis 5P (Profile/Problem, Process, People, Power, Policy) analysis process have been applied to identify the government priority area, gaps and problem of the issues including the policies gaps regarding the different issues. In the issue analysis meetings total 98 participants, (94 men and 4 women) were participants presented. Among them 79 were Brahmin/Kshetri 2 were Dalits and 17 were from Janajatis and other other marginalized group. From the total 98 participants 1 was from people with disability. Furthermore, reports identifying various policy gaps and problems were prepared and submitted to the provincial government. These analytical discussions were not limited to stakeholder meetings but also included report reviews, secondary data collection, and broader analysis. The Issues analysis and finding have been documented and shared with the Lumbini province government's line agencies, committee and ministry. To address this finding of the issue analysis Lumbini province government had made commitment to build the policy and guidelines and further dialogue process. The project has facilitated to analysis the Lumbini province 4 different priority issues in 5P ((Profile/Problem, Process, People, Power, Policy) process which is given below.

- Cattle management issue of Lumbini province,
- Formation of Act for the institutionalization of the Tharu community's customary law value and good practice
- Revenue management process and gaps of the Lumbini province in internal revenue generation
- Present situation of Lumbini province after the Gen-z movement)

5.5 Policy Dialogue on the Lumbini province government priority area and issues:

During this year 2025 2025 BASE Organization has successes to conducted 32 **policy dialogues** on four major different issues and topics of Lumbini province government's priority areas. These dialogues brought together marginalized communities, policymakers, civil society, and other stakeholders to discuss, interact, and engage on important policy-related matters. **Before the dialogue process the raised issues have been analysis** based on the "5 Ps" framework (Problem, People, Process, Power, and Policy). The policy dialogues have been conducted in interaction and panel discussion as well as an exchange of experiences among relevant stakeholders. In the dialogue the project team have facilitating the issue by presenting the analysis and research reports including the gaps of the policy among the stakeholders. The project team has provided the common platform and space for the dialogue on different policies. During these dialogues, participants were able to know the status of the related issues, discuss policy gaps, and identify weaknesses. In the dialogue the views and voice of the stakeholder have been given high priority and documented it and the facilitator drive the dialogue to take the commitment from the stakeholders.

These policy dialogues have played a crucial role in promoting meaningful conversation and ensuring inclusive participation in the policy-making process. According to the issues the dialogue has been facilitated in the close coordination with province governments, Ministry of chief, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Economic affair and planning, planning commission, Ministry of health and the local level governments of Lumbini and Sudurpaschim province. As a result of these dialogues, the Lumbini Province governments, Sudurpaschim province government and the local level government of the respective provinces have started to recognize its roles and tried to work in the plan and decision made during the dialogues. These can be considered a significant achievement of the projects. During this reporting period the policy dialogue has been held on the issue given below.

- Karnali River-basin management facilitation and policy support dialogue has been held with 8 Events. In this issue dialogue has been facilitated more than 60 events and in 2025, 7 events of dialogue have been facilitated.
- Formation of Act for the institutionalization of the Tharu community's customary law value and good practice. The project has facilitated 12 events of policy dialogue with the related stakeholders.
- Cattle management issue of Lumbini province. The project has facilitated 6 events of dialogue in this issue.
- Revenue management process and gaps of the Lumbini province in internal revenue generation. The project has facilitated 7 events of dialogue in this issue.

In the policy dialogue process in total 501 stakeholders have been engaged among them 444 were male and 57 were women participants. According to the caste categories 204 were from Brahmin Chhetri, 7 were dalits, 247 were Janajaties and 43 were from other marginalized groups. The policy dialogue programs have made a significant contribution to strengthening the space for inclusive policy-making in Lumbini Province. They have raised the voices and issues of marginalized communities and provided support to build cooperation and close relation among stakeholders, different levels of governments, and various thematic sectors. This marks a meaningful step toward sustainable policy reform in Lumbini Province.

5.6 Policy Dialogue on follow up issues:

During the year 2025 BASE Organization has conducted 7 events of follow up dialogue on different issues and topics of Lumbini province government's priority areas. In which the BASE team has continually facilitating through dialogue process. These dialogues brought together marginalized communities, policymakers, civil society, and other stakeholders to discuss, interact, and engage on important policy-related matters. During the follow up dialogue it came to know that some significant change and achievement have been seen. The follow up policy dialogue have been held on the issue given below.

- Formation of Act for the institutionalization of the Tharu community's customary law value and good practice.
- Policy Dialogue on Participation of Marginalized Group in planning process.
- Policy Dialogue on Effective Implementation of health insurance in Lumbini Province
- Policy Dialogue on Cultural Tourism development in Lumbini Province
- Policy dialogue on consumer Rights protection management in Lumbini province

In the follow up dialogue total 50 stakeholders were engaged among them 45 were male, 4 were female 1 were from gender and sexual minorities. According to the ethnic representation 20 were Brahmin/Kshetri, 6 were Dalits, 18 were Janajatis and 6 were from other minorities and marginalized groups.

5.7 Partners sharing meetings:

During this reporting period total 4 events of partners sharing meeting have been conducted among the donor agency TAF, BASE and SAHARA Nepal. During the sharing meeting the partner's organization shared the outcomes, learning and challenges of the projects. Likewise, in the partners meeting the Asia foundation has presented the program activities, targets, goal and expected outcome of the project and working modality. Likewise, the Asia Foundation has also oriented the partner's organization on reporting template, data management, documentation process and monitoring plan with GEDSI perspectives.

During the partners sharing meeting total 61 people were presented from BASE, The Asia Foundation and SAHARA Nepal and among them 44 were male and 17 were female. Likewise, according to the ethnic representatives 39 were from Brahmin/kshetri community, 4 were Dalits community, 12 were Janajaty community and 6 were from other marginalized and minorities group.

5.8 Capacity Building Training to Provincial Policy Network members and support group members

BASE has conducted a workshop and training session on the importance of federalism, social inclusion and governance system of province government including the policy advocacy and inclusive planning process, The training has content the public policy process for the provincial policy network groups members, and support group members where representatives from Provincial Policy network groups members from marginalized group, minorities, people with in danger, dalits, and other target groups (Natawa, Chidimar, LGBTIQ, religious minorities Musalman, Kusunda, Tharu, Senior Citizen, Gandharba, Badi, Kumal, people with Disability, Sonaha, Yadav). After the training the policy support group has been formed including the Lumbini province parliament members (Chairperson Social Development Committee Lumbini, Parliament members and members of economic, industry and tourism

committee, members of the law committee of Lumbini, Journalist, Advocate Sambad Samuha members to provide the support to the marginalized and minorities groups for the policy advocacy.

The primary objectives of the event were to understand about the process of marginalized, minorities, and people with disability situation update and analysis, Civic Engagement processes and models. How can they actively participate in the events like policy dialogue, planning process and lobby and advocacy do. Likewise, in the training analysis the situation of the participation of the marginalized and minorities communities in local and provincial level governments. Economic status of the marginalized community (traditional occupations, access to land, education, health and employment status, sources of livelihood etc.), Socio-cultural problems and state of community campaign struggles and resistance.

They were informed on constitutional rights for marginalized communities, enhance understanding of the provincial planning process and the role of communities in shaping policy, explored the roles, strengths, and impact of coordination and networking group members and support provided by the support groups for motivating participants to engage actively in social activities. A total of 39 participants attended the workshop, including 26 men, 12 women, and 1 individual from a gender and sexual minority. The participants represented various communities: 12 Dalit, 12 Janajati, 13 Brahmin/Chhetri, 2 from other minority community and 3 were from person with disability.

5.9 Monitoring from SWC.

During this year 2025 monitoring from Social Welfare Council (SWC) has been held under the activities of EPPN project. The SWC monitoring team was headed by Dr. Bimal Bist and the Devika Gharti Magar was the team member. During the SWC monitoring the team has visited to the Lumbini province, Honorable Minister Janmajaya Timilsena Minister of Social Development, Lumbini province Planning commission member Bhuban Chaudhary, joint secretary of ministry of social development Sharada Belbase, Bardiya National Park Chief Dr. Ashok Kumar Ram, Depesh Tharu the Mayor of Rajapur, Ganesh Chaudhary the President of Janaki RM, Sunita Chidimar and Shanti Sonaha the provincial policy network members. The monitoring has been held on the activities carried out by the EPPN program in different issue and the facilitation process of dialogue and coordination and collaboration like supporting to the Lumbini province government regarding the formation of Tharu Costomary law of Matawa, Barghar, Bhalmansa Act, outcome, progress under the EPPN project mostly in the issue of GESI policy of Lumbini province, capacity building after joining with the BASE, Sambad Samuha and Network groups and opportunity, progress update and facilitation process of the Sambad Samuha of BASE under the EPPN project regarding the issue of Karnali River's basin management, Budget mobilization after the dialogue and the positive change comes in public regarding the National Park and the coordination held among the local level governments. The SWC team also observed the BASE governance system, documentation process, bylaw and the policies developed and provided their inputs regarding the program and organizational operation for sustainability.

6. Expected vs. Achievement of the project results

During the year 2025 some significant changes and achievement have been seen in the policy level of provincial government through the dialogue process. The major achievements and commitment made during the dialogue has been given below.

