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# NEWSLETTER

Issue 3, December 2020



## ENHANCING CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION IN SUB-NATIONAL GOOD GOVERNANCE

(Local and Provincial Level) in the Context of the New Federal System in Nepal



*'Enhancing Citizens' Participation in Sub-National Good Governance (Local and Provincial Level) in the Context of the New Federal System in Nepal' is a four-year European Commission funded governance project implemented in three districts of Karnali province by a consortium of five organizations. Sahakarmi Samaj (SS) from Kohalpur, Banke is the lead of this consortium project and also the key implementer of the project in Kalikot and Jajarkot districts. Dalit Development Society (DDS) has a key role to implement the project in Salyan district. Center for Dalit Women Nepal (CDWN) has a role to implement the local government capacity building activities in-terms of inclusive planning, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)/gender responsive planning and budgeting, and supporting local government to develop GESI friendly planning, implementing and monitoring guidelines. IM Swedish Development Partner (IM) plays the roles of providing technical support and capacity building to the consortium members on human rights-based approach, GESI and conflict sensitivity mainstreaming, environment mainstreaming and thematic technical support on agriculture and education areas. Tdh have a role to provide technical support and capacity building to the consortium members on WaSH, health and youth related thematic after areas, and Tdh is also the lead in implementing ICT solutions for good governance. In addition, IM and Tdh contributes the project with five per cent co-finance from each of the organizations.*

## **Sahakarmi Samaj**

*Consortium Coordinator*

*The lead of this consortium project and a key implementer in Kalikot and Jajarkot districts.*

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## **Center for Dalit Women Nepal**

*Project co-lead*

*Local government capacity building activities focusing GESI and Gender responsive planning, budgeting and implementation.*

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## **Dalit Development Society**

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*Key role to implement the project in Salyan district.*

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## **IM Swedish Development Partner**

*Project co-lead*

*Provides technical support and capacity building to the consortium members on human rights based approach, GESI, conflict sensitivity and environment mainstreaming with thematic technical support on agriculture and education. IM also provides 5% co-funding.*

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## **Terre des hommes**

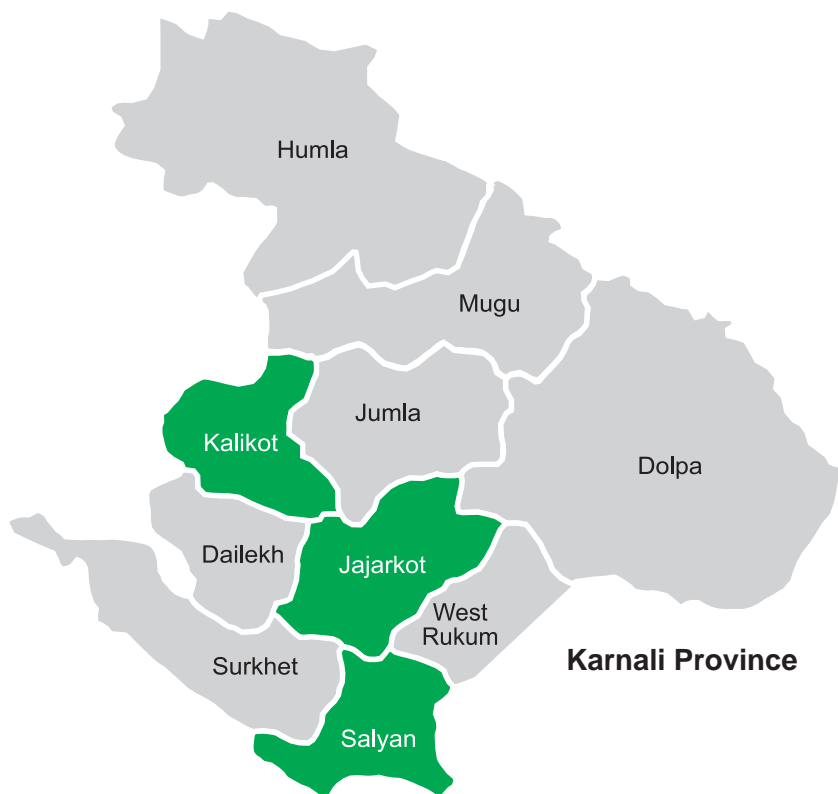
*Project co-lead*

*Provides technical support and capacity building to the consortium members on Water and Sanitation Hygiene (WaSH), health, youth engagement and M&E. Tdh also provides 5% co-funding.*

