

A woman with dark hair, wearing a patterned black and white jacket and dark pants, is crouching in a chicken coop. She is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The coop is dimly lit, with two bright incandescent light bulbs hanging from the ceiling. The floor is covered in straw and litter, and is populated by numerous small, yellow chicks. A white plastic water dispenser with a grey base is positioned in front of her. The background shows the wooden structure of the coop and a sign with the letters "HOT" partially visible.

REFLECTIONS AND LEARNING

2017

ActionAid Nepal (AAN)

ActionAid started working in Nepal in 1982, just after ten years of its establishment as a charity organization in the United Kingdom. Today, ActionAid is a global movement of people working together to further human rights and defeat poverty for all. ActionAid is a global federation and ActionAid Nepal is one of the members of that federation.

Based on its learning from grassroots to international, AAN has evolved through diverse changes on approaches and working modalities in its 36 years journey of the fight against poverty and injustice. Starting from charity-based work in the 1980s to improve the basic living conditions of the poorest people, AAN has now adopted a human rights-based approach with an aim to enhance the capacity of the poor and excluded people to claim and exercise their rights to live a dignified life.

REFLECTIONS **AND** LEARNING 2017

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COVER PHOTO

Women's collectives formed in Rasuwa to generate livelihood alternatives for earthquake victims.



vision

A NEPAL WITHOUT
POVERTY AND
INJUSTICE IN WHICH
EVERY PERSON ENJOYS
HIS OR HER RIGHT TO A
LIFE OF DIGNITY

mission

TO WORK WITH PEOPLE
LIVING IN POVERTY AND
EXCLUDED PEOPLE TO
ERADICATE POVERTY
AND INJUSTICE

We Believe

Poverty is a denial and violation of human rights stemming from a historical process of exclusion and injustice. It is a complex, dynamic and multifaceted phenomenon associated with social constructs, such as gender, caste, ethnicity, location, physical ability and class.

We Work with

Women, Dalits, Highly Excluded Indigenous People and People Living in Poverty

Our Approach

We adopt a human rights-based approach as our overarching framework to fight poverty, injustice and inequality and believe the State is the primary duty bearer for the dignity and well-being of its citizens.

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NEPAL



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ACRONYMS

AAN	ActionAid Nepal
CCCC	Community Child Care Centre
CCL	Child Centred Learning
CER	Citizens Education Report
CFUG	Community Forest Users' Groups
CLRP	Community Led Reconstruction Programme
CRSA	Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CSP	Country Strategy Paper
DADO	District Agriculture Development Office
DDRC	District Disaster Relief Committee
DEO	District Education Office
DMC	Disaster Management Committee
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ECD	Early Childhood Development
GBP	Great Britain Pound
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GRPS	Gender Responsive Public Services
HRBA	Human Rights-based Approach
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
LRF	Land Rights Forum
LRP	Local Rights Programme
MAM	Mahila Adhikar Manch
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PLiP	People living in Poverty
PNGO	Partner Non-Governmental Organization
PRS	Promoting Rights in School
PTA	Parent Teacher Association
PVA	Participatory Vulnerability Assessment
ReFLECT	Regenerated Freirean Literacy through Empowering Community Techniques
Rtl	Right to Information
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SIP	School Improvement Plan
SMC	School Management Committee
SRHR	Sexual Reproductive Health Rights
UCW	Unpaid Care Work
VAW	Violence against Women
VDC	Village Development Committee

CCL: It is a child focused learning approach where the children learn without any pressure through innovative teaching and learning methods. It also refers to children's right to quality trained teachers and right to learn in a peaceful and child friendly environment.

Chaupadi: A conservative social practice for women in certain districts of Western Nepal, which prohibits a woman from participating in normal family and community activities during menstruation and after childbirth, as she is considered impure.

CRSA: Climate Resilient Sustainable Agriculture is a strategy aimed at making small holder farmers less vulnerable and more resilient to future climate shocks. It is based on the science and practices of agroecology, and it contributes to both climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Haliya: An exploitative wage system of hiring people for ploughing landlord's land at extremely low wages paid in grains on yearly basis. In some cases, these poor people are simply forced to plough the land as a repayment of loans taken by them or their ancestors.

HRBA: Our human rights-based approach supports People Living in Poverty to become conscious of their rights, to organize themselves to claim their rights, and to hold duty bearers to account. AAN builds on international human rights law, but goes beyond a legal or technical approach, supporting people to analyze and confront power imbalances and take sides with the PLiP.

Kamaiya: Agricultural bonded labourer, particularly those that existed in Western Nepal but abolished after the promulgation of Kamaiya Labour (Prohibition) Act, 2002.

LRP: Our long-term programmes in particular districts and communities; AAN refers to all of its programmes as rights programmes, which may be implemented at local, national and international levels.

Off-farm livelihood: Engagement in formal or informal skill based works or enterprises that contribute the household incomes. For example: carpentry, mason, plumbing, etc.

On-farm livelihood: Direct involvement in the agriculture and/or livestock rearing sector and considering it as a major source of income. For example: vegetable farming, poultry, etc.

PLiP: We avoid talking about "poor people" which has an element of condescension. "PLiP" emphasises a common humanity and poverty being a state that people are living in, which ActionAid is trying to end.

PRS: It is a framework produced by the Right to Education Project together with ActionAid's International Education Team, aimed at actively engaging parents, children, teachers' unions, communities and local civil society organizations in collectively monitoring and improving the quality of public education. It offers a set of practical tools, to track 10 core rights of school education that can be used as a basis for mobilization, advocacy and campaigning.

ReFLECT: Regenerated Freirean Literacy through Empowering Community Techniques-an innovative approach to adult learning and social change, which focuses on the theory of Paulo Freire and uses participatory rural appraisal methodologies.

GLOSSARY



MESSAGE



Prof. Subas KC
Board Chair



Sujeeta Mathema
Executive Director

Dear All,
Namaste!!

It is our great pleasure to share our 'Reflections and Learning 2017' which provides an overview of our work over the year. 2017 has been a historic year for Nepal with local, provincial and national level elections held in the same year. They have set a beginning of new era with an introduction to three tiers of federal governance structure.

Prior to local election, AAN along with its partner organizations conducted election education programmes for rights holders and meetings with political party representatives to receive their commitments for the inclusion of poor and marginalized as election candidates. As a result, considerable number of social mobilizers, ReFLECT facilitators, staff of PNGOs, network and alliance members associated with us were successful to receive nomination and get elected in various positions of local bodies.

After the massive 2015 earthquakes, AAN engaged in reconstruction process from the economic, social and cultural perspectives apart from the physical one. To quote some of the major achievements, we have been successful to promote women leadership in an emergency. Breaking the gender stereotype mind-set, women victims of earthquake were provided with

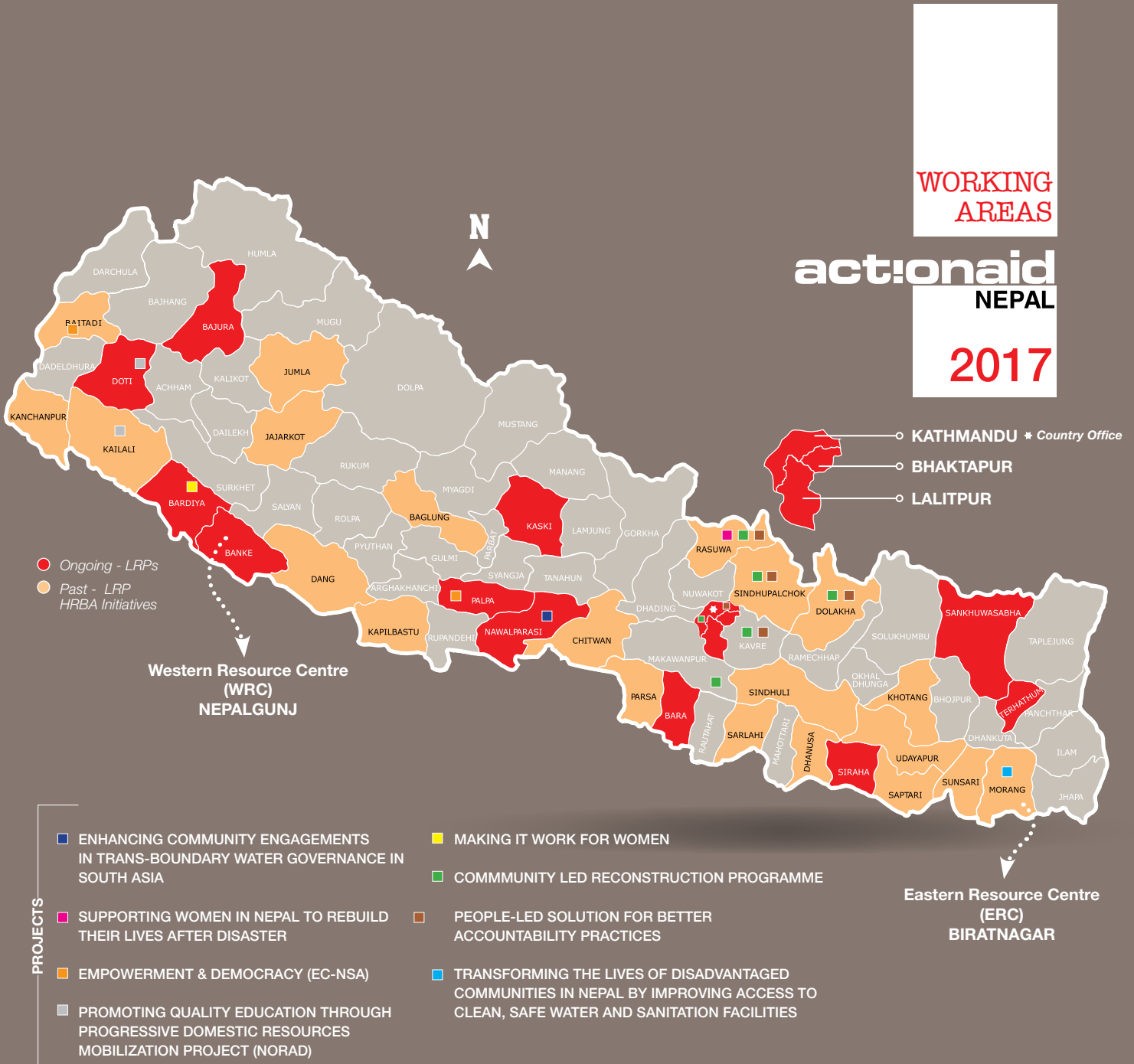
CTEVT certified vocational trainings on masonry, plumbing etc. This helped some of them to start their own small business/enterprise registering with Small Scale Cottage Industry Development Committee. We are also reconstructing 12 disaster resilient schools with gender and disable friendly infrastructures.