- From the facilitation of dialogue process 4 different policies, act and guideline (Formation of Act for the institutionalization of the Tharu community's customary system law, value and good practice, Annual planning guideline, formation process of health insurance coordination committee guideline, draft policy of Cultural Tourism) of Lumbini province has been drafted and submitted to the respective line agencies for the further process.
- During the year 2025 total 921 stakeholders has been engaged in policy level dialogue, among them 790 were men, 128 women, 3 from Gender and Sexual minorities. In terms of ethnic representation 427 were Brahmin/Chhetri, janjati- 374, Dalit- 50, and 70 belongs to other marginalized and minorities groups.
- During the year 2025 4 new issues (Formation of the guideline, act of Gaushala cattle management act of Lumbini province and Formation of Act for the institutionalization of the Tharu community's customary system law, value and good practice, Revenue management process of Lumbini and the Analysis of the present situation after the Gen-Z movement) have been identified in government priority area to identify policy gaps, leading to targeted interventions. The analysis has been held in 5P (Profile/Problem, Process, People, Power, Policy) process for the dialogue.
- The project has strengthen the capacity of the 39 persons (26 men, 12 women, and 1 individual from a gender and sexual minority, 12 Dalit, 12 Janajati, 13 Brahmin/Chhetri, 2 from other minority community and 3 were from person with disability) of provincial policy network group members from marginalized and minorities groups and support group member from parliament members, subject wise committee members of Lumbini province on enhancing their skills and deepening their understanding of policy network, constitutional rights of marginalized community, stakeholder engagement, supportive evidence for lobbying for rights including the role of communities in shaping policy, explored the roles, strengths, and impact of coordination and networking group members and support provided by the support groups for motivating participants to engage actively in social activities through training and workshop and regular meetings.
- **Lumbini Province act for the institutionalization of the Tharu community's customary system law, value and good practice.**
 - The Formation of the Matawa/Barghar/Bhalmansa act has supporting to the outcome 1 of the SNGP IR 1, 2. Increase clarity on roles and functions across three tiers of governments and increased the coordination among the governments.
 - The Matawa/Barghar/Bhalmansa policy 2082 had been handover to the Minister of Social Development Honorable Janmajaya Timilsina and Secretary of Ministry of Social Development of Lumbini province including the feedback of the stakeholders.
 - The ministry of social development has got the agreement from the ministry of economic affair and planning for the formation of Matawa/Barghar/Bhalmansa policy 2082.
 - The Lumbini Province Council of Ministers has granted theoretical approval to the Matawa/Barghar/Bhalmansa Bill. Similarly, the Law Committee has already passed the bill, and the Ministry of Social Development has submitted it to the Office of the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers for the next steps in the process

- The dialogue has been building the close relation between the level of governments (provincial and Local) including the marginalized tharu community in the formation of the policy and planning.
 - It is making the enable environment for the protections and prevention of the tharu democratic system, culture, social traditions, costumes, art, culture and language in local and province level and their reorganization and identity.
 - The main achievement of the dialogue on Matawa/Barghar/Bhalmansa/Kakandar/ Mukhiya act that the basis has been laid for the implementation of the policy regarding the determination of special, protected or autonomous areas based on the identity of indigenous peoples in the constitution of Nepal 2072.
- **Cattle management process of Lumbini Province**
 - Policy dialogue has built the close relation, linkage and common understanding with the level of governments Local and province government including the district level government bodies, private sector, religious monuments, farmers and service providers related to concern stakeholder of livestock.
 - After the dialogue province government has made commitment to draft the Gaushala Operation Act or guideline by documenting the comment and feedback of the stakeholders provided in dialogue as suggested by the report prepared by the suggestion committee.
 - The local level government has made realization on the requirement of the support of the province government to provide the common effort in management of the cattle through the formation of Gaushala Operation act for regulation.
 - Public Safety Responsibility: As numerous citizens lose their lives in road accidents caused by stray cattle every year, managing them is a core responsibility of the Provincial Government.
 - Inter-Governmental Collaboration: The Provincial Government should strengthen legal frameworks and make coordination with the Federal and Local governments result-oriented to address this issue.
 - Essential Services in Shelters: There is a critical shortage of fodder, water, manpower, and veterinary health services in existing cow shelters; the Provincial Government must address these gaps immediately.
 - Legal Reforms for Private/Religious Shelters: Since the legal basis for government investment in privately or religiously managed cow shelters is currently unclear, necessary laws must be amended or drafted to create a conducive investment environment for these institutions.
 - Three-Tier Coordination: Effective management of stray cattle requires seamless coordination and cooperation among all three levels of government (Federal, Provincial, and Local).
 - Policy Reforms: Comprehensive policy reforms are required to address the systemic issues surrounding stray cattle management.
 - Infrastructure Development: There is an urgent need to build infrastructure for stray cattle management, including shelters, electricity and water supply, donation collection points, waste/manure collection tanks, and storage for straw and fodder.
 - Cultural and Behavioral Change: It is essential to foster an environment where cows are respected culturally and religiously, and to promote a positive change in public behavior regarding the treatment and abandonment of cattle.
 - **Revenue management process of Lumbini**
 - From the policy dialogue linkage and common understanding has been built among the level of governments (Local and province government) including the district level government bodies,

private sector, and service providers related to the revenue management process for the sustainability of the federal system.

- Integrated Planning: There is a need for an integrated master plan to control the current situation of small budget sizes, influence from powerful individuals, low tax awareness, and weak standards.
- Federal Coordination: Revenue sharing and project formulation must reflect the spirit of the federal structure, requiring seamless coordination between the three levels of government (Federal, Provincial, and Local).
- Policy Transparency: Citizen participation in budget formulation and transparency in policy-making must be increased.
- Large-Scale Projects: Small, individual-centered "fragmented projects" should be stopped in favor of large-scale, high-impact strategic projects.
- Capital Expenditure: The province must significantly improve its capacity to increase and manage capital expenditure.
- Potential Revenue Areas: The province can collect revenue from house rent tax, vehicle tax, entertainment tax, advertising tax, business tax, agricultural product sales tax, and vocational training fees.
- Agricultural Tax: As a sole authority of the province, the agricultural tax system must be well-organized and managed.
- Social Media & E-commerce: Businesses operating via social media must be brought into the tax net, and quality control measures must be implemented.
- Consultancy & Cooperatives: Consulting firms and cooperative institutions must be regulated and brought into the tax bracket.
- Hospital Income: Income generated by hospitals should be deposited into the Provincial Consolidated Fund to ensure accounting transparency, rather than being spent directly through Development Committees.
- Medical Sector: Many medical businesses remain outside the tax net; they must be identified and registered for taxation.
- River and Forest Products: Policies regarding the extraction and management of river-based materials (sand, gravel, stone) and forest products must be improved to prevent waste.
- National Parks & Mines: Policies should be amended to allow for the sustainable extraction and sale of unused riverbed materials and minerals located within forest and national park areas.
- Lumbini's Core Resources: Since mines and river-based materials are the primary revenue sources for Lumbini Province, legal hurdles must be cleared to facilitate their extraction and sale.
- One-Door System: The double taxation system currently affecting community forests, industries, and tourism must be discouraged in favor of a "One-Door" (Single Window) tax system.
- Broadening the Base: Both Provincial and Local governments should focus on lowering tax rates while broadening the tax base (taxing more people/entities at a lower rate).
- Real Estate Monitoring: Monitoring of "Open Secret" practices in land registration (undervaluation) should be increased; it is suggested to lower the tax rate to encourage honest reporting.
- Auctioning Government Assets: Provisions should be simplified to allow for the easy sale/auction of damaged or unused equipment sitting in government offices.
- Religious Tourism: Policy frameworks must be developed to generate and collect revenue from religious and cultural tourism sites.
- Public Spaces: Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs/Work-plans) must be created for the management of public parks and gardens.
- Transport Permits: Three-wheeled vehicles (autos/e-rickshaws) should be provided with "inter-municipality" route permits, and the jurisdictional overlap between Provincial and Local governments regarding their taxation must be clarified.

- Tax Literacy: The Provincial Government should conduct regular "Policy Dialogues" and awareness programs to increase tax literacy among the general public.
 - Incentives for Taxpayers: Citizens who pay their taxes regularly and honestly should be provided with incentives or public recognition.
 - Legislative Harmony: Conflicting laws between the Federal and Provincial acts (specifically regarding fines, penalties, and forest revenue) must be amended and harmonized immediately.
 - Investment Climate: The Provincial Government must create a business-friendly environment to attract private sector investment.
 - Revenue Leakage: Strict measures must be taken to stop revenue leakage at customs offices and land revenue (Malpot) offices.
- **Dialogue on Karnali River Management issue:**
 - Ownership/kinship have been taken by both province stakeholders regarding the Issues. Commitments have been made by stakeholders to conserve and sustainably utilize Karnali River resources.
 - The Suggestion Committee had prepared the report document which include the problem identification, actionable recommendations and action plan with responsibility of the tiers of government and handed it to the Lumbini Province Government and Sudurpaschim Province Government.
 - The report of the suggestion committee has concluded that multi-dimensional strategy to adopt the overall protection, sustainable use and management of Karnali River.
 - In the report of the suggestions Committee as suggested that it is possible to make a special plan to keep the risk of Karnali River. Bardiya National Park with a nine room with water flowers have to be removed from nine-flowers of about 818,750 square of river resource from the river side.
 - It needs to change the water flow of the Karnali River near Chisapani area and reduce the water follow of the Karnali and increased the water follow in Geruwa River with 50/50%. The water management for irrigation projects including the Bhduikula and Ranijamara is urgently needed; recommendations are made for the budget management in both provinces.
 - The Rani, Jamara's Kulariya irrigation dam or structure should be formulated to strengthen the current budget management project to strengthen the water resource management of the area and implement the necessary budget through the water resources and irrigation-projects office to implement it.
 - The use of river sources of the Karnali River and protection of the Karnali River, there is a detailed study and survey to search for long-term solutions. According to the Lamkichuha area of Bardiya, Bajapur areas and Kailali, Janaki area of Kailali, the extensive consultant planning should be prepared to be a pattern of anti-human civilization, environmental and development.
 - Honorable Chief Ministers of Lumbini and Sudurpaschim provinces respectively Chet Narayran Acharya and Kamal Bahadur Shah said the problem of the resource management regarding the Karnali river at Bardiya National Park which are possible to solve from the province level will be implement immediately and the problem which are not possible at province level he would take initiative with the federal government for the long-term implementation. The governments of Lumbini and Sudurpaschim Provinces will move forward cooperating with it's the key stakeholders for the effective implementation of the reports. They also directed to study the report to the principal Secretaries and the secretary of chief Ministers for the proper implementation of the finding.