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# The Project

*Enhancing Citizens' Participation in Sub-National Good Governance (Local and Provincial Level) in the Context of the New Federal System in Nepal*



Working in **12** Palikas of **3** districts  
of Karnali Province

**Kalikot** : Khadachakra, Narharinath and Sanni Triveni Palikas

**Jajarkot** : Bheri, Shivalaya, Junichande and Chhedgad Palikas

**Salyan** : Siddha Kumakh, Kapurkot, Triveni, Kalimati and Darma Palikas

# सुशासन सञ्जालको संयोजकमा रेग्मी

► भेरीमालिका संवाददाता  
सुर्खेत, १६ मंसिर ।

कर्णाली प्रदेश स्तरीय सुशासन सञ्जाल गठन भएको छ । मंगलबार प्रदेश स्तरीय सुशासन सञ्जाल गठन भएको छ । प्रदेशका १० ओटा जिल्लाबाट २ जनाको प्रतिनिधित्व गरी सुशासन सञ्जाल गठन भएको सहकर्मी समाज सुर्खेतका कार्यक्रम संयोजक हरि उपाध्यायले बताए ।

कर्णाली प्रदेश राजधानी वीरेन्द्रनगरमा मुख्यमन्त्री तथा मन्त्रिपरिषदको कार्यालयको सुशासन सहयोग कार्यक्रमको सहकार्यमा आयोजित प्रदेशस्तरीय सुशासन सम्मेलनबाट सुर्खेतका खेम रेग्मीको संयोजकत्वमा ११ सदस्यीय तदर्थ समिति गठन भएको छ । सहकर्मी समाज नेपालको संयोजन, दलित विकास समाज सल्यान र दलित महिला केन्द्र नेपाल, स्वीडिस डेभलपमेन्ट पार्टनर र तेरे देज जोम्सको सयुक्त पहलमा



सञ्चालन भएको सम्मेलनबाट तदर्थ समिति गठन गरिएको कार्यक्रम संयोजक उपाध्यायले जानकारी दिए । कार्यक्रम सुशासनमा नागरिक सहभागिता युरोपियन युनियनको आर्थिक सहयोगमा संचालन भएको हो । समितिमा जाजरकोटबाट राजेन्द्र विक्रम शाह, इन्द्रा केसी सल्यानबाट सन्तोष बि.क र करिस्मा गिरी सुर्खेतबाट पुष्पा नेपाली

कालिकोटबाट नवराज सञ्ज्याल र कल्पना केसी सदस्य रहेका छन् । उनीहरु कर्णालीका कालिकोट, जाजरकोट र सल्यान, सुर्खेतका सुशासनका क्षेत्रमा कार्यरत ३५ जनाको सहभागिताबाट समितिको जिम्मेवारी पाएका हुन । कर्णाली प्रदेशमा रहेर सुशासनमा प्रत्यक्ष रुपमा कार्यरत सरोकारवालाहरु बीच सिकाई आदान प्रदान गर्ने, सुशासनका

क्षेत्रमा देखिएका चुनौतीलाई छलफल गरेर सुधार गर्ने, सुशासनमा काम गर्ने सरोकारवालाहरुको प्रदेशस्तरीय सञ्जाल गठन गर्ने उद्देश्यले कार्यक्रमको सम्मेलनको आयोजना गरिएको छ । उक्त समितिले सम्पूर्ण कर्णाली प्रदेशमा सुशासनको क्षेत्रमा काम गर्ने भएको कार्यक्रमका सहकर्मी समाज सुर्खेतका अध्यक्ष रत्नबहादुर गाहा मगरले जानकारी दिए ।