In August 2017, Nepal experienced its worst rains in 15 years, resulting in large-scale impacts on lives, livelihoods and infrastructure across 35 of the nation's 77 districts. For relief support, AAN and its local partners were on the grounds immediately after the disaster. The team distributed ready to eat food, tarpaulin, dignity kits, educational materials and uniforms, nutritious food for pregnant/lactating women and children. Similarly, as an initiation of flood affected school restoration programme, construction of a disaster resilient school building has been started with joint financial contribution of AAN, Gulariya Municipality and Ward Office of Bardiya. The programme also included support for toilet and handpump maintenance in 10 primary schools of the district including the provision of sitting arrangements within them.

AAN's continuous efforts on policy advocacy through different discourses, platforms, local/national campaigns along with its partner organizations, networks and alliances helped to play an important

role for various policy reformation. The Government of Nepal has prepared a draft bill on Land Use and the Ministry of Land Reform and Management has issued Directive on Joint Land Ownership and Order for formation of Commission on Formal Settlement (*Byawastit Basobaas Aayog Aadesh*). In line with the new Disaster Management Bill 2074, the President of Nepal certified Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act. The Act replaced the old Natural Calamity (Rescue) Act 1982 which did not cover the comprehensive disaster risk management. The Supreme Court outlawed the malpractice of Chaupadi and this will soon come to an effect.

Further, it is an honor to mention that AAN is committed towards its non-negotiable principles like: promoting women leadership, ensuring transparency and accountability, shifting the power through localization process like strengthening local CBOs etc. Lastly, we would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Government of Nepal, Social Welfare Council, Central and District Project Advisory Committee, the local communities, our partner NGOs/CBOs, Networks and Alliances, AAN staff, National Board of Governance and ActionAid International Federation for their untiring dedication, hard work and contribution to support our mission and wish to receive the same in the days to come.



AAN'S PROGRAMME DETAILS				
Managed By	Districts	Total LRPs	LRP Partners	Project Partners
Eastern Resource Centre	5	4	6	19
Kathmandu Office	9	2	4	
Western Resource Centre	8	6	9	
Total	22	12	19	19

Programme Districts managed by Western Resource Centre

BARDIYA, NAWALPARASI,
BAJURA, BANKE, DOTI, PALPA,
BAITADI, KAILALI

Programme Districts managed by Kathmandu Centre

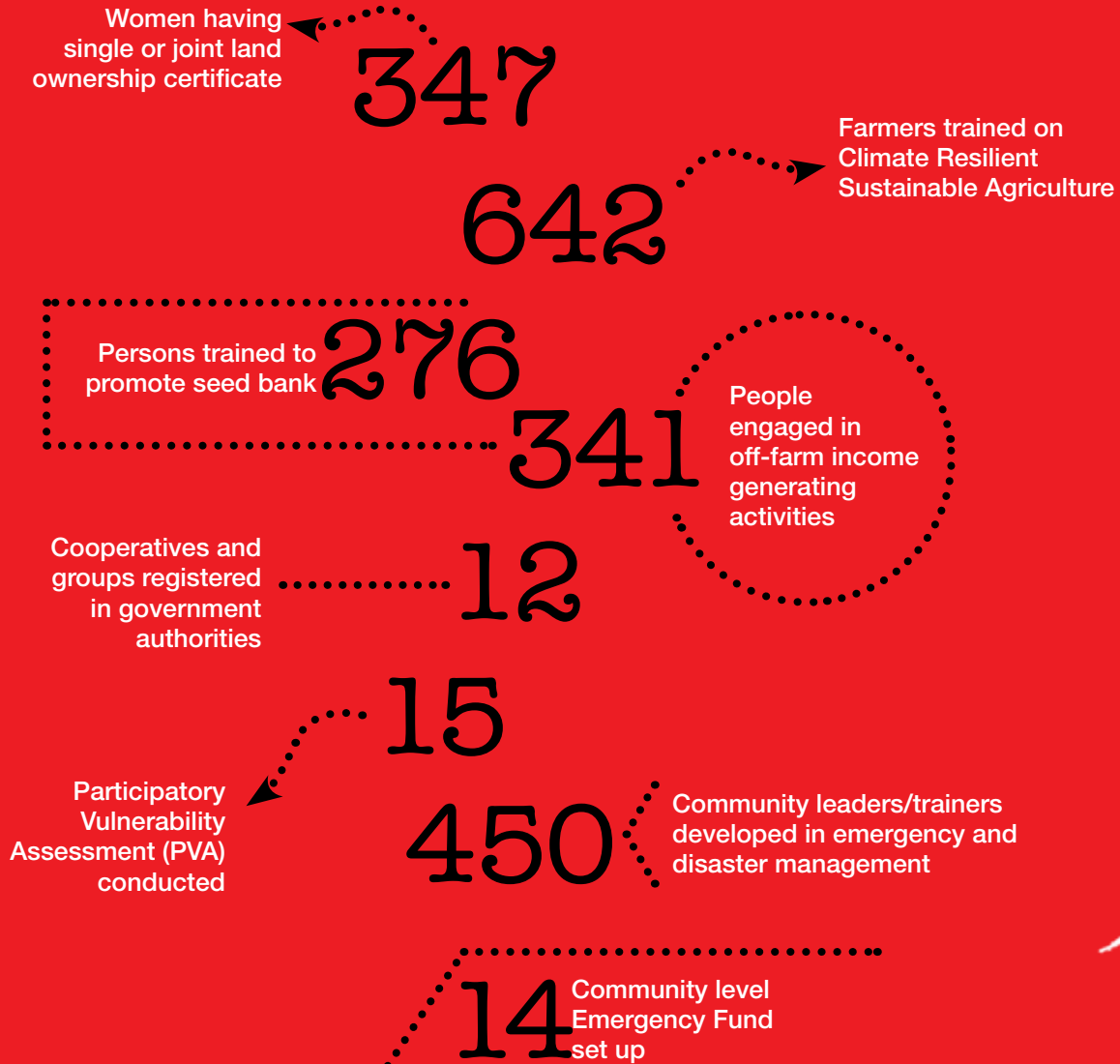
MAKAWANPUR, KASKI,
KATHMANDU, LALITPUR,
BHAKTAPUR, RASUWA,
SINDHUPALCHOWK, DOLAKHA,
KAVREPALANCHOWK

Programme Districts managed by Eastern Resource Centre

SIRAHA, MORANG, BARA,
TERHATHUM, SANKHUWASABHA

GLIMPSE OF QUANTITATIVE

LAND, LIVELIHOOD,
EMERGENCY AND DISASTER



ACHIEVEMENTS 2017



WOMEN'S RIGHTS

836

Women engaged in income generation activities/small scale enterprises

281

VAW cases reported

17

Communities set up emergency fund to address VAW cases

88

VAW cases getting justice through legal process

881

Women receiving MAM membership

243

Women receiving technical off farm training





QUALITY EDUCATION

1,702

Persons receiving capacity building initiatives on PRS Framework and Charter of 10 rights on school education

1,894

School going aged children enrolled in school within the working areas

54

Early Childhood Development Centers established

97

Schools applying child centred learning approach

520

Students and teachers trained on DRR

3,241

PLiP who have been able to read and write simple sentences and perform simple calculation through REFLECT circles

COMMUNITY LED RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME

30

Women Friendly Spaces constructed

64

Women's Collectives formed and strengthened

620

Farmers provided with micro-enterprise and business development training

853

CTEVT certified vocational training for women and other marginalized groups

137

Community Reconstruction Committees formed

46

Micro-infrastructures like ward office, health centre and gender desks in schools, ward office, health post constructed/repaired

49

Constructed small scale mitigation activities like water tank, bridge, irrigation canal, gabion wall

12

Schools under reconstruction

29

Participatory Vulnerability Assessments (PVA) carried out in schools

29

Mock drills in schools with the development of evacuation plans



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The 2017 Nepal elections have set a milestone on the implementation of federal constitution and introduced three tiers of governance structure: Federal, Provincial and Local. Now, the next important step for the government is to deliver policy level work within all its reformed structure.

In the changed context over the year, AAN was engaged on various critical issues of land rights and livelihood, reconstruction and resilience building, quality public services, participatory democratic governance, women's rights and quality education rights.

Considering the entitlement of **land as a source of power** to live with dignity, AAN has worked to ensure landless, poor and marginalized people's access to and control over it. Campaigns on single/joint land ownership, tenancy rights, Haliya and Kamaiya Rehabilitation programmes are some of the major ones.

After series of trainings on **CRSA** and material support of agricultural products, use of chemical fertilizers has significantly reduced and botanical compost manure became an alternative of them. The concept

▲ *Taj Khatun of Parsa is happy to receive small scale livelihood support to be economically independent and have her say within the family and the society.*

of community seed bank, on the other hand has become an important step for the preservation of native seeds, for the conservation of agro-biodiversity and for being involved in seed exchanges, seed processing and seed marketing.

Skill development trainings, small scale livelihood support, awareness and advocacy to tap available

government resources and fund mobilization of community groups and cooperatives have supported PLiP to enhance their livelihood alternatives. Registration in DADO and coordination with it had helped the farmers to receive its facilities and subsidy.

The Government of Nepal has prepared a draft bill on Land Use and the Ministry of Land Reform and Management has issued Directive on Joint Land Ownership and Order for formation of Commission on Formal Settlement (*Byawastiti Basobaas Aayog Aadesh*). AAN, its partner organizations and Land Rights Forum were continuously engaged with the government for policy advocacy.