- The chief of the Bardiya National park has forwarded the process of amended of the guideline 2053 and regulation of Bardiya National Park one time to the federal government for the diversion of the water follow in Geruwa river.
- **Achievement from dialogue on participation of marginalized community people in Provincial Planning process:**
 - Eakikit Yojana Tarjuma guideline has been drafted by provincial planning commission and submitted to the ministry of Economic affair for further process. It needs to have more dialogue on this issue to take it in provincial assembly.
 - According to the Secretary of the Planning Commission Mr. Khim Bahadur Kanwar, one level of discussion has been held with the secretaries regarding the further process of the formation of annual planning guideline of Lumbini province. They are planning to work in the guideline after the completion of province government budgeting process.
 - According to the Vice chairman of the Planning commission Mr. Dilliraj Aryal, the subject included in the planning guideline some of the issues are directly implementing in the direction of Honorable Chief minister Chet Narayan Acharya. As the recommendation of Planning commission like the projects budgeting of large amount rather than the typical small projects.
 - From the dialogue the target groups come to know that from the previous year dialogue Lumbini province government has allocated more than 69000000 budgets cording the name of different marginalized groups Badi, Natuwa, Chidiyamar, Sonaha, Pattharkatta, Gender and sexual minorities and other marginalized Community on different heading to create the livelihood opportunities in FY 2080/2081.
 - The marginalized groups were aware on the time frame of the planning and the government planning process (local and provincial) and they have made commitment to participate in field level planning process.
- **Achievement from Policy Dialogue on Health Insurance in Lumbini Province:**
 - Province government has realized its role in the sector of health insurance such as formation of provincial coordination committee.
 - After Dialogue, Lumbini province government and Health insurance board has undergone meetings for formation process of health insurance coordination committee for this the Ministry of health has prepared necessary regulation and sent to the ministry of Economic Affairs for approval. However, it has been reported that the ministry of Economic Affair has not been able to move forward. The regular coordination meeting has been among the Provincial government and Health insurance board for the transformation and establishment of the health insurance board office in Bhalubang from the Butwal.
 - The Ministry of health of Lumbini province has made the decision and circulated the message through the Chief Minister's office to make the health insurance mandatory for all the employees within the province and all the line agencies to implement the decision of Province government.
 - Health insurance is made mandatory for all the civil servants under the Ministry of health in Lumbini province and it resulted in 2,600 civil servants engaged in health insurance. This will help to ensure better finance management of health insurance.
 - Collaboration is underway to connect citizens to the insurance program through the health insurance board in all 12 districts within the Lumbini province.
 - A plan has been formulated to prioritize the implementation of the insurance program in the upcoming budget. A letter has been submitted to the Minister and Secretary of the Federal

Minister of Health to allocate the outstanding amount of health insurance in the hospitals under the provincial government.

- Achievement of Policy dialogue on Cultural Tourism of Lumbini Province
 - Concept paper of tourism policy 2081 has been drafted.
 - Tourism policy is expected to be presented at upcoming assembly meeting and Coordination has been made with three tiers of Government as well.
 - The provincial government has started to organize the cluster wise discussion with the stakeholders to promote cultural tourism policy.
- **Achievement from policy dialogue on consumer Rights and Protection.**
 - Lumbini Province has realized the need of proper market monitoring and committed to form market monitoring committee and related provision necessary for its formation.
 - This year Lumbini province government is to increase subsidies in the sector of agriculture and promote organic agriculture product as per commitment made by Agriculture Minister of Lumbini Province.

7. Lessons Learnt

- selection of stakeholders and issues for the dialogue process is more essential for getting the result in time. Aligning the need of the government it is more effective in terms of response, coordination and achieving result-oriented policy dialogue is possible in the short term. When conducting the policy dialogue at provincial level it might be easier to achieve the result if the project team could consult and coordinate with other relevant thematic committees and even the ministry of finance, economic and internal affairs, rather than coordinating only with the ministry related to the policies facilitated by the dialogue. For example: Most of the draft bills or policies (Guideline of the annual planning process of Lumbini province, Matawa/Barghar/Bhalmansa act, Annual planning for the access of the marginalized and minorities groups and the draft bill of the formation of Lumbini provincial health insurance coordination committee) facilitated to draft has been held in Ministry of finance, economic and internal affairs.
- Importance of Timeliness and Relevance of issue: If issues and concerns raised aren't facilitated in a timely manner, their relevance and importance fade as circumstances change. The justification for the issue itself is lost. The current situation with the Gen-Z movement is a perfect example: During the protest of Gen-Z 74 of protestors died, there has been much destruction of government offices, line agencies and federal government has changed. There is uncertainty of the provincial government stability and structure so, EPPN Project-planned facilitations have been postponed on policy dialogue regarding many issues of Lumbini province. There is uncertainty around the existence of the Provincial Government has caused stakeholders' interest and priority to become dormant/inactive.
- Rather than focusing on the number of the issues for policy dialogue, important issues should be elected and discussed over several events to achieve better results as possible is good. A single event of policy dialogue can only obtain commitments from stakeholders but continuous dialogue is necessary to take it to the implementation level. For example, from the continued dialogue process of the resource management of the Karnali river basin, one level of result has been seen and the recommendation committee has provided the report with action plan to the both Lumbini and Sudurpashchim province Governments. Likewise, the case of conflict, for instance between community forest user group and province government

regarding the revenue generating process of forest act multiple dialogue is required for clear understanding on the stakeholders. But in the plan, there is the budget for only single dialogue and it is challenging to BASE to bring them on conclusion for the one door system of payments for revenue. And again, the community forest user group comes to in strikes and the finance committee of province could have to work as new approach regarding the issues.

- If the identified problems, policy gap, analysis, solution and finding of the policy dialogue should be documented and provided with the signed of the stakeholders the ownerships on the stakeholders has increased. During the sharing and handover, the report of the recommendation committee regarding the Karnali rivers resource management the local and the province governments feel greetings on the report.
- Due to the administrative huddle in government the short periods of project activities and plan might be hindrance to complete in time and disorder to achieve the targeted result. So, the project design should focus on long term of plan and agreement with the partners for the sustainability of the result.
- If the Provincial Government takes the lead in facilitating policy dialogue and assumes responsibility for coordinating with relevant stakeholders, the process will become more streamlined, results-oriented, and accountable." The policy dialogue emphasized that for revenue management and cattle management policies to succeed, the provincial government must lead the facilitation by making enable environment for Public-private dialogue creating institutionalized channels of communication between the government and the private sector, farmers are seen as the only way to resolve trade barriers, relocation and cattle management issues.
- The digital infrastructure for revenue collection to reduce leakage and increase citizen compliance is required from the revenue management and incensement of the Lumbini province through policy level dialogue process.
- The provincial government could be increased the revenue through incentivized relocation: Moving industries to designated zones with tax waivers or financial support to reduce local conflict inter coordination on governments and private sector, sing evidence-based mapping of natural and financial resources (land, forest, river side, and tourism) to identify untapped revenue streams.
- Evidence-Based Planning is required: Transitioning toward the use of a "Project Bank" and a Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) to ensure that revenue is spent on high-impact, result-oriented projects.
- Need for Flexibility: Flexibility is essential for project success. With changes in context, the government's priority areas can change, and the issues themselves can be change. Therefore, projects need the kind of flexibility that allows for change based on the government's primary focus, time, and circumstances. For example following the change in government, time, and context after the Gen-Z movement, and the resulting shift in provincial priorities, the project must make an adjustment, In the coming days, the project tea, will plan for very minimal activities dedicated to provincial policy facilitation, instead, facilitation must focus on new issues based on the core priorities and needs of the Provincial, Local governments and Community levels like, guaranteeing peace and security, preparing an environment for peaceful elections, combating corruption, ensuring good governance, and effective service delivery, securing the rights of target groups and economic growth.
- Strategic Evolution in Practice and Shift: A critical learning is that the project's strategy must change according to time and circumstances. The strategy under Local Government Strengthening has already evolved, initially the strategy centered on Dialogue, involving the formation of dialogue groups and conflict management. Subsequently: The program was adjusted based on needs and priorities to focus on policy network expansion and facilitation.

Post-Gen-Z Movement: The current situation has once again highlighted the need for dialogue processes and dialogue groups.

8. Challenges:

- Political Instability: Frequent changes in provincial cabinet members can lead to "policy flip-flops," where a new minister discards the progress made by their predecessor.
- It has been challenging to get target on the quarterly activities due to the delay on planning budgeting and concept designing including the preparation of SWC approval.
- The Number of marginalized people in the elite and higher hierarchy level province government is very low. Majority of stakeholder who has high power and can influence the decision are male and socially advantageous group. The selection of major stakeholder is based on power than GEDSI perspective so, it is challenging to project to maintain the GEDSI target.
- Due to the unwillingness of the Provincial policy makers and the other community parliament members of Lumbini province on customary law it may be challenging to make approval easily from the parliament.
- The policy makers have less knowledge on the important of the customary law due to this the draft bill of the Matawa/Barghar/Bhalmansa/Kakandar might be delay on finalization and the requirement of the needy community may not be fulfill as the required.
- The province government has planned to continue policy dialogue in upcoming days as well in cluster basis. But due to the less plan of follow up it is challenging to the project to get direction and outcome diverted in the absence of EPPN.
- There is the challenge to incorporate Gender Mainstreaming while conduction Dialogues, specially, with lower number of women in hierarchical position, selection of stakeholder from GEDSI perspectives has been limited
- It has been challenging to get target on the quarterly activities due to the Gen-Z protest and the changed of the leadership in federal government, including the parliament dissolved the service delivery and federal structure has been directly affected in province level.
- The government's action of shutting down social media in the name of regulating the communication sector created problems in information and communication, and it became a challenge to coordinate with the government, organizations, civil society, and the community regarding the project activities and delayed on conducting dialogue.
- One of the primary hurdles is the lack of clarity regarding which level of government even in the inter governments different ministry has the final say. Conflict of Laws: As seen in your earlier points regarding forest and riverbed materials, provincial laws often clash with the Local Government Operation Act or Federal Civil Service regulations. The "Wait and See" Approach: Provincial policymakers are often hesitant to finalize a policy until the Federal government passes a "Mother Act," leading to legislative stagnation.
- Local Level Resistance: Since provinces do not have a "lower" administrative wing (they rely on local municipalities), getting 109 local units in a province like Lumbini to agree on a single policy such as stray cattle management is a massive logistical challenge.

9. Case Studies/ Success Story

Why the "Tharu Community Customary System Act, 2082" of Lumbini Province Based on the Customary Law of the Tharu Community?

Introduction: Nepal's Diverse Fabric:

Nepal is an exquisitely beautiful nation, woven from a myriad of ethnicities, religions, cultures, and communities since antiquity. According to the revised national map, Nepal spans an area of 147,516 square kilometers. The 2021 National Census records the population at approximately 29,164,578. As a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, and multi-lingual nation, Nepal epitomizes "unity in diversity." Data from the Central Bureau of Statistics (2021) identifies over 142 distinct ethnicities. Among them, the Tharu community numbering roughly 1,807,124 constitutes 6.2% of the total population, making them the fourth-largest ethnic group in the country. In Lumbini Province total 5122078 population specifically, the Tharu population stands at approximately 732,069 (14.29%), marking them as the second-largest community in the province.