## Formation of Provincial Good Governance Network

On December 2020, a provincial good governance network (a loose network) has been formed through a subnational good governance conference at Surkhet. The objective of the network is to work against the governance issues in Karnali province and to promote the increased use of social

accountability tools within the Civil Society Organization and government Institutions. The network consists 20 members (1 female, 1 male each) from 10 districts of Karnali Province. Out of these 10 members will be further selected for a provincial committee and mobilised as envisioned.



## Sub-National Good Governance Conference

Sahakarmi Samaj organized 'Sub-National Good Governance Conference' in Birendranagar Surkhet from 29th Nov to 2nd December 2020 in collaboration with Nepal government's Provincial and Local Governance Support Program (PLGSP).

The objectives of the conference were to exchange the learning and best practices among governance stakeholders in Karnali province for promotion and replication. To discuss on issues and challenges faced on governance practices for joint initiatives of way forwards. To form a provincial good governance network of CSOs working in governance in Karnali province for sustainable actions. To facilitate provincial parliamentarian for reflection, communication and policy actions to address the local and provincial issues on good governance in Karnali Province.

## KEY OUTCOMES

The government stakeholders including local elected representatives, provincial parliamentarians and government officials learned about the areas of improvement needed for quality service delivery, increasing citizen's participations in planning and policy making process, and gaps on quality education, health facility, WASH facility and agriculture services.

Sensitised the concerned government officials of province and local level about the real issues faced by citizens and need for enabling the services to address them through improved government mechanisms.

A province level good governance network formed with the equal and inclusive representation of government stakeholders for the joint action for improved governance.

A linkage and platform created with provincial parliamentarians and government officials which provide a space to ask, complain and collaborate for the promotion and institutionalization of good governance in Province and Local level.

A collaboration has established with the government program called "Province and Local Governance Support Program (PLGSP).



## Workshop on People Centred Development Approach

A three days workshop on People Centred Development Approach is conducted at 12 working palikas of Jajarkot, Kalikot and Salyan district by Sahakarmi Samaj and Dalit Development Society. The workshop focused on creating a mutual learning forum and building cordial relationship among elected

representatives, government officials, CSOs leaders and representatives of community groups. Existing development practices of the Palikas were reviewed and discussion was made on sustainable development process, creating strategic vision of Palikas and role of civil society in these process.

# Interaction with Provincial and Local Government for Formulation and Implementation of Inclusive and Gender Responsive Budget (GRB)

Center for Dalit Women Nepal (CDWN) organized provincial level interaction program on Status of communication and coordination among the local and provincial government for formulation of inclusive and gender responsive budgeting with the provincial Ministers, Parliamentarians and Local Elected Representatives, of working municipalities of Salyan, Kalikot and Jajarkot. Human rights activists, journalists and government officials were also present in the programme. Prakash Jwala, Economic Affairs and Planning Minister of Karnali Province was the chief guest of the programme.

A paper presentation was done on inclusive and Gender Responsive Budgeting, importance of coordination and communication between provincial and local governments followed by the interaction. There was presence of 14 female among 42 participants including 8 representatives from Dalit community. As a major concern, the local government representatives expressed that they have been very inclusive and gender friendly while allocating budget despite of the fact that they too have to depend on central and province government while formulating budget. The representatives highlighted that the budget provided to local government is in scattered form, and the local governments are unable to utilize the budget and their lack the effective monitoring mechanism.

The interaction was very much appreciated as it gave a platform for sharing the concerns of the Local government with provincial government. The Chief Guest Honourable Minister Prakah Jwala shared that the interaction has raised the serious need of coordination unit established to enhance the coordination among local and provincial government on which a decision was made long time before but not materialize.