Educating and mobilizing community on **Disaster Risk Reduction** through series of preparedness and awareness programmes like: training on first aid, early warning, search and rescue etc. had supported for community empowerment to respond to the risk

of disasters. Since local community people are the first responders in post disaster immediate response, they were engaged and mobilized to establish and strengthen emergency fund for preparedness. In terms of Humanitarian Response, AAN was engaged in providing emergency relief support to the victims of floods, wind storm and cold waves.

In line with the new Disaster Management Bill 2074, the President of Nepal certified Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act. The Act replaced the old Natural Calamity (Rescue) Act 1982 which did not cover the comprehensive disaster risk management. AAN had continued to advocate for the Act since 2007 during the process of tabling it in the Parliament. It provided technical inputs and supported on providing analysis and recommendation. Further, the responsibility of District Support Lead Agency for Bardiya has been taken up by AAN since 2015.

The project, 'Enhancing Community Engagement in Transboundary Water Governance in South Asia' has initiated cross border community based early warning system to save lives and reduce loss and damage during floods. Further, advocacy through different dialogue programmes with the government bodies was continued to hold government accountable on the issue.

AAN has been implementing **Community Led Reconstruction Programme (CLRP)** after the massive 2015 earthquakes. AAN views reconstruction not merely as physical reconstruction but also as reconstruction of economic, social and cultural components. CLRP was launched to realize and practice the idea of 'build-back-better' and 'engendering resilience within communities'.

Development of Women Friendly Spaces, Women Rights Forums and



◀ Construction of a Women and Children Service Centre in Chapagaun Police Station helping them to register complaints with confidentiality.

Adolescents Groups at local level has contributed to strengthen women and girls while fighting against sexual exploitation, violence and abuse.

Community Reconstruction Committees (CRCs) were formed at VDC and/or ward level to facilitate reconstruction of houses, schools and public buildings in the local level. This has resulted in increased level of community participation, inclusion and participatory accountability and transparency. By the mobilization and participation of CRCs in practical field works and financial management, the programme is engaged in different construction/reconstruction of schools, water tank, bridge, gabion wall, gender desks in schools/health post etc.

As an initiative for Gender Responsive Public Services, Women and Children Service Centre was constructed in Chapagaun Police Station in Kathmandu. The centre has helped women and girls to register complaints with confidentiality.

To strengthen livelihood of earthquake victims, women and marginalized people were provided with CTEVT vocational trainings and technical and seed money support to start up with small scale enterprise.

In terms of ensuring **participatory democratic governance**, prior to local election, AAN conducted election education programmes for rights holders and meetings with political party representatives to

receive their commitments for the inclusion of poor and marginalized as election candidates. As a result, 776 rights holders, staff of PNGOs, network and alliance members were nominated and out of them, 386 (around 50%) were successfully elected.

After the election, number of decision making rights for the execution of public services at local level has been passed on to the respective local government. Since most of the elected local representatives were found unaware about the provisions of new government functions, duties, scope and structure, they were oriented about their roles and responsibilities based on Local Government Operation Act, 2074 and 22 exclusive constitutional rights of local level.

On the other hand, the number of PLiP having representation in different committees, mechanisms and structures at local level has considerably increased. This has

*Toilet construction in Morang
with a message written on it;
'Daughters won't be married in
the home where there is no toilet'.*

helped to raise their issues and influence the allocation of local budget in their favour.

Taking consideration of the particular needs of women and to analyze whether they are being addressed or not, advocacy on Gender Responsive Public Services is ongoing. Further, the practice of Community Score Card, Social Audit and coordination/ lobby with stakeholders to update Citizen Charter and proper handling of complaint box etc. was helpful to ensure public service providers' accountability to the communities.

To ensure Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), a project was implemented in Baijnathpur and Lakhantari VDCs of Morang.

Followed by mass awareness on health and sanitation, the project also constructed 292 toilets and 94 tube wells for the rights holders. Similarly, toilets in 6 schools and 1 health post were repaired/constructed during the project period.



To create a platform for deliberation on critical issues of democracy, social justice and democratization with special reference to evolving post-elections context of Nepal, a two-day National Conference on Participatory Governance was organized. It was

sixth in a series of such conferences organized every year.

In the **Women's Rights** sector, MAM and ReFLECT circles are playing an important role to mitigate GBV cases by working as community mediators.

Depending on the nature of registered cases in MAM, they make an effort to solve them in the community level itself and for the critical ones, they facilitate the victims to take necessary legal actions. As a result, incidents of domestic violence are coming out openly and reaching the legal institutions for justice.

Series of anti-harassment campaigns on public spaces and diverse IEC materials published on the issue were successful to let the beneficiaries learn about legal provisions and act accordingly. Similarly, after sensitization on SRHR to women and girls, they are now quite open to share the related issues and reach out for check-up.

On UCW, the attitude and mindset of family and community and even of the local authority is gradually changing. With this realization, now men have started to support women in household work and the local

stakeholders are investing for the infrastructural development of CCCC.

The Supreme Court outlawed the malpractice of Chaupadi and this will soon come to an effect. The new law sentences three-month jail or Rs. 3,000 fine or both against the culprit. The continuous campaigns organized at local affected areas and policy advocacy in the National level played a vital role. Similarly, since 2015, AAN and MAM were engaged to draft 'Rural Women Policy' for ensuring rights of rural women in development agenda. Currently, the policy is awaiting final approval from the parliament.

For ensuring **quality education rights**, after mass awareness and advocacy on PRS to the children, parents and school authorities and formation of citizen education watch groups and networks for school monitoring, local stakeholders are now committed to ensure free and

quality education in public schools. The School Improvement Plans (SIP) are also prepared in line with charter of 10 rights and are implemented in most of the schools. The Citizen's Education Report (CER) process has also been helpful to progress on PRS programme. Tax power campaign on the other hand, helped the community members to understand the context with the realization of further advocacy on tax justice, especially in the newly introduced local government structure.

AAN also supported with learning and playing materials, compound wall for building disaster resilient schools, drinking water facilities etc. to establish model schools with child friendly learning environment. Similarly, promotion of Child Centred Learning (CCL) in schools has helped to create a better learning environment and has also supported to reduce school drop outs; and since the government has provisioned for



Library support to equip public schools with learning materials. Shree Rastriya Basic School, Kailali.

the establishment of Early Childhood Development (ECD) Center in all the primary schools, advocacy to ensure it is ongoing throughout the working areas.

School Enrolment Campaigns were organized throughout the working areas in coordination with District Education Office, SMC, PTA, child clubs, students and teachers. This not only helped to encourage

new admissions but was also equally helpful to bring drop out students back to schools.

A High-Level Education Commission was formed by the government to provide suggestions on new education policies that could fit in the nation's recently formed federal structure. AAN and NCE Nepal submitted a suggestion booklet to the commission based on a yearlong research works.



With the enhanced capacity built through leadership skills and mass mobilization, **youth and Activista members** were involved in community level ReFLECT circles to fight back existing injustices. They were also mobilized in tax justice campaigns and were trained on Rtl to make use of it and encourage communities. In Lalitpur, they were mobilized to contribute labour work for constructing a health post in Chapagaun and Badikhel.

To promote **evidence-based intervention**, AAN is partnering with different academic universities to conduct action research like: the research on Bonded Labour: Haruwa Charuwa communities of Siraha and Saptari with University of Sussex; on Insecurity and Uncertainty: Marginalised young

people's living rights in fragile and conflict affected situations in Nepal and Ethiopia with University of London and on Post Disaster Reconstruction with Coventry University.

The **14th National Social Audit** was organized in Kathmandu to promote organizational accountability and transparency. It was conducted in presence of the community representatives, partner organizations, networks/alliances and government officials.

The **Country Strategy Paper-V**, '*Action for Social Justice*' has been prepared after rigorous process of consultation with partner NGOs, AAN staff, board, GA members and ActionAid International. It is a guiding document to craft our way forward for the next five years from 2018-2023.



The Country Context

The 2017 Nepal elections have set the nation's beginning of new era with an introduction to three tiers of government structure.

In the year 2017, Nepal witnessed local elections and got their representatives of the municipal and village councils for the first time since 2002. Along with local elections, the nation's democratic transition was concluded with the subsequent provincial and federal elections, setting a milestone on the implementation of federal constitution and introducing three tiers of governance structure: Federal, Provincial and Local. The next important step for the government is to deliver policy level work within all its reformed structure.

Analyzing the broad context of our working areas, small holder farmers/peasants in Nepal have low capital base for undergoing through the complex and technical production process for large-scale production. With their traditional management practices and knowledge, they are

continuously engaged in feeding their family and the nation while most importantly, conserving the biodiversity. However, limited has been done by the nation for uplifting their lives and livelihoods despite 66% of their engagement in agriculture sector.

Nowadays, farmers are unable to receive proper agriculture inputs either from the market or government bodies during peak planting season, they are also not getting fair price of their produce due to lack of market or existence of brokers at all stages. Besides, their situation is even exaggerated by the consequences of climate change and unpredictable weather conditions. Because of this, many farmers are forced to migrate in search of better livelihood options and hence larger chunk of arable land are now barren.

More than two years have passed since the devastating earthquake shook the country, however, reconstruction process so far has been very lethargic. Number of incidents of fire outbreak and flash floods were observed in the terai, landslides in hills, followed by drought in Bajura. On the other hand, wild animal attack was significantly increased in Nawalparasi and Bardiya, in which women were affected more as they have to go to forest for collecting firewood and grass.

In regard to securing women's rights, gender equality has now been established in Nepal as the major political and social issue. In our context, where women are lagging behind socially, economically, culturally and politically, the concern has been addressed in policies and activities of different ministries that seems to be a positive endeavor, however, the implementation and result does not seem up to the mark.

The new reservation policy for women representation in recent elections including the representation of Dalit women in particular has contributed to elect 41% women in local election. However, they have a challenge to perform at par or better than their male counterparts, even though they have rarely been given the opportunity to exercise formal leadership.

Despite the achievement, violence against women cases are still alarming. Women are still dominated in the name of dowry, *chaupadi* and other traditional ill practices. Although the laws and policies to safeguard women's rights are in place, the age-old attitude and behavior of people are still not changed.