Identity and Traditional Governance System of Tharu:

The Tharu people possess a distinct identity as an honest and resilient indigenous group that has inhabited the Terai region for centuries. Historically, when the world struggled with malaria, smallpox, and measles, the Tharu were the sole inhabitants of these plains, having established various "Ganarajyas" (republican territories). They governed themselves through a collective leadership system utilizing roles such as Matawa, Barghar, Bhalamansa, under a traditional "Praganna" system. For instance, Dang valley was divided into five Pragannas: Sawari, Chhillie, Patu, Agala, and Pachhala, with King Dangisharan being the most prominent historical ruler. While modern structures have evolved, elders and scholars like Ashok Tharu continue to emphasize the historical depth of these institutions.

Nation Building and Contribution of Tharu Community

Beyond demographics, the Tharu community has played a pivotal role in state-building and national defense. Whether through direct involvement in the military during foreign invasions or by providing "food, shelter, and cloth" to the state, their loyalty has been unwavering. Historically, during times of drought and famine, Tharu farmers sustained the nation by providing surplus grains (paddy, maize, and wheat) to the government, a fact well-documented in various historical archives. As indigenous inhabitants of the southern Terai and Inner Terai, the Tharu reside densely across 24 districts. This includes the Lumbini, Sudurpashchim, Karnali, Gandaki, Bagmati, Madhesh, and Koshi provinces. While internal migration and social mixing have introduced nuances in language and lifestyle, the core of their customary laws and tribal governance remains deeply rooted in their ancestral lands. As noted by Dr. Arjun Guneratne in *Many Tongues, One People*, their democratic customary practices have persisted since the tribal era.

The Democratic Essence of Customary Practices

In Western Nepal, the Matawa/Barghar/Bhalamansa system represents a robust social structure essential for maintaining peace and harmony. This system facilitates collective decision-making regarding resource mobilization and labor contributions, ensuring effective and sustainable social change. Historically, these leaders functioned as a localized government, coordinating public works like the construction of roads, bridges, and wells, and managing irrigation systems. However, these traditions are currently facing the threat of erosion. The recent introduction of "Tole Development Committees" (neighborhood units) has often marginalized Tharu identity by replacing historical village names and traditional leadership with new, generic structures. This transition is viewed by many as a displacement of indigenous history and a potential infringement on cultural rights.

Legal Provisions and Importance Related to the Tharu Community

The practices of Matawa, Barghar, and Bhalamansa are considered vital for promoting peace, harmony, and brotherhood between the Tharu community and other communities living in the villages. There is an urgent need to formalize this strong tradition of reconciliation and mutual understanding. However, instead of supporting these invaluable customs, current government practices appear to be discouraging their continuity. Since the promulgation of the Constitution of Nepal (2015), these traditional customary systems have increasingly fallen into the shadows. Local governments have struggled to grant legal recognition to the roles of Matawa, Barghar, and Bhalamansa. Furthermore, the current process of forming Tole Development Committees (Neighborhood Development Committees) by local authorities has further undermined these traditional leadership systems. In many cases, the historical names of Tharu villages are being replaced by new committee names, which is seen as an attempt to erase the historical identity of the Tharu community.

While some local levels have developed procedures to provide a legal framework for the Matawa, Barghar, and Bhalamansa systems, these efforts remain insufficient. Due to a lack of coordination between provincial and local governments in the policy-making process, it is essential for the provincial level to take the lead in representing the entire community to institutionalize Tharu customary law. Protecting and promoting these traditional practices is a necessity of our time and a shared responsibility of all Nepalis.

The Constitution of Nepal, under the Right to Equality (Article 18, Clause 3) and the Structure of State (Article 56, Clause 5), provides clear provisions for establishing Special, Protected, or Autonomous regions according to federal law for socio-cultural protection or economic development. These provisions are designed to protect the history, identity, and rights of communities. Therefore, it is essential to preserve and promote the historically significant and democratic customs of the Tharu community. Legal recognition is required to ensure their cultural rights and identity within protected and special areas (Tharu villages). Governments at all levels must formulate policies, acts, laws, and procedures to protect these traditions and provide the necessary resources for their implementation.

The governments of Lumbini Province and Sudurpashchim Province, through their respective Ministries of Social Development, have given high priority to drafting the Matawa, Barghar, and Bhalamansa Act (Customary Law). Drafts of the bill have already been prepared. Since extensive consultation is crucial in drafting these policies and laws, interaction between policymakers, planners, and representatives of the Matawa, Barghar, and Bhalamansa systems is of utmost importance. It is necessary to conduct wide-ranging discussions with all relevant stakeholders.

Dialogue Efforts and Initiatives

In Lumbini Province, the traditional networks of indigenous Tharu groups such as the Matawa, Barghar, and Bhalamansa have faced conditions preventing them from operating actively. Recognizing the necessity of revitalizing these customary laws and democratic practices, BASE Nepal initiated a proactive dialogue process. Following a convention of Matawas, Barghars, and Bhalamansas held in Dang on Magh 27 and 28, 2081 (February 2025), it was collectively determined that the Matawa system must be advanced through official policy. Consequently, dialogues were launched to ensure the protection of Tharu customary policies.

Recognizing the significance of the discussions initiated by BASE regarding the formulation of Tharu customary law, the Lumbini Provincial Government took the lead. Under the coordination of the Ministry of Social Development, efforts were made to conduct dialogues and draft a Customary Law Bill. The provincial government demonstrated significant leadership in the move toward institutionalizing Tharu customary law.

Subsequently, the Lumbini Provincial Government requested BASE to facilitate extensive consultations with various stakeholders and the Tharu community. Following this request, BASE conducted dialogues across districts within Lumbini Province where Tharu populations reside. These sessions were designed to promote participatory policy-making, engaging the Tharu community, experts, policymakers, planners,

and legal bodies. More than 12 dialogue sessions were organized between government agencies and traditional leaders (Matawa, Barghar, and Bhalamansa).

During the initial phase of these dialogues, it was observed that the existing draft bill at the provincial level was not in a complete format and required the addition of several critical points. The dialogue group facilitated the collection of potential feedback to refine and finalize the bill. A Provincial Policy Dialogue was then initiated, involving the Chief Ministers and Social Development Ministers of both Sudurpashchim and Lumbini Provinces, alongside stakeholders, experts, and traditional Tharu leaders. BASE synthesized the suggestions received from village-level participants and government officials from both provincial and local levels to refine the draft bill.

As a result of this continuous dialogue and facilitation, the Draft Bill for Tharu Customary Law has been prepared. This bill was developed by the Ministry of Social Development of Lumbini Province through the facilitation of these dialogues. After finalizing the draft, the Ministry of Social Development forwarded it to the Council of Ministers. The Council has since granted theoretical approval (principle agreement) and forwarded it to the relevant committee. It has been reported that the committee has now submitted the bill to the Office of the Chief Minister.

Expected Achievements After the Enactment of Customary Law

The Tharu community possesses its own unique traditions, culture, customs, and ways of life. Historically, the community has faced limited access to state resources, creating significant challenges in the effective implementation of acts and policies. Currently, the provincial government has not fully transparentized its policies regarding the community level. Furthermore, many individuals within the community remain unaware of the processes for accessing government services, leading to a gap in accountability and transparency between the province, local level and the grassroots level.

Considering these circumstances, BASE Organization aims to bring the Tharu community and relevant stakeholders together within the policy-making, budgeting, and planning processes of Lumbini Province. The dialogues conducted for the preservation of Tharu customary traditions are expected to further address the needs of the community within provincial planning and resource allocation. If legal recognition is granted through the formulation of Tharu community based customary law, it will significantly support the effective implementation of the federalism provided by the Constitution of Nepal. That the constitutional Implementation: The enactment of this law will facilitate the implementation of Article 18 (Right to Equality, Clause 3) and Article 56 (Structure of State, Clause 5) of the Constitution of Nepal. These articles allow for the establishment of Special, Protected, or Autonomous zones for socio-cultural protection and economic development.

Likewise, it will support to modernizing Tradition: Long-standing democratic practices and working styles of the Tharu people will be modernized and granted formal legal status. This ensures that the positive social contributions made by the community are legally recognized. It will support on promotion of Indigenous Rights: Recognizing the Matawa, Barghar, and Bhalamansa systems is crucial for promoting indigenous rights, cultural preservation, and inclusive governance.

Moreover, the community governance system will be strengthened. These customary institutions represent traditional leadership structures that organize social relations, resolve disputes, and manage community decision-making processes. Integrating these into the formal legal framework acknowledges the autonomy and identity of indigenous communities. It aligns with the principle of legal pluralism, where state law and customary law coexist harmoniously. Legal recognition will strengthen culturally appropriate dispute resolution mechanisms that are reliable and accessible at the local level, thereby increasing access to justice.

The Customary law will be the pioneer for strengthening democracy. Integrating customary governance into policy-making empowers indigenous communities to participate in governance through their own traditional institutions, ultimately it will support to strengthening participatory federal democracy. Through this legal empowerment, the Tharu community will be better equipped to preserve their

traditions with efficiency and legal protection. Consequently, Lumbini Province is poised to become the first province in Nepal to enact such customary law.

10. Annexures Photos



Figure 3: Meeting with Provincial Planning



Figure 5: Meeting with Social Development Ministry
Hon. Janamiava Timilsena



Figure 4: Meeting with Agriculture, Land



Figure 6: Meeting with Social Development
Ministry Hon. Janamjaya Timilsena



Figure 7: Draft Act of
Matawa/Badghar/Bhalmansa handover to Ministry
of Socail Development
Hon. Janamjaya Timilsena





Figure 9: Start up meeting



Capacity Building Training of Province Policy Network and support Group



Figure 10: Start up meeting



Capacity Building Training of Province Policy Network and Support Group Lumbini



Discussion on the Kapilvastu, Rupandehi, and Nawalparasi districts Matawa, Barghar Member and Task Force members of Matawa Bill



Policy Analysis dialogue with Secretary of Ministry of Agriculture, Land Management and Cooperative regarding



Policy dialogue with the Tharu traditional leaders and policy expert in Bardiya on the formation of Matawa, Barghar, Bhalmansa Act of Lumbini province.