## Local Governments to reinforce Gender Responsive Budgeting and GESI

Center for Dalit women Nepal in coordination with Dalit Development Society and rural municipalities, organized three events of one day interaction program in Siddhakumakh, Triveni and Kapurkot Rural Municipalities of Salyan district on 24, 25, 26 November 2020 respectively. The discussion was held on gender responsive budgeting, planning and status of coordination between municipality, ward members and its implementation. Program attendees were very vocal while addressing the need for inclusive and

gender responsive budget. There was presence of ward chairperson, ward vice-chairperson, ward members, Dalit female ward members, thematic department head, ward secretary, all agreed that along with infrastructure development, community development should also be regulated and given priority. Altogether there was presence of 102 people including 59 female representatives from different ethnic groups. Among them 19 were from Dalit Community, 67 were Bahun/Chettri and 16 were Janajati community.



# Entrepreneurship Development Training For Youth

As a part of capacity building of civil society particularly marginalized youths and increasing access to opportunity, Sahakarmi Samaj provided an Enterprise Development Training to youth from working Palikas of Jajarkot and kalikot. The main purpose of the training was to support youths to start/ establish the small business in rural set up through developing business plans. In order to deliver entrepreneurship skills, Sahakarmi Samaj and Institute of Enterprise Development Pvt. Ltd (IED) signed an agreement and as per that IED provided four days packages of entrepreneurship development training to 108 Youths in two districts Jajarkot (Chedagadha and Junichade) and Kalikot (Naraharinath, Sanni Triveni and Manma) from November 8 to December 7, 2020. Among the total participants, 64% participation was from young women.

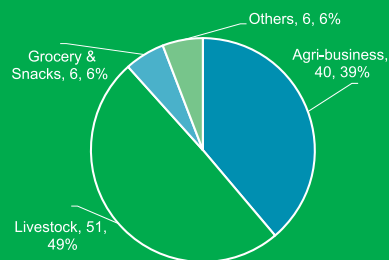


## KEY OUTPUTS OF THE TRAINING

# 108 YOUTH

- Developed knowledge on basic concept and importance on small enterprise/business.
- Developed their skill to identify business opportunities at their rural set up
- Developed their knowledge on the concept of local resources mobilization, revolving fund mobilisation and on the process of business registration and marketing.

Selection of Trade by Participants during individual Business Preparatoin Session





## Transformation in Pragatisil Community Group

Pragatisil Community Group is based out in Siddha Kumakh Rural Municipality ward no 4 of Salyan District of Karnali Province of Nepal. The community is situated a bit far from the government functionary, as a result of which the people living there are unfamiliar of their rights and entitlements. The chairperson of this CG says that many 'Micro-finance' were tempting the citizens of the community by providing them loan at very high interest rates. To repay the loan, the people had to work very hard affecting their daily lives. Due to immense work pressure, the citizens are not taking part in the governmental works.

This Pragatisil Community Group was established on 2076 Jestha altogether 26 including 9 males and 17 females. This Community Group was established after the implementation of the project peoples' participation in good governance. The chairperson Govinda says that "I was not hoping that I would gather these many people in the Community Group. We encouraged them with great difficulties - by giving them orientation, by mobilizing each and every activity, and developing the habit of doing the work independently."



Nowadays this community is conducting meetings frequently. This CG had done different types of community level work. "The CG has also made the civics to realize that if each and every civic is well informed about their rights and duties then they would be able to make their own decisions. The civics has also realized that if they identified their problems, they have the ability to solve them within themselves," Govinda says.

The community group enhanced village clinic which was in a bad shape and now it is providing the service to the locals, especially with the work on immunization. They have also asked for a new building for clinic. In the meeting recently, they decided to repair the road connecting Kotwat to Kkuhirahar. "Now we do our own work and also work in coordination with the local government. We also take part in the process of policy making and plans. Physically citizens are far from the RM but they also take the information from the phone about the different subjects," he says.

This CG is capable of doing all these works because of the contribution of the project and Dalit Development Society (DDS), Salyan.