Concerning about Education sector, the government allocated 9.77% of total budget for the fiscal year 2074/75, which is again a decrease

by 1.29% than last year. The volume of education budget has decreased by around 8% in just 7 years, regardless of the fact that 20% of the national budget and/or 4% of the total GDP must be allocated in the education sector as per the international practice. The misery of education budgeting just doesn't end there. It is more challenging as almost 70% of it is spent in teacher's salary and allowances.

School drop outs are increasing especially in the hilly areas of Western Nepal. Poverty led seasonal migration of parents and slow learning capability of marginalized students are some of its major reasons. Early/forced child marriage is also the other reason to accelerate the drop outs.

This objective will center on building an integrated response to enable people living in poverty and marginalized people to ensure food security and resilient livelihood systems, covering both 'on and off farm' opportunities. We will facilitate this by empowering people living in poverty and marginalized people to claim and enjoy economic rights and advance policy propositions to ensure: i) suitable agriculture for public investment; ii) pro-poor economic policies, institutions and infrastructures; iii) an end to gender discrimination around ownership of resources and wages; iv) rights to natural resources and their sustainable use for ensuring food security; v) accountability of service providers; and viii) the sustainable use of natural resources.

OBJECTIVE 1
Ensure improved livelihoods and build disaster resilient communities by enabling people living in poverty and marginalized people to claim productive resources

This objective aims to build an integrated response for overall democratization of policy spaces and governance mechanisms, and for transforming the attitudes and behavior of duty bearers and social elites. We will do this by enabling and empowering people living in poverty and marginalized people to claim and enjoy their rights and advance policy propositions to: i) advance political representation and participation in decision-making bodies; ii) facilitate public accountability seeking mechanisms; iii) build capacity to influence the state's annual planning process; iv) monitor and advocate for quality and equity in basic services; v) facilitate alternative policy forums and critical discourses for national development strategies; and vi) link politics of mobilization with alternative knowledge-building.

OBJECTIVE 2
Facilitate political advancement of people living in poverty and marginalized people to hold duty bearers to account, develop propositions for national development strategies and deepen democracy

PROGRAMME

Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA)

The HRBA is central to AAN's fight against poverty and injustice, and the empowerment of people to claim and exercise their rights. In order to enjoy their rights, people need to understand and be empowered to claim them, with the solidarity and support of others. It always ensures PLiP at the center of its programme interventions

OVERVIEW

OBJECTIVE 3
Engage with women and girls to build their active agency to challenge and take action against all forms of discrimination and injustice against their body, sexuality and unequal burden of work

OBJECTIVE 4
Support all children to attain quality education in a safe and equitable environment

This objective focuses on building an integrated response to changing women's conditions and positions and to identifying, analyzing, challenging and taking action against patriarchy in all its forms. We will do this by building the active agency of marginalized women to claim and enjoy their rights and advance policy propositions to: i) have their productive contribution to the family, community and State recognized; ii) challenge patriarchal values and harmful traditional practices; iii) address gender-based discrimination and violence in public and private realms; iv) facilitate national development strategies from a feminist perspective; v) ensure female participation in decision-making bodies at all levels; and vi) facilitate leadership-building of marginalized women.

This objective aims to build an integrated response to advance free and quality basic education and reinvigorate popular education. It strives to enable children and young people from poor and marginalized communities to develop into drivers of change and harness the potential of adult literacy towards broader democratization of society. We will do this by enabling and empowering citizens' groups, people's organizations and social justice movements to advance education rights and policy propositions to: i) advance accountability in public schools; ii) promote child-centered learning; iii) mainstream the Promoting rights in school framework in selected public schools; iv) promote a culture of safety in public schools; and v) reinvigorate popular education.





Natural Resources and Livelihood

The meaning of land and its use is changed by the renewed socioeconomic values. It has been associated with the assets for an individual, economic prestige, monetary value, livelihood with dignity, equality, and power and authority. With regards to women and their access to land and natural resources, the meaning of land and its ownership take a switch from just a form of earning a livelihood to power, equality and dignity. Women's access to, use of and control over land and other productive resources are essential to ensure their right to equality and to an adequate standard of living.

»
Joint Land Ownership has supported women to enhance their economic status, resulting to the shift in existing unequal power relations among men and women.



ACCESS TO LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Considering the entitlement of land as a source of power to live with dignity, AAN has worked to ensure landless, poor and marginalized people's access to and control over it. The ongoing single/joint land ownership campaign, for instance is one of them. The year 2017 observed 347 women successful to receive either single or joint land ownership.

The rights holders were provided with a number of trainings and orientations on land rights and its entitlement. This has helped to enhance their access to land and natural resources. For instance, 608 Freed Kamaiya households were able to have direct access to forest products, especially firewood and fodder after their representation in Community Forest User Group and in Nawalparasi, 265 households of Bote community have received temporary fishing license in public Narayani River.

As a result of Kamaiya and Haliya rehabilitation programmes, 47 Freed Kamaiya and 7 Haliya households received land ownership certificate from the government in Bardiya and Bajura respectively. Till now, 10,699 freed Kamaiya families have been rehabilitated out of the total of 10,797 in Bardiya. Continuous advocacy from the community to district and national level are ongoing for it.

In Siraha, 100 households who were evacuated by District Forest Office (DFO) and the local Community Forest User Group secured their shelter rights back again after submitting a memorandum letter to the Prime Minister's Office, DFO and District Administration Office. The advocacy was undertaken in coordination with the Land Rights Forum.

Land rights campaign on land survey and measurements and registration of the unregistered land were undertaken. The campaign

tried to support the families who are landless and land poor, flood affected and living outside the buffer zone of the wildlife reserves and those from special economic zone in order to provide safer housing. Some of the activities of the campaign were the amendment on Guthi Act, ensuring peasants' rights and facilitating the Joint Land Ownership.

After series of advocacy with the partner, CSRC, 620 tenant households were able to receive 124.04 hectare land. The tenants

608 Freed Kamaiya households were able to have direct access to forest products, especially firewood and fodder after their representation in Community Forest User Group.

Case Study

They Call Me Land Owner Now

60 year old Rampati Devi Paswan lives in Piprabasatpur VDC, Bara. She is a mother of three daughters and a son and currently, she is staying with her son and daughter in law. Earlier, she possessed 3 Katthas (1 Kattha = 338.63 sq. meter) land but now, she has increased it to 17 Katthas.

Before 2063 B.S., Ms. Paswan worked as a tenant. At those days, although she cultivated in 24 Katthas of land, she had to pay back half of the production to the land owner, leaving not enough of it for themselves. The production that they used to receive was just sufficient for five months and during rest of the year, they had to compromise their food consumption. They had even slept with empty stomach for a lot of days.

Ms. Paswan says, "In 2063 B.S., AAN in partnership with JJA started Women's Saving Plan Programme and since I maintained cordial relationship in the community, I was nominated as its chairperson. I started being active in the group and attended different events and interaction programmes. JJA then provided me 2 goats for livelihood and they gave birth to 6 kids within a year. After two years, I sold these eight goats and bought a buffalo. Later, I was able to claim half right over the land from the land owner by paying him NRs. 14,600 and registered it under joint land ownership. The earnings from goats and buffaloes helped me to own the land".

At the same time, I was provided with training on commercial farming, seeds and plants for income generation. After the training, I started growing vegetables and five years later, I was able to buy additional 2 Katthas of land. The vegetable farming also helped me to meet the marriage expense of my three daughters. Since I am getting old and losing strength to work on the land, I bought a buffalo again and now my family lives on the earning from the milk it gives. But I still grow vegetables in my kitchen garden and its production is enough for us to consume throughout the year. My family is living a happy life now as our economic status has become far better than it used to be. For this transformation, I am very much grateful to AAN and JJA, Ms. Paswan adds.

were assisted in all the processes to claim their rights. For instance, they were facilitated to lodge applications for claiming tenancy land, organize dialogues, interactions and discussions to bridge the gap between tenants and stakeholders.

Similarly, landless and slum of Manohara Municipality succeeded to resettle 7 houses which were in high risk of eviction through corridor planning. The members of ReFLECT and the local partner, NMES lobbied with Chief District Officer for the resettlement.

PROMOTION OF CLIMATE RESILIENT SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE (CRSA)

Contributed by different trainings on CRSA along with material support of agricultural products like plastic tunnel, sprinkle, irrigation pipe, plastic pond etc, CRSA was practiced by 585 farmers in 2017. Consequently, use of



▲
 Followed by a training on 'Integrated Pest Management', Women leader farmers of Kathmandu are engaged in organic farming.

chemical fertilizers has significantly reduced and botanical compost manure became an alternative of them. Further, 'one house one kitchen garden' campaign has also supported to adopt CRSA in each individual household.

The concept of community seed bank, on the other hand has become an important step for the preservation of native seeds, for the conservation of agro-biodiversity and for being involved in seed exchanges, seed processing and seed marketing. The local bodies have also recognized an essence of seed bank and are providing financial support for its construction.

IMPROVED LIVELIHOOD OPTIONS

Skill development trainings, small scale livelihood support, awareness and advocacy to tap available government resources and fund mobilization of community groups and cooperatives for improved livelihood alternatives had motivated 1621 people for engaging in diverse agro-based and off-farm income generating activities; out of which 1303 were women.

Collective/individual vegetable farming for commercial purpose and livestock rearing were some of their agro-based livelihood activities; whereas, upscaling the traditional skills like making *mudha*, *dhaka*, handicraft, carpet weaving, *dhakiya* and leaf plate, mason, carpentry, plumbing, tailoring etc. were their major off-farm livelihood engagements. Further, training on technical know-how like weaving, beautician, computer was also provided. For instance, a group of entrepreneurs

The local bodies have recognized an essence of community seed bank and are providing financial support for its construction.

engaged in crystal beads weaving was formed in Bansighat slum areas of Kathmandu. For the weaving training, the group was capacitated to submit budget proposal to the ward office, which was later approved and the group was successful to receive NRs. 70,000.

Challenging the gender stereotype of labour, mason training was provided to women in Sindhupalchowk for expanding livelihood of earthquake affected families. After being involved in livelihood activities, transformation in women's lives has been noticed. They are now independent, not only economically but their rights to equality and an adequate standard of living has also been ensured.

The intervention has also empowered people to claim available government support for farming. In all the working areas, the farmers are receiving different agricultural support from DADO like plastic tunnel, seeds, water tank etc.