Capacity Building Training of Provincial Policy Network and Support Group Lumbini



Policy Dialogue with Chief Vigilant Officer of Lumbini Province of different political parties and sectorial committee's discussion on the Matawa, Barghar, Bhalmansa draft Bill



Policy Dialogue with Technical team of Lumbini province Policy Formation of Matawa Barghar Bhalmansa



Meeting of Provincial Policy network members regarding the Gen-Z protest, present Situation of Lumbini



Partner's Learning Sharing Meeting with Koshi Province Parliament members and Than Protection committee At Birtamod Jhapa



Partner's Learning Sharing Meeting with Koshi Province Tea Development Trust of Jhapa



Regular meeting of Provincial Policy Network and Policy Support group of Lumbini province



Group Photo after the policy dialogue on Cattle management issue of Lumbini province including ministry of Agriculture, Land Management and Cooperatives Ho. Dinesh Panthi



SWC team monitoring regarding the Karnali issue with Rajapur Municipality Chairperson Dipesh Tharu



SWC Monitoring Team with Minister of Social Development Janmajaya Timilsena



SWC team monitoring Regarding the Karnali issue with Dr. Ashok Kumar Ram Chief of Bardiya National Park



SWC Monitoring Team with Sarada Belbase Senior Joint secretary of the Ministry of Social Development



SWC Monitoring team discussion with Lumbini Province Planning Commission member Bhuban Chaudhary regarding activities and progress on EPPN project



Partners Learning sharing meeting with The Asia Foundation, SAHARA Nepal and BASE team at Ilam



Policy Dialogue with the Ministry of Economic affair and Planning, Lumbini province Planning commission and private sector and government line agencies regarding the revenue management of Lumbini province at Rupandehi and Dang



Meeting with Sambad Samuha members and provincial policy network Support Groups regarding the Gen-Z protest, present Situation and the need of dialogue for way forward.



Policy dialogue with the Gaushala Operation organizations, religious forms, government line agencies and Ministry of Agriculture, Land Management and Cooperative regarding the cattle management issue of Lumbini Province



Policy dialogue with the Gaushala Operation organizations, religious forms, government line agencies and Ministry of Agriculture, Land Management and Cooperative regarding the cattle management issue of Lumbini Province



Regular Meeting with Provincial Policy Network Member



SWC team monitoring regarding the Karnali issue with Janaki Rural Municipality Chairperson Ganesh Chaudhary

I. Promoting Safe Migration To Combat Trafficking Project

Project Title	Promoting Safe Migration To Combat Trafficking Project	Project period in months	12 Months
Project Start Date	Nov. 1, 2024	Project end date	Oct. 31, 2025
Total Budget	NPR. 2660488.00	Overall Expenditure (Final)	1832910.38
Report submitted by	Pinki Dangi	Report Submitted on	January 2026

2. Background (Max. half page)

The migration of youth and work force from Nepal to India and Gulf countries has been one of the major challenges for the government of Nepal. Similarly, the trend of migration to Europe, America, Australia, Canada and many other countries of the world for the higher studies is other challenging issue because Nepal is losing its intellectual and skillful young populations every year. Unskilled laborers migrating to India and Gulf countries are facing several challenges i.e. low pay, vulnerable to violence from the owners and many more. Nepal is a source, transit and destination country for illegal labor, sex and organ trafficking of children, youth and women. Migrants from Nepal are propelled to migrate to foreign countries due to lack of employment opportunities within Nepal and the possibility of higher paying jobs in the destination country. Likewise, poverty, lack of opportunities and demand for labor work are also the reasons for migration. Migration has become an important source of income and other benefits for Nepal and the families of migrant workers. According to the 2021 Census Data, a total of 2.2 million Nepalese is abroad, out of which 81.28% are male and 18.72% are female. The legal process for labor migration in Nepal is slow and expensive that makes poor communities seek illegal or underground routes. Those who travel abroad without proper paper work as well as legal resources, including women in domestic work and entertainment industry often face various complications and are not able to claim any compensations if they are exploited. Nepal shares its open borders to India and most of the populations from rural areas of Nepal migrate to India for seasonal labor works. There is trend of family migrating to India which is putting children of the family into risks. These children have to miss their schools for the certain period of time which makes them back from their education. On the other hand, they are at risk to exploitation. Similarly, children from both countries are migrating as child laborers to work in hazardous working conditions. Additionally, open borders between Nepal and India have become easy ways for traffickers to pass girls and women to other golf and other third countries as domestic workers and entertainment sectors are exploited as sex workers too. They are unaware about their rights too. There is no legal paper work for such types of work force neither they are recognized by the authority. Then they become victims of trafficking. There is a lack of monitoring at the borders along with the proper documentation and data of the migrants as well as trafficking. The migrants are unknown about the legal processes and practices while crossing the borders and going to abroad. The traffickers are not punished for their illegal business. The Indo-Nepal Dialogue is aimed to bring policy makers, stakeholders, survivors, and authorities from Nepal and India together in a common platform to rigorously discuss on the issues of trafficking and migration between two countries as well as about the other countries for ensuring safe migration. Trafficking and migration are co-related with each other because human trafficking is knowingly and unknowingly happened while people migrate. As Nepal shares its open borders with India which has made easy pass way for the traffickers as well as economically poor people to pass through these borders which has increased the challenges for controlling human trafficking. Therefore, this dialogue will give a platform to come up with possible

way outs that will be helpful for the government to anti-trafficking and safe migration law and policy enforcement in Nepal.

3. Objectives of the project

The overall objective of this project is to jointly formulate evidence-based policy recommendations to the government of Lumbini Province, Nepal by bringing together relevant stakeholders including key decision makers, law enforcement officials, civil society organizations and research institutions to create a common platform to deliberate on the issue of safe migration, and tackling trafficking.

4. Accomplished activities/Outcomes

4.1. Roundtable with Policymakers and Stakeholders in Lumbini Province: The roundtable meeting was held on 10th January, 2025 at Hotel Pauwa, Bhalubang Dang Lumbini Province, Nepal.

One important aspect of the dialogue was to diagnose the problem associated with cross-border migration. The problems discussed during the dialogue can be broadly clustered into three major categories, namely, *border management*, *data and documentation*, and the *trafficking and security concerns*.



a. Border Management Issues

Four major issues were emerged under the border management and they are summarized as follows;

- Open border arrangement lacks adequate surveillance mechanisms, benefiting traffickers: The unrestricted and poorly managed movement between Nepal and India, while beneficial for legitimate travel, also creates opportunities for traffickers to transport vulnerable Nepalese people across borders without detection.
- Limited checkpoints but numerous unmonitored corridors prone to human trafficking: While official checkpoints like Sunauli and Rupedia exist in Lumbini Province, there are dozens of unofficial crossing points that remain unmonitored by the security forces and other stakeholders, making it easy for traffickers to avoid detection.
- Weak tracking of internal and external mobility of people: The current system introduced by the Government of Nepal fails to effectively monitor and record the movement of people both within the country and across borders, making it difficult to identify trafficking patterns.
- Poor monitoring of dance bars and cabin restaurants in emerging cities and border districts: These establishments often serve as fronts for cross-border trafficking operations, but insufficient oversight allows illegal activities to continue unchecked.

b. Data and Documentation Issues

There were four major concerns around data and documentation with regard to the cross-border migration and trafficking problems and they are summarized as follows;

- Lack of reliable and disaggregated data on migrants and trafficking victims: The federal as well as the province government of Nepal lacks a comprehensive database that tracks the number of migrants and trafficking victims, making it difficult to understand the true scale of the problem.

- Scale and characteristics of undocumented cross-border migration largely unknown: Due to the informal nature of many border crossings, authorities cannot accurately assess the number of people moving between countries or their reasons for doing so.
- Weak reporting systems: Current mechanisms for reporting trafficking cases and suspicious activities are inadequate, leading to underreporting of incidents.
- Significant data gaps in tracking and follow-up: The lack of systematic data collection and monitoring makes it difficult to track cases over time and assess the effectiveness of interventions.

c. Trafficking and Security Concerns

- Women and children are the most vulnerable to trafficking: These groups face the highest risk of exploitation, particularly for forced labor and sexual exploitation.
- Growing adult entertainment sector in border cities increasing trafficking cases: The expansion of this sector has created new venues for exploitation and increased demand for trafficking victims.
- New trafficking purposes emerging (skin transplantation and surrogacy): Traffickers are finding new ways to exploit victims, including forcing them into dangerous medical procedures.
- Nepali hotels and restaurants in border areas becoming undeclared red-light areas: These establishments are increasingly being used as fronts for trafficking operations and sexual exploitation. Women and girls working into those hotels are at the risk of cross-border as well as third country trafficking.
- Lumbini province serving as both source and transit for human trafficking: The region faces a dual challenge as traffickers both recruit local victims and transport others through the area.
- High incidence of third-country migration through human smugglers: Many people from Lumbini province are being trafficked to third countries using India as a transit point.

1. Solutions to Address Cross-Border Migration Problems

Border security enhancement, cross-border cooperation, and the introduction of prevention as well as protection measures were some of the key concerns raised by the participants.

a. Border Security Enhancement

- Strengthen surveillance systems in the bordering districts of Lumbini province: Implementation of modern surveillance technology along with increased number of security personnel to better monitor border areas is suggested as a fundamental task for enhancing border security.
- Implement effective document verification processes: Establish robust systems to verify the authenticity of travel documents and identify potential trafficking victims.
- Use technology-based interventions: Employ advanced technology for border monitoring, data collection, and information sharing between agencies within Nepal as well as with the concern authorities from the India side.
- Establish additional security centers for immediate support to victims: There was also a suggestion for creating facilities near border areas to provide immediate assistance to the identified trafficking victims.

b. Cross-border Cooperation

- Regular dialogue between Nepal and India: Maintain consistent communication channels between both countries to address cross-border trafficking issues.

- Political, diplomatic, and security cooperation: Foster collaboration at multiple levels to create comprehensive solutions to trafficking problems.
- Joint efforts between Nepal and India for trafficking control: Implement coordinated operations and information sharing between security forces of both countries.
- Improved coordination among organizations working at Nepal-India border: Enhance collaboration between NGOs, government agencies, and security forces operating in border areas to detect traffickers and minimize the risk of cross-border trafficking.

c. Protection Measures

- Establish crisis management and rehabilitation centers: Create facilities to provide comprehensive support services to trafficking survivors.
- Implement victim and witness protection systems: Develop programs to ensure the safety and security of trafficking survivors and witnesses.
- Create strong information exchange processes: Establish efficient systems for sharing intelligence and data between relevant agencies.

d. Prevention measures

- Provide right information and counseling to potential migrants: Ensure that people considering migration have access to accurate information about risks and legal procedures for a regular and documented migration.
- Develop skill development training programs: Provide vocational training to vulnerable populations to reduce their risk of being trafficked.