Small holder farmers in Sankhuwasabha are supported with plastic pond to mitigate the problem of irrigation.

Additionally, AAN is also providing support for smallholder farmers to improve their production and enhance their livelihoods. For instance, monetary support to install irrigation facilities, construction of community seed banks, support to start up small-scale enterprise and livestock rearing are some of them. They are also supported with seeds to promote agriculture. These supports are done to fulfil their basic immediate needs and complement to our interventions on rights-based approach.

Case Study

Initiation of Vegetable Farming in a Barren Land

A farmer's group with 22 members of Mudegaun VDC, Ward No. 1, Doti has collectively started vegetable farming, utilizing the barren land of Gairigada.

AAN in partnership with Equality Development Centre (EDC) conducted 'one home one kitchen garden' campaign in which villagers from 25 households utilized the available land and produced the vegetables, consumed them, and sold the extra. As they realized that they could earn from it, they came together to form a farmer's group and agreed to provide 1.3 acre of barren land for a year to practice collective farming.

However, there was lack of irrigation in the area; for which AAN supported with pipes and tank to utilize the water source of the village. Eventually, the problem of irrigation was tackled. All the members of the farmer's group worked hard to make the land agriculturally productive, from leveling the uneven land to making it fertile. Lately, on the group's own investment, 8 quintals of potato seeds and 400 samplings of cucumber were planted. AAN and EDC also facilitated the group to have its registration in DADO and receive irrigation equipment and subsidies from it.

Ms. Janaki Bhatta, one of the active members of the farmer's group says, "After we received trainings on collective farming from AAN, our interest in it grew because we were living in Guthi land and we don't have our own land for farming. We always felt that we could generate good income if we could use the barren land of Gairigada for vegetable production. With support from AAN and EDC, we could start this collective farming. Now, as we see the once barren land filled with green plants and vegetation, we feel proud and happy."

Treasurer of farmer's group, Ghanashyam Jaisi says, he would have already gone to India for employment had this collective vegetable farming not started in the village and this could have been followed by more of his village men. "We have benefitted a lot from collective vegetable farming as it helped to let us stay in our homes and with our families. Now, we are confident enough to work hard and generate income on our own and take care of our families" says Mr. Jaisi.

Farmer groups are formed in different working areas and they are registered in respective District Agriculture Development Office (DADO). This has helped to receive financial and technical support from the office.

STRENGTHENING FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS

Farmer groups are formed in different working areas and they are registered in respective District Agriculture Development Office (DADO). This has helped to receive financial and technical support from the office. For instance, the farmers of Kaski received training on preparing organic manure with the support of DADO and in Doti and Terhathum, DADO provided financial support for irrigation.

Land Rights Forum (LRF) on the other hand, advocated to ensure voting rights of landless and slum community. Attention letters to the political parties, election commission, municipalities and local authorities were submitted to register their names by verifying their identities through water or electricity cards. As a result, 137 and 1722 rights holders from the slum communities of Kaski and Kathmandu succeeded to register their names in voter list respectively.

LRF is also supporting landless people affected by earthquake. Khokana of Lalitpur district is an old settlement, where the land measurement has not been conducted yet. So, most of its residents do not have land ownership certificate. But in contrary, the initial earthquake relief distribution guideline demanded it for verification. After series of advocacy and campaigns led by the LRF, revision of the guideline was successfully done.

POLICY ADVOCACY AND AGRICULTURE GOVERNANCE

Since the local government structure has been recently changed with new amendments in Local Governance Act, local bodies are yet to develop strategic direction to move ahead and to ensure rights holders' participation in community planning process. Nevertheless, different workshops and interaction

programmes were organized with newly elected local representatives on 'Position of Land and Agriculture at Local Level Restructuring Process'.

Directive on Joint Land Ownership (JLO) was issued by Ministry of Land Reform and Management (MoLRM), which ensures the provision to write own application for obtaining it and distribution of JLO on sites if there will be more than 20 applications from the same community. In addition to these, the directive has also ensured the provision to provide JLO for the land being distributed by government to the freed Kamaiya, Haliya and the landless. This had been possible through ground mobilization of Village Land Rights Forums and District Land Rights Forums in bringing the issues along with the solutions.

The Government of Nepal has also prepared a draft bill on Land Use. The bill will be finalized after the legislative parliament endorses it. AAN, National Land Rights Forum

The Government released Directive on Joint Land Ownership and Order for formation of Commission on Formal Settlement and prepared a draft bill on Land Use.

and its partner organizations worked for long to bring the Land Use Act. Recommendations for the utilization of land were collected from series of discussions; most of them included jurisdiction of Land Use Act, ensuring effective record of land, segregation of land based on categories such as topography, capacity, relevancy, necessity and so on. It was found that most of these recommendations were incorporated in the draft.

Similarly, MoLRM released Order for formation of Commission on Formal Settlement (*Byawastit Basobaas Aayog Aadesh*), in which networks were heavily engaged in collection of information to address different types of issues and recommendation for proper functioning of the Commission.



« Handover of an attention letter to the Mayor of Kathmandu to identify and include slums and squatter community in Smart City Planning.





Disaster Risk Reductions and Community Led Reconstruction Programme

Nepal is exposed to various geophysical and climatic hazards killing hundreds of people with huge economic loss, every year. Flood, landslide, fire, lightning, heavy rainfall, drought and earthquake are common in Nepal. In April 2015, the country suffered massive loss of lives and property by the devastating 7.6 magnitude earthquake. Two years after, the country is still struggling to bounce back. In the meantime, heavy monsoon rainfall during 10-13 August 2017 triggered severe flash floods and landslides in 35 out of 77 districts. However, the year of 2017 was landmark year for Nepal because of a long awaited DRR/DM Bill endorsed by the Parliament.

Internalizing the fact that the local community people are first responders in post disaster immediate response, they were encouraged and facilitated to establish emergency fund for preparedness.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Educating and mobilizing community on disaster risk reduction through series of preparedness and awareness programmes like: training on first aid, early warning, search and rescue, simulation exercise, community-led Participatory Vulnerability Assessment (PVA), dialogue on climate change etc. had supported for community empowerment to respond to the risk of disasters. For it, Disaster Management Committees (DMC), women's groups and ReFLECT members were participated and mobilized. Since disasters disproportionately affect PLiP and excluded people, particularly women by further violating their rights and making them more vulnerable, their participation in the empowerment process and in DMC's decision-making positions was ensured.

Internalizing the fact that the local community people are first responders in post disaster immediate response, they were encouraged and facilitated to establish emergency fund for preparedness. The resource generation at the community level was done through seasonal crop collection, monthly saving, fistful grain donation, individual donation, cultural programmes, claiming budget from the local government etc. By means of emergency fund, the community people are now able to provide immediate response during emergency situations. For example, in Nawalparasi, it was utilized for the treatment of leg fracture and in Bardiya, it was provided to the family affected by windstorm.

PVA is conducted throughout the working areas by engaging community people to analyze and prioritize possible natural hazards and risks. For instance, after conducting



PVA in a community of Terhathum, it was identified that the steep roads to market and schools were slippery during monsoon. So, the community approached the municipality and demanded to construct stairs. The municipality provided both the technical and financial support for its construction, benefitting 47 households of the community. Similarly, PVA reports of Kathmandu slum areas was submitted to related ward office. The ward office appreciated the report and committed to incorporate it in the upcoming disaster management plan.

In Doti, a DMC was supported with rescue materials like stretchers, first aid kits, spade, shovel and ropes after an orientation on DRR. The stretcher was very much helpful to commute pregnant women to hospital. Similarly, the DMCs of Nawalparasi were mobilized to fence 1.5 kms around the buffer zone area to protect the residents from wild animal attacks.

Case Study

Model Village for Disaster Management

With 27 HHs, *Kharbari Dhobane* village of Sankhuwasava district is located on the banks of a river, Henwakhola. Most of the residents are from indigenous Rai and Limbu communities. So, pig rearing is an ancestral occupation of the community. The village is adjoined with Chainpur market, which is the central and busiest market of the district. Henwakhola has frequently inundated the settlement in past. The community has already faced the horror of river in the past 20 years. Every year, large number of cattle are swept away by flood with a number of human casualties. Three years ago, 10 households were displaced by flood, which swept away 50 cattle and 2.5 acre land. The community treats the river as a misfortune or a curse. Despite of it, they could not afford to buy land and migrate to a safer place.

To respond it, AAN and its local partner initiated a women-led Disaster Management Committee in the village. The committee organized series of DRR orientation programmes. They helped the community to assess the situation and find solutions to it. Enhanced with capacity enhancement trainings to the committee members, an emergency fund was also initiated. In the meantime, the committee frequently visited local stakeholders for resource management. “Those visits taught and empowered a lot of us. Our confidence level has gone up in the process of discussion and putting our demands to the officers,” says Ms. Balimaya Limbu, the Chair of Disaster Management Committee.

Finally, the district land conservation and watershed management office addressed the demand and provided 33 hundred thousand for the construction of 20-meter long and 5-meter high embankment. The committee itself took a lead to construct the embankment with the support from local armed police force.

Apart from it, the community has also practiced other disaster resilient initiatives like to prevent their crops from animals, they have started cultivating sour crop species such as zinger, turmeric, orange, lemon etc. This helped them to have lesser destruction since the animals are not fond of the taste.

The village which was once at a risk of evacuation has now turned as a safer place to stay. The community shares its happiness of the success and is thinking about building it as a model village.

« *Simulation exercise for search and rescue at the times of flood.*

Through Enhancing Community Engagement in Transboundary Water Governance in South Asia Project, the community leaders were trained on National and International water laws, policies and bilateral treaties and agreements and transboundary water governance. The project was designed to address transboundary water issues that communities along the river banks of Ganga/ Padma in Bangladesh and India and Gandak in Nepal and India face. The project has initiated cross border community based early warning system to save lives and reduce loss and damage during floods. Further, advocacy through different dialogue programmes with the government bodies was continued to hold government accountable on the issue.

The new Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act replaced the old Natural Calamity (Rescue) Act 1982 which did not cover the comprehensive disaster risk management.

ADVOCACY AND POLICY ENGAGEMENT

The legislative parliament endorsed new Disaster Management Bill 2074 on September 24, 2017. Later, the President of Nepal certified the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Act 2074. The new DRRM Act replaced the old Natural Calamity (Rescue) Act 1982 which did not cover the comprehensive disaster risk management.

The Act encompasses both Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management and fixed the role of all the 3 tiers of government (Local, Provincial and National) as guided by Constitution of Nepal 2015. The Act also emphasizes special projects/programmes to the poor and vulnerable groups - Women, Children, Elderly, Dalit, Marginalized community and Differently abled. AAN had continued to advocate for the Act since 2007 during the process

of tabling it in the Parliament. It provided technical inputs and supported on providing analysis and recommendation.

Further, AAN was also engaged in the policy formulation process of 'National DRR Policy and Strategic Action Plan'. Several consultation processes were carried out in the district and national level with the participation of wider stakeholders. Currently, the policy draft is under the process of finalization.

The responsibility of District Support Lead Agency for Bardiya has been taken up by AAN since 2015. With AAN's technical support, DDRC, Bardiya has updated its District Preparedness and Response Plan. The revised version covers demographic information based on the new local governance structure including SOPs of weather based early warning mechanism at district level.

AAN, in collaboration with Mainstreaming for Disaster Resilience Centre has commissioned an in-depth qualitative study on women leadership in DRR focused on post-earthquake context. The study attempts to show why women leadership matters in disaster risk reduction. It also provides a critical aspect of gender responsive disaster risk management approach and further encourages the policymakers, humanitarian and development organization including CSOs for promoting women's leadership in DRR.

The Global Report on Internal Displacement 2016 revealed that Nepal is in the third highest level of new displacement worldwide because of April 2015 earthquake. It shows that disasters are often considered as an important driver of migration and displacement and this trend seems to be increasing in the country. Although, there is a huge correlation between increased number of disasters and migration, there is limited research and documentation



« Conference with policy formulators and CSOs to discuss on the gaps of existing DRR policies in federal context.

on it. Thus, AAN in partnership with Prakriti Resource Center had carried out the study to explore the underlying causes of disaster induced landlessness and migration. The study team visited Rasuwa and Bardiya for FGD and evidence collection.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

In August 2017, Nepal experienced its worst rains in 15 years, resulting in large-scale impacts on lives, livelihoods and infrastructure across 35 of the nation's 77 districts. For relief support, AAN and its local partners were on the grounds immediately after the disaster. The team distributed ready to eat food, tarpaulin, dignity kits, nutritious food for pregnant/lactating women and children.

Similarly, as an initiation of flood affected school restoration programme, construction of a disaster resilient school building has

been started with joint financial contribution of AAN, Gulariya Municipality and Ward Office of Bardiya. The programme also included support for toilet and handpump maintenance in 10 primary schools of the district including the provision of sitting arrangements within them.

▼ Emergency relief support for the flood victims of Eastern plains.

AAN'S 2017 TERAI FLOOD RESPONSE

- Reached 620 pregnant and lactating women with nutritional food support.
- Reached 1165 families with immediate food support.
- Provided 724 families with tarpaulins and non-food items.
- Provided 688 women with dignity kits.
- Provided 130 families with WASH items.
- Provided 392 children with educational materials including uniforms.
- Supported 10 primary schools of Bardiya for toilet and handpump maintenance including the provision of sitting arrangements within them.
- Supported to repair 11 flood affected ECD centers of Morang.
- Established 4 women friendly spaces in Morang and Parsa and nearly 750 women had access to psychosocial support services, information on GBV and referral mechanisms through community led protection centers.



AAN's response on 2017 Terai flood was very significant in term of resources, women leadership in emergency and innovation. Further, District Disaster Relief Committee was also supported for humanitarian coordination and initial rapid assessment.

In the month of May, Bardiya was affected by a wind storm. To respond it, 103 households of the district were facilitated to receive relief support from District Disaster Relief Committee. During winters, cold waves affected most of the plains. Thus, warm clothes and blankets were distributed to those who could not afford.

ENGAGEMENT IN COMMUNITY LED RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME (CLRP) AFTER 2015 EARTHQUAKES

AAN has been implementing Community Led Reconstruction Programme after the 2015

massive earthquakes. AAN views reconstruction not merely as physical reconstruction but also as reconstruction of economic, social and cultural components. CLRP was launched to realize and practice the idea of 'build-back-better' and 'engendering resilience within communities'.

Almost 3 years since the devastating earthquake, CLRP has been able to contribute in areas of sustainable livelihood, reconstruction, advocacy and rights, accountability and transparency, women safety and security, infrastructural development and many more in 26 local and municipal levels of 6 most earthquake

Case Study

Women Friendly Space has come up as a Friend in Need

The heavy rainfall lasted up to 7 days and triggered a massive flood. Everybody was busy doing their daily chores but somehow, some people managed to get their family members, clothes, food and livestock out of their homes. However, many households faced a lot of damage.

After the disaster, sanitation has become one of the major issues in our community. Majority of the toilets are fully/partially damaged. Men feel no problem to openly defecate and take bath, but it becomes difficult for women. Although our tradition doesn't allow to share same room with our in-laws, we are forced to do so in a temporary shelter after the flood.

During the emergency, AAN and Nari Bikas Sangh supplied us with essential food and non-food items, hygiene kits and shelter materials. They also provided relief support to lactating mothers. Besides relief, they established Women Friendly Spaces (WFS) in the community. WFS has become very helpful for the women to confidently discuss about their issues. In WFS, we discuss various issues like VAW, uterine prolapse, women rights, menstrual hygiene, women's health, etc. We get to receive a lot of moral support from all the members of WFS, which is the best thing about it. Ms. Chameli Devi Rishidev, Chairperson of Women Friendly Space, Kaptole, Morang shares her experience about flood response initiatives.



*School
construction of
Sindhupalchowk
in progress.*

hit districts: Kathmandu Valley, Dolakha, Rasuwa, Sindhupalchowk, Makwanpur and Kavrepalanchowk. CLRP is thus derived as a long-term post disaster reconstruction with an ownership of the community.

Sexual exploitation, trafficking, violence and abuse were some of the core repercussions of Nepal's earthquake. Development of 30 Women Friendly Spaces (WFSs), 33 Women Rights Forums and 110 Adolescents Groups at local level has contributed to strengthen women and girls while fighting against sexual exploitation, violence and abuse. WFSs continue to provide women with the opportunity to get together and discuss their problems, receive training and psychosocial support, access information on their rights, and access services.

Local Disaster Risk Management Plans (LDRPM) for all working VDCs (26 VDCs-as per the preceding governance structure) were prepared and handed

over to the concerned stakeholders to implement and incorporate them in local governance policies.

137 Community Reconstruction Committees (CRCs) were formed at VDC and/or ward level with the representation of 2,045 women to facilitate reconstruction of houses, schools and public buildings in the local level. This has resulted in increased level of community participation, inclusion and participatory accountability and transparency.

By the mobilization and participation of CRCs in the practical field works and financial management, the programme is reconstructing 12 disaster resilient schools, of which 10 will be completed by April 2018 and the remaining two are planned to be completed by December 2018. The schools also constitute gender and disable friendly infrastructures. In addition, AAN has initiated, promoted and also established girl friendly

rooms - 2 gender friendly rooms and 8 gender desks were established in 10 schools of Kathmandu Valley.

Similarly, 49 mitigation activities were implemented which include water tank, bridge, irrigation canal, gabion wall and others. Small

AAN views reconstruction not merely as physical reconstruction but also as reconstruction of economic, social and cultural components. CLRP was launched to realize and practice the idea of 'build-back-better' and 'engendering resilience within communities'.

*CTEVT certified mason training ►
in Sindhupalchowk for the
construction of earthquake
resilient buildings.*



scale mitigation activities were implemented after analyzing the PVA report and continuous dialogue/discussion between the community and stakeholders. As an initiative for Gender Responsive Public Services, Women and Children Service Centre was constructed in Chapagaun Police Station in Kathmandu. The centre has helped women to register grievances with confidentiality. Further, 46 such micro-infrastructures like ward office, health centre and gender desks in schools, ward office, health post were constructed/ repaired, which follows similar process as small-scale mitigations.

Geological surveys were also done in Rasuwa and Sindhupalchowk with the help of NRA to identify vulnerabilities and assess habitability in disaster-prone areas. To sensitize communities on safety and security procedures during disasters, they were provided with trainings on basic emergency and disaster risk reduction.

In terms of livelihood enhancement of the earthquake affected, 64 women's collectives were formed with the involvement of 3,935 members. The members have started to make collective savings and invest them in different livelihood alternatives like poultry, collective farming etc. They were also capacitated with financial management and business plan development trainings. Further, 853 women and marginalized people were provided with CTEVT certified vocational trainings. After receiving such trainings on masonry, wiring, plumbing etc. some of them have started their own small business/enterprise registering with Small Scale Cottage Industry Development Committee.

On the other hand, PVA was carried out in 29 schools and the SMC/PTA members were provided with training on claiming resources to implement the DM Plan. Similarly, mock drills to sensitize students and teachers on disaster safety and resilience was organized in 29 schools.

CLRP is also implementing a project, 'People Led Solution for Better Accountability Practices' (PELSAP), which emphasizes on leadership development of Citizen's Alliance for Recovery and Reconstruction, Youth Alliance and Women Rights Forum by providing number of capacity development trainings on PVA, Rtl, participatory planning process, social audit, public hearing etc.

With these knowledge and skills, they are facilitating community development priorities related to reconstruction, recovery and sustainability of programmes. These alliances had a major role to play in local governance for bringing the reconstruction issues at the forefront and contribute to ensure transparency and accountability within the process. For instance, they were mobilized in the earthquake affected districts to continue raising the issues of reconstruction, housing grants, land and tenant issues and conduct lobby and advocacy with newly elected local bodies.

Case Study

Reconstruction of Irrigation Canal gave our Life Back

Sindhupalchowk is one of the highly affected districts hit by devastating April 2015 earthquakes. To deliver immediate relief, AAN implemented Emergency Response Programme (ERP) in six badly affected districts, including Sindhupalchowk. Maximum participation of the marginalized and vulnerable communities and leadership of women was encouraged during the relief programme with an aim to establish their ownership in reconstruction. Later, ERP was continued as Community Led Reconstruction Programme (CLRP) focusing upon the holistic approach of reconstruction.