2. Role of Province Government for Safe Migration Management

The program also emphasized a crucial role that Lumbini Province government can play for ensuring safe migration to combat trafficking. Four prominent roles of the province government, namely, policy development, institutional support, coordination and monitoring, and protection initiatives, were mainly suggested from the stakeholders.

a. Policy Development

- Formulate province-specific migration policy: Create comprehensive policies that address the unique migration challenges faced by Lumbini province.
- Mainstream migration into provincial development planning: Integrate migration management considerations into all aspects of provincial development.
- Incorporate safe migration and anti-trafficking policies into periodic planning: Ensure that anti-trafficking measures are included in regular government planning cycles.
- Develop guidelines for trafficking victim support fund: Create clear procedures for accessing and utilizing the 8-million-rupee trafficking victim support fund.

b. Institutional Support

- Establish and strengthen rehabilitation centers: Improve the quality and capacity of existing centers and create new ones to meet demand.
- Form committees/task forces to combat trafficking: Create dedicated groups to coordinate and implement anti-trafficking initiatives at the local and province level.

- Allocate adequate budget for returnee migrants: Ensure sufficient funding to support the reintegration of trafficking survivors and returning migrants from India and other countries.
- Create data portal and management systems: Develop comprehensive systems to collect, analyze, and share data on migration and trafficking.

c. Coordination and Monitoring

- Coordinate among three tiers of government: Ensure effective collaboration between federal, provincial, and local governments.
- Collaborate with Nepal Police and border security forces: Work closely with law enforcement agencies to improve border security and anti-trafficking measures. This collaboration should also be extended with authorities from the bordering Indian states.
- Monitor organizations active in trafficking prevention: Oversee and support the work of NGOs and other organizations involved in anti-trafficking efforts.
- Coordinate with NGOs and other stakeholders: Foster partnerships with civil society organizations to maximize the impact of anti-trafficking initiatives.

d. Protection initiatives

- Manage trafficking victim/survivor support fund: Effectively administer the established fund to provide necessary assistance to survivors.
- Provide protection to families of trafficking victims: Extend support services to include families of trafficking victims who may face threats or stigma.
- Ensure quality services in rehabilitation centers: Maintain high standards of care and support in the government-run rehabilitation facilities. Province government should also monitor and provide necessary support to the NGO run rehabilitation facilities.
- Implement family and community security-based interventions: Develop programs that address trafficking risks at both family and community levels.

4.2. Indo-Nepal Regional Dialogue: The Indo-Nepal Regional Dialogue on Safe Migration to Combat Trafficking between Nepal and India was held on the 10 Feb, 2025), at the Lumbini Cultural Municipality, Lumbini, Nepal. This regional dialogue program was conducted by the BASE Organization with financial and technical support from GIZ. The program was coordinated by the Association of Voluntary Action (AVA) India, in collaboration with Just Rights for Children.

In total, 101 individuals participated in the event, including key government officials, non-governmental organization representatives, media members, and individuals who have directly experienced migration-related issues, along with the main organizers from Base Organization.



The main objective of the program was to facilitate discussions and cooperation between Nepal and India on joint efforts to combat human trafficking and promote safe migration. The dialogue was structured into three main sessions:

1. **Inaugural Session**
2. **Panel Discussion Session**
3. **Closing Session**

4.2.1 Major Topics of the Event:

a. Policies and Practices for Safe Migration:

- Protection of migrant workers' safety and rights.
- Measures to reduce the risk of human trafficking during migration through dialogue and cooperation.

b. Causes and Solutions for Human Trafficking:

- Identifying the key causes of human trafficking and discussing social and legal measures to address them.
- The need for cooperation between the governmental and non-governmental bodies of Nepal and India.

c. Creating Safe and Legal Employment Opportunities:

- Development of a safe and legal labor market in both countries.
- Joint efforts to address issues related to migrant workers during their employment.

4.2.2. Event course:

4.2.2.1 Inaugural Session: The inaugural session was conducted under the chairmanship of the Founder President of BASE organization and honorable former Chief Minister of Lumbini Province, Mr. Dilli Bahadur Chaudhary, and the Chief Guest, honorable Chief Minister of Lumbini Province, Mr. Chet Narayan Acharya. The session was facilitated by Dr. Haridhwaj Rai, Information and Public Relations Officer of Lumbini Development Fund, and senior journalist Mr. Sushil Basnet. The welcoming speech was delivered by BASE's Executive Director, Mr. Churna Bahadur Chaudhary, and as a token of appreciation, the Program Director of BASE, Ms. Pinky Dangi, honored with the indoor plants to all the guests.

4.2.2.2 Panel Discussions:

4.2.2.2.1 First Session of the Panel Discussion: "Issues around Cross border migration and trafficking – Imagining frameworks to address it"

The panelists for this session were:

- Ms. Bimala Poudyal**, Undersecretary, Legal Department (PMO Human Rights and International Relation Department)
- Mr. Janardan G.C.**, SSP, Nepal Police
- Mr. Chiranjivi Baral**, President, National Network on Safe Migration
- Ms. Indu Rani Singh**, Director, Prayas JAC Society, India

The issues related to cross-border migration and human trafficking discussed by the panelists, based on their statements and discussions with the participants, were as follows:

- **Difference in Labor Approval Requirements:** While other countries require labor approval for migration, India does not have such a requirement, which leads to increased unsafe migration and human trafficking.
- **Lack of Compensation and Insurance for Deaths in India:** While there is a provision for compensation of 1 million rupees and 1.3 million insurance for deaths in foreign migration, there is no such provision in India. This reflects structural disparity.
- **Open Border between Nepal and India:** Due to the open border between Nepal and India, there is a trend of illegal migration through India, making migrants more vulnerable to fraud and trafficking.

- **Increase in Fraud in Foreign Employment:** Fraud in foreign employment has increased due to the lack of effective resolution mechanisms, with many cases remaining unresolved.
- **High Incidence of Human Trafficking and Smuggling across Nepal-India Border:** The border between Nepal and India faces a high incidence of human trafficking and smuggling, with the problem of unsafe migration particularly severe.

4.2.2.2 Second Session of the Panel Discussion: "Good practices and solutions in promoting safe migration to combat trafficking (Stories from Nepal and India)"

These issues highlight the need for stronger policies, better legal enforcement, and international cooperation to combat human trafficking and promote safe migration.

The second session of the panel discussion focused on the topic "Good practices and solutions for promoting safe migration against human trafficking." Four speakers shared their insights:

- A. **Ms. Meena Paudyal**, Deputy Secretary (Human Trafficking Division), Ministry of Women Children and Senior Citizen
- B. **Ms. Dharma Aryal**, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Labor Department
- C. **Ms. Rojina Shrestha**, Advocate Forum for Women, Law and Development (FWLD)
- D. **Mr. Manish Sharma**, Senior Director-Victim Assistance, Association for Voluntary Action (AVA), India

The discussion covered the best practices, current legal frameworks, and institutional structures for controlling human trafficking and trafficking in persons. The key points discussed were as follows:

- **Nepal Government's Fund for Rehabilitation:** The Nepal government has created a legal provision for collecting funds for the rehabilitation of individuals rescued from trafficking. The Bagmati province has already made provisions for this, while there was initially a lack of information in areas like Achham in the far-west. However, after conducting orientation programs in the wards of Achham, a rehabilitation center has been established.
- **Just Rights for Children Network:** This network operates in collaboration with 250 organizations in 400 districts of India, working on child rights, against child marriage, child trafficking, and human trafficking.
- **Changes in Federal Structure:** With the implementation of federalism in Nepal, several organizations have been abolished, and new ones have been added. Due to this transitional phase, there has been limited progress in the work on human trafficking and human smuggling.
- **Irregular Migration and Lack of Data:** There is no accurate data on the number of Nepali migrant workers who go to India irregularly. It is estimated that between 3 to 4 million Nepali workers go to India, but there is no precise figure available from either Nepal or India. Similarly, there is no data on the number of people coming from India to Nepal for work.
- **Legal Provisions for Human Trafficking and Smuggling Control:** In Nepal, the **Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act, 2064** has been enacted, which defines the crimes related to human trafficking and smuggling, punishment, victim protection, rescue, and rehabilitation. The **Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Rules, 2065** outlines the implementation process, establishment of rehabilitation centers, and management provisions. The **Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) (First Amendment) Rules, 2077** made amendments and introduced new provisions to improve the original regulations.

4.2.2.3 Third Session of the Panel Discussion: "Way forward – Making the pathway of migration safer to combat trafficking"

Four speakers shared their insights:

- A. **Mr. Bam Bahadur Baniya**, Vice President, National Child Rights Council
- B. **Mr. Madhav Baral**, Child Protection Officer, UNICEF
- C. **Mr. Rishikant**, Executive Director, Koshi Lokmanch, India
- D. **Ms. Bimala Devi Gayak**, Executive Director, Samari Utthan Sewa, Nepal

Based on the expressions of the panelists and the discussions of the participants, the following advice, suggestions, and recommendations were made to address and control human trafficking and smuggling:

- **Joint Discussion between Nepal and India:** Both countries should jointly discuss and create a shared **Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)** for controlling human trafficking and smuggling.
- **Amendment of the 1950 Treaty:** The 1950 treaty should be amended to develop a **Data Management and Tracking System** for safe migration, which should be used to collect integrated data.
- **Regular Discussions between Security Personnel:** Security personnel stationed at border areas in both countries must regularly discuss issues related to safe migration.
- **Empowering Local Governments:** Local governments should be empowered to raise awareness among the general public, collect information related to migration, and develop and implement welfare programs to solve migration-related issues.
- **LCCST Meetings:** The presence of civil society should be mandatory at the regular **LCCST (Law Enforcement Cooperation Coordination and Support Team)** meetings held by security personnel between Nepal and India.
- **Establishment of Rehabilitation Centers:** The government should establish rehabilitation centers for the victims of trafficking and smuggling.
- **Impact of Climate Change:** Due to climate change, there is an increase in both internal and external migration. A detailed study should be conducted on this.

4.2.2.3 Closing session:

The closing session of the India-Nepal Regional Dialogue Program for Safe Migration and Human Trafficking Solutions was chaired by Honorable Dilli Bahadur Chaudhary, the founding president of the BASE organization and former Chief Minister of Lumbini Province. The program's special guest was Honorable Janma Jay Timilsina, the Minister of Social Development of Lumbini Province. In the closing program, the following individuals gave reviews and comments: Ms. Jit Kumari Belbase, President of the NGO Federation of Nepal - Lumbini Province, Mr. Shukarishi Chaulagai, President of Federation of Nepal Journalists (Lumbini), Mr. Ravi Kant, National Coordinator of Just Rights for Children, India; Professor Dr. Binod Prasad Dhakal, Vice Chancellor of Lumbini Technological University; and Honorable Dr. Dilliraj Aryal, Vice Chair of the Lumbini Province Planning Commission.

Conclusions:

Importance of Coordination and Cooperation:

The importance of coordination and cooperation between the governments and non-governmental organizations of both India and Nepal was emphasized. Joint efforts from both sides help address the issues faced by migrants.

i) **Education and Awareness Campaigns:**

It was highlighted that awareness campaigns are crucial to educating migrant workers about safe travel and protecting them from human trafficking. Various methods and techniques should be employed for this purpose.

ii) **Protection of Migrant Workers' Rights:**

A shared effort from the government and international bodies is necessary to ensure the legal rights of migrant workers. Special attention should be given to prevent workers from becoming victims of irregular and illegal employment.

Recommendations:

1. Legal and administrative cooperation between India and Nepal needs to be improved.
2. Awareness and education campaigns regarding human trafficking and the protection of migrants should be strengthened.
3. Governmental and non-governmental bodies in both countries should collaborate to create appropriate frameworks to ensure the safety and rights of migrant work

4.2 Follow on Indo-Nepal Regional Dialogue: The follow up meeting was held on 31st March, 2025 at Tharu Cultural Protection Center, Chakhaura Dang Lumbini Province, Nepal. The event chaired by Mr. Churna Bahadur Chaudhary, ED of BASE Organization was facilitated by Ms. Pinky Dangi, PD of BASE. Honorable Social Development Minister, Mr. Janmajay Timilsina of Lumbini Province was the chief guest and Honorable Vice-Chairman of Lumbini Provincial Planning Commission, Doctor Dilli Raj Aryal was Distinguished Guest in the event. Members of Planning Commission, Secretary of Social Development Ministry, Representatives and staff members of local government, Representatives of Civil Society and Journalists/Media joined the meeting.

One important aspect of the meeting was to inform and share the major recommendations and conclusions came up from the Indo-Nepal Regional Dialogue session that was organized by BASE in Lumbini where we had representations from Nepal Federal, Provincial government, policy makers, stakeholders and team from India. The dialogue had created a platform for the policy makers and implementers come together to discuss on promoting safe migration to combat human trafficking between Nepal and India. As a result, there were very important suggestions and recommendations made by the participants during the event which was shared during the follow up meeting to make the provincial government own the ground realities associated with migration and human trafficking.

Honorable Minister of Social Development Minister of Lumbini Province accepted the report and committed to take the accountability towards considering the recommendations made to the government and act towards addressing the issues through policy and plans formulation on behalf of the Lumbini Provincial Government. He appreciated the series of events facilitated by BASE to bring out the real issues, practices, gaps and needs to be talked by the government for promoting safe migration and stop human trafficking between both countries through open borders. Similarly, Vice-Chairman of Planning Commission, highlighted the importance of bringing the stakeholders together to discuss on the emerging issues of migration and trafficking. He also ensured that PPC will prioritize the recommendations and give them space in their planning processes. Other dignitaries appreciated the report and suggested to distinguish the recommendations into different categories.

J. Student's access to Provincial Assembly program

Project Title	Student's access to Provincial Assembly program	Project period in months	14 Months
Project Start Date	January 22, 2025	Project end date	February 21, 2025
Total Budget	NPR. 1,031,400.00	Overall Expenditure (Final)	913,785.76 (88.60%)
Report submitted by	Sharm Ram Tharu	Report Submitted on	February 25, 2025

1. Background:

Nepal had issued the constitution 2072. The concept of federalism has been implementing since 8th year. Now many laws, policies, guidelines and regulation related to single authorities of federal government, provincial government and local governments have been made. Some of the laws, policies, guidelines and regulation of common initiative of the three levels of governments have been made but some policies, guidelines and laws are in the process of forming. Some policies, guidelines laws are still pending to made. It is also the government's responsibility to inform all the civil society and the public. How are the provincial government policies, rules, guidelines and laws use to made? But the three levels of governments do not seem to be doing so. Because of that, some of the policies, guidelines, rules, regulation and laws created by the levels of governments have not been implemented effectively. Due to that it seems spreading confusion and negative thinking among the people about the structure of the federalism mostly the structure of provincial governments. On the other hand, there is an increase in negative thinking towards political parties and leadership.

In this context, in order to inform about the rationale of the provincial government and to increase the positive thinking of children, the Lumbini provincial government has planned to make students from the school level participate in the provincial assembly every year and oriented them on the importance of the province government. The Lumbini Provincial Assembly Secretariat conducted an access program to the Provincial Assembly with the students last year as well.

Only children from the districts around Lumbini province capital participated in the program. The Lumbini provincial government has not been able to get students from the rural and remote districts of the province to participate in the program. It is very important to conduct such a program for common citizens and students to made them informed on it. It is necessary to continue this program to explain the importance of the provincial government to the children who are the leaders of the future, to inform them about making necessary policies and plans in the province.

Executive summary

- 171 students and teachers were oriented and observed the Lumbini Provincial Assembly Session from four community secondary school. Among them 101 were girls, 59 were boys, 9 were teachers and 2 were SMC.
- 101 students were gotten information about the three levels of structure of the government and the role of the province assembly including the policy-making process of Lumbini province.

- Two community school students have got opportunity to directly observe the Lumbini Provincial Assembly session and they have also learned about follow-up rules for entry into the Assembly.
- 101 Students have been oriented on basic legal education especially in Lumbini Provincial Assembly Secretariat Management Operation Procedure 2075 and Provincial Assembly Regulation 2079 etc.
- 88.60 % (NPR 913,785.76 Out of total budget NPR. 1,031, 400.00) budget invested till the end of the project (Feb 21, 2025).

2. Project Objectives:

The overall objective of the program is to create harmonious relationship between elected representatives and students through coordination and collaboration for the development of positive attitude of students towards the federalism, provincial government and politics including the sense of ownership.

- To inform the students of Community schools (government school) in Lumbini province about the role of provincial assembly.
- To orient the students regarding the law, policies, guideline and rule and regulation making process of the provincial government including basic legal education awareness.
- Conducting on-site inspection exposé visit of the provincial capital.

3. Methodology and Approaches:

For the effective operation of the program, all financial expenses will be provided by The Asia Foundation through the BASE Organization. All the field work management like, the management of the program, coordination with the provincial government, local government, district education coordination unit, Community School, school management committees and students will be done by BASE. The logistics management will be done by the BASE Organization. After the completion of the program, the BASE Organization will prepare a progress report of the program and submit it to The Asia Foundation and the provincial government.

After this, the BASE will select the rural and remote area (districts) of Lumbini province, where the provincial assembly has not able to conduct such activities in the past years. Before conducting the program, the concerned district's Education Coordination Unit will be informed about the program.

BASE organization will select the community schools for the visit and orientation program of Lumbini provincial assembly in the coordination with the District Education Coordination Unit. To orientate the students about the work, duties, rights and authorities of the provincial assembly, BASE will coordinate with provincial assembly to get support for the effective arrangement of the program and BASE will request one person from the provincial assembly as a facilitator. The BASE will appoint 2 employees for the management and facilitation of this program's day to day activities. The team of the program will go to the selected schools and hold a meeting with the school management committee to inform them about the program. At least 40 students will be selected from the community schools of each district at a time excluding extra 3 members of teachers (1 team leader, 1 Male and 1 Female) will be selected for their mentors.

Students will be seated in the provincial assembly in order to learn that how the provincial assembly will be conducted. During the time when the provincial assembly is not in session, one of the employees of the provincial assembly or the officials will provide orientation to the students on the operation of the provincial assembly, information on the legal making process as well as basic laws, guideline, rules and policies. Likewise, during the time the ministries and agencies in the provincial administrative complex of Lumbini Province will be observed.

Similarly, students will be informed about the observation of the Ministry of Physical Infrastructure Development and the work and responsibilities of that body and the Ministry. 160 students and 12 teachers will directly benefit from this program. During the visit, the employees of the organization will inform everyone about the child protection policies like child protection policy, child save guarding policy of the organization for the management of the sensitivities, gender and age of the students and they will be fully implied.

4. Accomplished activities/Outcomes:

4.1. Orientation of employees about the program (1 Event)

BASE Organization has organized the orientation program for hiring the new staff under the Students Access to Provincial Assembly Program in support of The Asia Foundation on Feb 01, 2025, at BASE Central Office, Rajaura Dang. First, we have introduced each other's. Mr. Indra Chaudhary, GESI Focal Persons has oriented new staff on BASE's Child Protection Policy and Students Access to Provincial Assembly Program too. After orientations, they will give orientation to Students, Teachers, SMC, Vehicle staff, and hotel staff on BASE Organization's child protection policy and child guarding policy.

There were Mr. Churna Bahadur Chaudhary ED, Mr. Chandra Chaudhary Manager, Indra Chaudhary Coordinator, Sharm Ram Tharu, PFC and Harshabandhan Chaudhary, CPO from BASE Organization and Mr. Mahendra Ghimere Technical Coordinator from The Asia Foundation. During the contract paper, new staffs have made a signature on Child Protection Policy.

4.2. Coordination and consultation meeting with Lumbini Provincial Assembly Secretariat (1 Event)

BASE Organization has conducted coordination and consultation meeting with the Lumbini Province Secretariat and The Asia Foundation on Jan 27, 2025. The meeting mains agendas were target working districts and schedule for Students Assembly observations. In that meeting, Mr. Durlab Kumar Pun Magar, Lumbini Province Secretary proposed to Rolpa, Rukum East, Bardiya, and Rupandehi districts for the Students Access to Provincial Assembly program because two districts (Bardiya and Rupandehi) are near the Rapti Vally (Deukhuri) and they can travel a day. Lumbini Provincial Secretariat will write a letter the School for observing the Lumbini Provincial Assembly, Deukhuri, Dang including date, students and teacher number with ID and School dress.

There were Mr. Durlab Kumar Pun Magar, Lumbini Province Secretary, Ms. Radha Roka Law Officer, Bibas Bohara from the Lumbini Province Secretariat, Mr. Mahendra Ghimere, Technical Coordinator TAF and Mr. Sharm Ram Tharu, Program Field Coordinator, BASE in that meeting.

4.3. Coordination and consultation meeting with selected District Education Coordination Unit –DECU

We have coordinated and consulted meeting with District Education Coordination Unit (DECU), Rolpa , Rukum East, Bardiya and Rupandehi districts for selecting school in their districts for the Assembly observation and orientation to the students at Lumbini Provincial Assembly.

4.4. Coordination and consultation meeting with selected school management committee and teachers

Before exposure visits, Mr. Sharm Ram Tharu PFC and Mr. Harshabandhan Chaudhary CPO from BASE Organization visited the field and coordinated consultation meetings with the provincial government, local government, district education coordination unit, Community School, school management committees, and students. They have also oriented students, teachers, SMC, and vehicle staff on the child protection policy in the Nepal Secondary School Kotgaun, Nepal National Secondary School, Chunbang, Rukum East, Laligurans Secondary School Bansgadhi, Bardiya, and Kalika Manavgyan Secondary School Butwal, Rupandehi.

Lumbini Provincial Assembly Secretariat Deukhuri Dang has also given a letter including a clear message. It's supported to help us coordinate with schools. Consent from has been made parents signature through school teachers.

4.5. Assembly observation exposor visit and orientation to the students at Lumbini Provincial Assembly

BASE Organization has conducted 4 events Assembly observation exposure visit and orientation to the students at Lumbini Provincial Assembly Deukhuri Dang coordinated with Lumbini Provincial Assembly Secretariat in support of The Asia Foundation.

There were 171 students and teachers participated in the program from four community secondary school. Among them 101 were girls, 59 were boys, 9 were teachers and 2 were SMC.

Details school name, district, visit date and students' number:

S.N .	School and District's Name	District	Visited date	Participants				
				Girl	Bo y	Teacher	SM C	Total
1.	Nepal Secondary School Kotgaun	Rolpa	Feb 3-4, 2025	20	20	2	-	42
2.	Nepal National Secondary School, Chunbang	Rukum East	Feb 10-11, 2025	26	14	2	-	42
3.	Shree Laligurans Secondary School, Machhagadh	Bardiya	Feb 16, 2025	22	18	2	2	44
4.	Kalika Manavgyan Secondary School, Butwal	Rupandehi	Feb 18, 2025	33	7	3	-	43
	Total			101	59	9	2	171

In the Provincial Assembly secretariat, the program started by welcoming all students and teachers wearing khada and introducing each other.

Ms. Radha Roka, Law Officer has facilitated the interaction program between Speaker Hon. Tula Ram Gharti Magar and Students. In that session, students asked questions, and the Speaker answered with a motivational speech. Questions were: How do you resolve disputes in the provincial assembly? How did you, the son of a Magar, succeed in assuming the honorable position of Speaker? After grade 10+2, Young people are leaving the country and migrating abroad. Will it ever be possible to live and work in Nepal?

After interaction program, Mr. Durlabh Kumar Pun Magar, Secretary Lumbini Provincial Assembly Secretariat has presented his presentation on operation of provincial government assembly, laws, policies, guideline, rule and regulation making process of the provincial government through their active participation in provincial assembly, Deukhuri, Dang.

Similarly, Mr. Ishwari Prasad Acharya, Deputy Secretary, Lumbini Provincial Assembly Secretariat has presented presentation covered Nepal Constitution 2072, basic laws, guideline, rules and policies.

There was also shown the short movies on Lumbini Provincial Assembly activities.

Ms. Sameera Shreshtha, BEA Officer of TAF has presented a presentation on Let's Read and Asia's Free Library for Children App Store to students of Nepal Secondary School, Kotgaun, Rolpa at Pauwa Hotel. Mr. Mahendra Ghimere, Technical Coordinator TAF has supported coordinating with the Lumbini Provincial Assembly Secretariat and monitored the Assembly observation program regularly.

End of program Lumbini Provincial Assembly Speaker Tularam Gharti gave a Token of Love to all school teachers.

4.6. Assembly observation

BASE Organization has conducted 4 events the observation the Lumbini Provincial Assembly Deukhuri Dang coordinated with Lumbini Provincial Assembly Secretariat in support of The Asia Foundation.

During this time two school students have gotten the opportunity to observe the provincial assembly to learn how the provincial assembly is conducted. They have also observed the ministries and agencies in the provincial administrative complex of Lumbini Province.

Ms. Radha Roka, Law Officer, Ms. Kamala Paudel Spokesperson/ Eighth Officer, Mr. Bed Prasad Luitel, Officer and Mr. Bibash Bohara Computer Operator from Lumbini Provincial Assembly Secretariat have also supported observing the Ministry.

There were 171 students and teachers participated in the program from four community secondary school. Among them 101 were girls, 59 were boys, 9 were teachers and 2 were SMC.

5. Expected Achievement of the project results

- 101 students have got information about the three levels of structure of the government and the role of the province assembly including the policy-making process of Lumbini province.
- Two community school students have got opportunity to directly observe the Lumbini Provincial Assembly session and they have also learned about follow-up rules for entry into the Assembly.

- 101 Students have been oriented on basic legal education especially in Lumbini Provincial Assembly Secretariat Management Operation Procedure 2075 and Provincial Assembly Regulation 2079 etc.
- 101 students have got information about the work, duties, and rights of the ministries of the province.
- 101 students have shared their experience of the exposure visit and what they have learned with their friends at school.
- It supported for effective implementation of Federalism.
- 101 Students have developed a positive attitude towards the provincial government structure, policies, and politics.

6. Lessons Learnt

- Students should be oriented in before at school about the new places, technology, and problems when they stay in hotels.
- At least two days should be planned for exposure visits upcoming days.

7. Challenges:

- The program to organize an observation visit of the Lumbini Provincial Assembly from schools in remote districts without insuring the participants was very challenging.

8. Photos:





Shree Laligurans Secondary School Machhagadh, Bardiya team Observation Lumbini Provincial Assembly





Kalika Manavgyan Secondary School Butwal, Rupandehi team Observation Lumbini Provincial Assembly



K. Audit Report 2081/2082

BASE - SANSTHA (BACKWARD SOCIETY EDUCATION)
Tulipur Sub-Metropolitan City, Ward No-06, Dang
Consolidated Fund Accountability Statement

For the year ended XI Ashad, 2082 (July 16, 2025)

Notes 4

Particulars	Donor	Accts.	Opening	Receipt	Total	Payment	Fund Balance	Advance & Receivable	Payable	Bank	Cash	Fund Balance	
A	B	C	D	E	F=D+E	G	H=F-G	I	J	K	L	M=H+K+L	
Grant Fund:													
Market-And Enterprise Promotion Through Access to Finance and Partnership with Private Sector (Uddhayan Project)	Lattesa World Bank(WB)	A	820,973	3,722,119	4,543,092	4,443,092	-	-	-	-	-	-	
WASH GAINS - District: Bardia and Dang	Water Aid Nepal (WAN)	B	15,917,568	71,739,000	87,656,568	68,823,543	18,833,025	-	(3,111,821)	27,245	5,464	(3,898,911)	
Sanatara II - District: Dang	Case Nepal	C	7,147	-	7,147	7,147	-	-	-	-	-	-	
SAMARTHIA - TAF	The Arise Foundation (TAF)	D	-	335,361	335,361	335,361	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Access to Finance: Anarobhi - TAF	The Arise Foundation (TAF)	E	-	913,786	913,786	913,786	-	-	(5,493)	5,493	-	-	
SNOP - F.A. EPPN	The Arise Foundation (TAF)	F	(576,708)	8,188,852	7,612,144	8,040,044	(222,731)	(108,403)	(345,256)	7,141	7,084	(222,731)	
Empowerment Project & Child Marriage Campaign Free Nepal	Kailash Sanyartha Children's Foundation (KSCF -II)	G	4,508	-	4,508	4,508	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Preventing Early Marriage Through Education & Empowerment Project	Kailash Sanyartha Children's Foundation of America (KSCF -I)	H	434,708	5,244,750	5,679,458	5,879,591	1,474	351	(13,441)	14,764	-	1,474	
Economic Opportunity for the Marginalized Community in Nepal	Dama Family Charitable Foundation	I	3,258,363	6,951,523	10,209,886	3,881,393	6,428,493	3,864,451	(999,079)	3,057,176	5,884	6,428,432	
Staying Children School Feeding Program	Chies Foundation Rural Development (CFRD)	J	5,811,443	10,889,344	16,700,787	11,696,899	5,003,888	-	(2,782)	4,996,393	-	4,503,641	
Safe Migration to Combat Trafficking Project	GI2E	K	-	1,832,918	1,832,918	1,832,918	-	-	(5,293)	5,293	-	-	
Support USAID/Taylor Nepal's supplemental table under activities to address the Food Security of Vulnerable Households, Lamachokha	USAID / Taylor Nepal	L	24,651	-	24,651	24,651	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Deliver Economic Resilience of Targeted Vulnerable Indigenous Group	Teye Nepal	M	(105,793)	1,762,687	1,656,894	1,679,378	(2,484)	-	(18,107)	16,622	-	(2,445)	
Transferring Lives Through Nutrition (TLTN) program	Hites Kather International (HKI)	N	-	19,708,190	19,708,190	19,708,190	-	-	(50,000)	50,000	-	-	
Transferring Lives Through Nutrition (TLTN) program	International Development Enterprises (IDE)	O	-	17,636,890	17,636,890	18,042,935	(406,045)	-	(648,829)	22,109	-	(646,920)	
Strengthening the Market Development System for Clean Cooking in Nepal	SNV	P	-	3,995,855	3,995,855	7,663,801	332,854	-	(213,748)	345,584	1,018	332,854	
Sub-Total			3,687,049	186,841,279	190,528,328	193,213,819	7,385,481	4,873,682	(5,697,488)	8,398,317	19,640	7,188,481	
Sub-Total													
			Grand Total FY 2081-82	3,687,049	186,841,279	190,528,328	193,213,819	7,385,481	4,873,682	(5,697,488)	8,398,317	19,640	7,188,481
			Grand Total FY 2080-81	8,221,799	135,413,846	143,635,645	133,976,656	3,687,049	7,401,543	(11,679,821)	8,889,349	46,888	3,687,049

Chitra Bahadur Chaudhary
Executive Director
(Signature)
Project Coordinator
Tulipur
Date: Sep. 08, 2023
Place: Dang

(Signature)
Sagar Raj Chaudhary
Acting President



(Signature)
Sagar Raj Chaudhary
Admin & Finance Coordinator
(Signature)
CA Narsing Prasad
Narsing Raj & Associates
Chartered Accountants
Chitwan

L. BASE Partners:

The Asia Foundation

Kailash Satyarthi Children Foundation US

Water Aid Nepal

SNV Nepal

Dunn Family Charity Foundation

Mercy Corps

Plan International

Yale University

Room to Read

Just Rights for Children

Helen keller Interbational

Helen Keller International

iDE Nepal

Lutheran World Relief

GIZ

USAID's Tayar Nepal

ADRA Nepal

RTI

Advocacy Project US

World Education

iDE

UNDP