CLRP envisions a people-led and owned reconstruction process prioritizing community needs voiced by the community itself. On this regard, Community Reconstruction Committees (CRCs) were formed in each VDC of the working districts. With an aim to encourage community people's participation in identifying potential disaster risks in their community and also to develop a Disaster Management Plan, Participatory Vulnerability Assessment (PVA) was organized.

For instance, in Dhungana Gaun-1 of Sindhupalchowk, apart from the collapsed houses and lost lives, the earthquakes had destroyed an irrigation canal, which was the major source of water for 75-80 households, both for agriculture and drinking water. In regard to this, an active

member of the community, Mr. Himel Dhungana says, "The entire ward is at risk of being displaced as the major source of our livelihood was destroyed by the earthquake". The destruction has further maximized the risk of landslides as the earthquake had loosened the soil of the canal.

Considering the risk and the necessity of canal derived from PVA, the community people under the leadership of CRC prioritized for its reconstruction. The CRC was then engaged to approach local bodies for meeting the financial and technical support. Later, with the combined support of AAN and local bodies, construction of a gabion-wall and reconstruction of the irrigation canal was started with an active involvement of the community people. Despite the risky geographical condition of the construction site, the community people are enthusiastic to involve in it.

Encountering the process of reconstruction, Mr. Dhungana praises the programme by saying, "This is a great example of Community-led Reconstruction. As the community people are involved in the entire reconstruction process, starting from the identification of problem to resource generation and mitigation, it ensures their ownership and sensitivity towards the project. The community people have already started to ensure its further maintenance and AAN has a huge role to raise the realization".



Participatory Democratic Governance

Strengthening just and democratic governance at local level and promoting discourses for participatory democracy both in local and national levels are the central themes of AAN's interventions.

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Rights holders discussing on priorities for community plans before submitting to the local government in Doti.



SECURED REPRESENTATION AND PARTICIPATION OF PLIP AND ROLE IN DECISION MAKING

Nepal witnessed local elections and got their representatives of the municipal and village councils for the first time since 2002. Over the years, the bureaucrats have filled these positions, many appointed through major political parties. Lack of accountability among local bodies have thus flourished, leaving the public services unstructured and unmanaged. The local elections have thus created a landmark moment in the country's transition to democracy. In the local election, out of 776 rights holders, staff of PNGOs, network and alliance members being nominated, 386 of them (around 50%) were successfully elected.

The use of Participatory, Monitoring and Accountability tools like Social Audit, Public Hearing, Participatory Planning Process and Joint Meetings with local stakeholders ensured rights holders' engagement and

participation in state affairs at local development. In 2017, the rights holders submitted 1159 community plans, out of which 583 were approved by the local government. For instance, all 5 proposals for drinking water facility, capacity build-up of FCHV and management of Community Child Care Centers submitted in Angdim VDC of Terhathum were approved. This shows that the participation of PLiP has been influential in decision making process and their needs are acknowledged.

The number of PLiP having representation in different committees, mechanisms and formal structures at local level has considerably increased. This has helped to raise their issues and influence the proper allocation

of local budget in their favour. For instance, the users committee is successful to receive budget from Simraungadh Municipality, Bara for the construction of drainage and in Mudhegaun, Doti, women representing as ward members of the Rural Municipality succeeded to receive the cost for water tunnel maintenance.

Prior to local election, election education programmes for rights holders and meetings with political party representatives were conducted to receive their commitments for the inclusion of poor and marginalized as election candidates. This helped to elect 5 women from slum communities and now, the communities are hopeful that their issues will be resolved.

In the local election, out of 776 rights holders, staff of PNGOs and network and alliance members being nominated, 386 of them (around 50%) were successfully elected.

»
Tube well constructed in Bajjnathpur and Lakhantari VDCs of Morang to ensure clean drinking water for the people deprived from it.



ENSURING QUALITY PUBLIC SERVICES

Taking consideration of the particular needs of women and to analyze whether they are being addressed or not, advocacy on Gender Responsive Public Services (GRPS) is ongoing. For instance, a research on community engagement for accountable governance to promote GRPS in urban context is ongoing in Tarkeshwar Municipality of North Kathmandu.

To ensure Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), a project was implemented in Bajjnathpur and Lakhantari VDCs of Morang. The VDCs are predominantly inhabited by Dalits, poor and marginalized, who were deprived of clean drinking water and toilets. Followed by mass awareness on health and sanitation, the project also constructed 292 toilets and 94 tube wells for the rights holders. Similarly, toilets in 6 schools and 1 health post were repaired/constructed during the project period.

Case Study

Finally, the Government recognized me as the Citizen of this Country

Mangala Saday, 58, is a physically challenged person from Lahan Municipality-13, Siraha. Although being a Nepalese citizen, he hasn't received the Citizenship Certificate despite several attempts. This also deprived him from receiving disability identity card followed by disability allowances provided by the government. He had to face the biggest problem when his son wished to go for abroad employment. The reason behind lacking the certificate is because his parents did not have it either and they never claimed because of the lack of awareness.

Mangala mentioned this in the community ReFLECT circle. He was then facilitated by the social mobilizer. They went to meet concerned local bodies of wards and administration office. In the Area Administration Office Lahan, they were asked to collect necessary evidences/documents for further process. Following the instruction, Mangala with the help of social mobilizer prepared all the required documents for verification and finally received the long-awaited citizenship certificate at the age of 58.

Mangala is very happy to receive the certificate and expresses it by saying that it is 'better late than never'. He is thankful to ReFLECT circle and social mobilizer for the facilitation throughout its preparation process.

In Gumba of Northern Bajura, 18 voters with 10 women were able to enjoy voting rights for the first time in their lives.

A ToT on GRPS was also organized for 25 AAN staff in joint facilitation of MS TCDC, Tanzania and AAN. It had a broader objective to enable participants acquire knowledge and skills to link overall international framework of GRPS to basic principles of governance, women's rights and accountability. It is also to access the gap of public services and thereafter integrate cross cutting issues to advocate for GRPS provision.

Similarly, in Bara and Siraha districts, the rights holders are aware about vital registrations and have started claiming them and in Manohara slum community of Bhaktapur, 577 households succeeded to receive electricity meter after a long advocacy with the government followed by a delegation to the Director of Nepal Electricity Authority.

Further, the practice of Community Score Card, Social Audit and coordination/lobby with stakeholders to update Citizen Charter and



proper handling of complaint box etc. was helpful to ensure downward accountability of supply side towards the communities. For instance, they contributed to ensure the regularity of teachers, establishment of ECD classrooms and application of CCL approaches in public schools.

ReFLECT and various other local groups and networks on the other hand, are able to claim fund from local bodies for different schemes like: fund for the construction of birthing centre in Bajura, seeds in subsidy from District Agriculture Development Office etc. Moreover, after demanding Rtl, the youth of Banke were able to receive funds from local government and utilized them for local road construction and women empowerment programmes.

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND POLICY ADVOCACY

After the election, number of decision making rights for the execution of public services at local level has been passed on to the respective local government. Since most of the elected local representatives were found unaware about the provisions of new government's function, duties, scope and structure, they were oriented about their roles and responsibilities based on Local Government Operation Act, 2074 and 22 exclusive constitutional rights of local level.

In Gumba of Northern Bajura, 25 households were deprived of their voting rights due to the inaccessibility of polling booth. For it, the local level

Case Study

Long Battle against Untouchability

Zera village, a residence for 300 families lies in Swami Kartik Rural Municipality, Ward Number 4 of Northern Bajura. Among the total, 86 families are from Dalit community, who were often discriminated on different grounds. For example, they were not allowed to touch the nearest water source due to which, they had to travel half a kilometer away from the village to fetch water from another stream, which was especially separated for their use.

Since many years, the Dalit community was struggling against the discrimination, but their struggle used to go in vain because of the deep-rooted social norms and tradition. Further, their livelihoods were dependent on the non-Dalits, so many of them hesitated to take the risk.

AAN along with its local partner in the district struggled 7 years for the change. Series of awareness and empowerment initiatives were carried out through ReFLECT circles, MAM and Dalit rights networks. The initiatives included trainings on HRBA and discussions on the legal provisions against racial discrimination and untouchability.

Although no any positive impact was observed for long, the non-Dalits of MAM gradually started to show some positive thoughts. At one point of time, water flow in the nearby source started to decline. This compelled the non-Dalits to reach the same stream used by the Dalits. Even in such circumstances, the Dalits were not allowed to touch the nearby water source.

The positive transformation was possible only after the announcement of local election. The activists utilized this by demanding commitments from each political party and the candidates to fight against caste-based discrimination and eliminate such inhuman practice from the society. Later, one of the Dalit members, Ms. Thuma BK succeeded to win the ward election and was able to represent Dalit community in the Rural Municipality's Executive Board. Ms. BK along with MAM members continued the struggle and finally, they were able to make a consensus to allow Dalits for using the nearby water source. Then after, the situation started to change. The Dalit families are happy to live their dignified lives and at the same time, they are proud from the success. Ms. BK thanks AAN and its local partner for the community sensitization and for lending a helping hand to combat against untouchability.



A complaint box installed in a school of Kailali to collect suggestions for quality services.

media advocacy was initiated and this received good coverage in national media as well. As a result, it was successful to grab attention of the election commission and 18 voters with 10 women were able to enjoy voting rights for the first time in their lives.

To create a platform for deliberation on critical issues of democracy, social justice and democratization with special reference to evolving post-elections context of Nepal, a two-day National Conference on Participatory Democracy was organized. It was sixth in a series of such conferences organized every year, which have been drawing an enthusiastic participation of scholars, advocates and practitioners of participatory democracy.



A group of women are sitting on a grassy hillside in a mountainous region. They are wearing colorful traditional clothing, including headscarves and shawls. The background shows a large tree on the left and a stone wall on the right, with mountains in the distance under a clear sky.

Women's Rights

AAN strongly believes that the fulfilment of women's rights must be recognized as a priority within human rights. Its interventions for women's rights primarily focus on repealing all kinds of discriminatory laws and social practices that perpetuate and reinforce discrimination against women and combating all forms of violence against women.

Marking International
Women's Day with a
rally in Kathmandu.



STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

ReFLECT circles have become a great platform to discuss and combat violence against women and girls. This has helped the victims to gain confidence and fight back the injustices. Similarly, the tendency of registering VAW cases has considerably increased over the years. MAM on the other hand, is playing an important role to mitigate the problem by working as a community mediator. Depending on the nature of registered cases in MAM, they make an effort to solve them in the community level itself and for the critical ones, they facilitate the victims to take necessary legal actions. Further, emergency fund is also established in different working areas to support legal process and treatment of VAW victims.

In Doti, after our campaign against Chaupadi, banishing women from

their homes during periods has considerably decreased. Since the Domestic Violence (Crime and Punishment) Act, 2008 provisions for safe house, which supports violence survivor women to file the case, get justice by providing security, psycho-social counseling and medical treatment, advocacy for its implementation is ongoing in all the working districts. In Bajura, the safe house had provided services to 35 women and the District Police Office had also established women cell, from which 8 violence survivor women got legal justice.

In Kaski, MAM succeeded to win the rape case of Armala, which was dismissed by District Court. The case was registered in Appellate Court in leadership of Women Development Office and MAM in Kaski. Followed by the victory, the culprit has been imprisoned for 9 years. In case of child marriage,

after series of campaign against it, such cases considerably went down in Banke.

Day celebration to mark 16 days of activism against gender-based violence, International Women's Day, One Billion Rising, Safe City Campaign etc. were also organized with relevant related programmes.

MAM is playing an important role to mitigate violence against women and girls by working as a community mediator.

Case Study

I cannot tolerate violence: a personal account of Sabitri Parajuli

Most of the women who experience violence and sexual assault in any part of Armala VDC call me for help and I also make myself available at the earliest possible for extending support. I will not let die the respect and love given to me by the community. I am determined to do my part till my death, says Sabitri who is in her mid-30s.

Recalling my adolescent days, I used to be very angry whenever I witnessed people demeaning and misbehaving women. During those days, I could not resist since I myself was too young and I was suppressed by the patriarchal mindset of the community. The mindset was prevalent in my home as well. I was dominated by my parents, husband and father in law. They always discouraged me to participate in any empowerment programmes, outside the home.

A turning point in my life came when I got an opportunity to participate in CWES's (AAN's partner organization) awareness programme in 2009. From then onwards, I did not turn back. Gradually, I started to be more active and intensely involved in women empowerment programmes of the organization. I also worked as a trained ReFLECT facilitator in the community. This helped me to build confidence with strengthened energy to ensure women's rights, first from my own home and was later widened in my community. Due to my determination and passion for work, I currently chair the ward level MAM and also serve as a member in district level MAM.

MAM in my community receives 15 VAW cases annually. As per the nature of case, we decide to refer to legal treatment or reconcile in the community. In some cases, we accompany such women up to the legal authority. While working on them, we sometimes receive warning and life threats from the culprits but we are determined not to be intimidated by them. The growing love and acknowledgement of MAM is built on the solid determination and commitment of its members. I remember, even ward secretary and some local politicians said that MAM is just another fad and fizzles out after some time. But when they saw our persistence, they changed their mind and began to support us.

Mrs. Sabitri has become a progressive woman in Armala and is always willing to support other women. Being emotional, she mentioned that due to the poor economic condition, she could not advance her studies but nevertheless, she derives deeper satisfaction when she was able to help other women. She did not forget to give credit to CWES and AAN which were instrumental to her new life.

RAISING WOMEN'S RIGHTS LEADERS

With the increased capacity through leadership development trainings and various capacity building initiatives, 184 women from different groups, networks and ReFLECT circles of our working areas succeeded to be elected in local election. Further, two of our women rights activists was nominated as Provincial Parliament members through Proportional Representative System.

MAM with approximately 50,000 members and its existence in 32 districts is working as a community mediator at local level and its involvement at the district and national level has served as strength, especially in promoting awareness on GBV and enabling women to respond to the incidences of violence.

During 2017 elections, MAM organized an election education campaign with a number of capacity building initiatives. The network also published a booklet to provide

*Solidarity for the safe
city campaign in
Kathmandu.*



detailed information on election provision for women. This helped 150 MAM members to receive the candidacy, out of which, 80 of them were elected in local election. Further, a publication highlighting MAM's historical evaluation was also published and launched during the network's 10th anniversary.

Women have begun to actively participate in different community level committees like PTA, SMC, WCF, CFUG etc; and this year, 239 women were able to secure at least one of the major positions at the community/ local government level.

SAFE PUBLIC SPACES

Series of anti-harassment campaigns on public spaces were organized in almost all the working areas. Diverse IEC materials on the issue were published and they were used as tools of mass awareness and advocacy. The initiatives were successful to let the beneficiaries

learn about legal provisions and act accordingly. Training on Self Defense and Safety Audit were also organized to contribute to the campaign.

Further, safe city campaigns were implemented after close coordination with local stakeholders and security personnel. For instance, in Sankhuwasabha, a safety booth was

established in local market, which advocates against harassment cases in the market area and provides psycho-social counselling to VAW victims. Similarly, 18 safety booths were operated in Kathmandu valley in collaboration with Metro Police and women cell. The booths were then facilitated with IEC materials for wider sensitization. In Kathmandu, the month of May was



Girls in Udayapur ▶▶ preparing homemade sanitary pads to ensure menstrual hygiene in a minimized expense.



STRENGTHENING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

Sensitization on sexual and reproductive health rights to women and girls helped them to be informed about issues like family planning measures, uterus prolapse etc. Earlier, women were hesitant to share these issues but now, they are quite open to share them and reach out for check-up. Similarly, secondary and higher secondary level students were trained on making local sanitary pads and sensitized on their use. They were also trained on the relation of early/child marriage and its implications on sexual and reproductive health rights.

organized as safe city month and anti-harassment campaign in public vehicles was also continued.

Demand letters were also handed over to local and national stakeholders for providing street lights, availability of police bit in most vulnerable places like cinemas halls, bus parks and temples etc.

After continuous lobby and advocacy, the health post of Durgamandu in Doti has established girls' friendly counselling center to ensure their confidentiality on sexual and reproductive health. The center is also equipped with

learning materials on SRHR so that they can improve their understanding on the topic.

Maternal health awareness is the other SRHR initiative undertaken. Since rest of the family members have equal role to play for its promotion, they were empowered on it along with the promotion of safer birthing center within the health posts.

After continuous lobby and advocacy, the health post of Durgamandu in Doti has established girls' friendly counselling center to ensure their confidentiality on sexual and reproductive health.



« *Husband internalizing that the household chores need to be shared by each family member. Redistribution of UCW, Siraha*

UNPAID CARE WORK (UCW) AND ITS CONSCIENTIZATION

With an aim to create awareness and promote culture to recognize, respect, redistribute and reduce the burden of unpaid care work, regular discussion in ReFLECT circles, capacity building trainings and orientation on time diary collection and analysis, interaction with right holders and stakeholders were organized.

By addressing unpaid care work and establishing Community Child Care Centers (CCCC), women are allocating their time in skill development training and income generation. They are engaged in both on-farm and off-farm initiatives and are becoming self-sustained and confident than before. On UCW, the attitude and mindset of family and community and even of the local authority is gradually changing. With this realization, now men have started to support

women in household work and the local stakeholders are investing for the infrastructural development of CCCC. Moreover, single/joint land ownership campaign is very effective to ensure women's right to land. These achievements have supported women to enhance their negotiating power within the household and challenge their stereotypical roles.

PROMOTING ALTERNATIVES TO REDUCE WOMEN'S WORKLOAD AND DEVELOP WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP

In ReFLECT circles, both women and men were sensitized about UCW to internalize the work load and value the household care work. Time diary was filled by participants and used as a tool for further advocacy. For instance, it was found that fetching water used to take more time in most of the working areas. So, water tanks were established to reduce the work load.



In Terhathum, the women groups submitted fund raising proposals in VDCs and started utilizing the groups' monthly saving for the sustainability of CCCCs.

▼ *Filling up time diary in Bardiya to calculate women's contribution for Unpaid Care Work.*



In Terhathum, the women groups submitted fund raising proposals in VDCs and started utilizing the groups' monthly saving for the sustainability of CCCCs and in Lalitpur, Godavari Municipality allocated the budget of NRs. 50,000 for CCCC in Chapagaun.

With a theme of 'Ensuring Women's Economic Empowerment through addressing Unpaid Care Work', a two-day National Women's Conference was organized. The conference had Women's Rights activists and MAM representatives from 35 districts and participants from different CSOs, academia, journalists and government stakeholders.

The Supreme Court outlawed the malpractice of Chaupadi and this will soon come to an effect.

Case Study

Community Child Care Centre enhanced Livelihood

When anyone reaches to Komal Maya Limbu's fields at Aambung, Myanglung Municipality-8 in Terhathum district, s/he will come across the bunch of cardamom plants, ripe banana trees, ready to eat sugarcanes, lots of ginger, fish pond, bundles of paddy, various fruit trees and lactating cows and buffaloes. All of these are managed by Komal Maya and her husband. 35-year-old Komal Maya lives with two children and husband. Both the husband and wife share their household chores and care work of children.

Agriculture is the only source of livelihood for their family. They have set an example for those who think that agriculture doesn't sustain the livelihood. Komal Maya struggled a lot for four years when her first child was born. She used to carry her on her back while working at home and farm. To be comfortable at work, she used to leave her sometimes at neighbour's house, but this was not helpful since she used to worry almost all the times about her security. Nonetheless since last four years, Komal Maya didn't have to bear all these hassles. The nearby CCCC established by a Women Group with support from AAN has simplified her and her younger child's life. After noticing the CCCC's management of child care, she used to feel comfortable for leaving her child there and go for work.

Her younger child is of 4 years now and started going to school. Her husband shares that she has become very clever and active after attending CCCC. Komal Maya supplemented her husband by saying that she was able to engage in many other income generation activities after keeping the child in CCCC, which was almost impossible before.

Komal Maya happily shares that her life has completely changed with raised family income due to AAN's initiation of CCCC and a number of trainings on CRSA and commercial farming for enhanced livelihood.



WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND POLICY ADVOCACY

The Supreme Court outlawed the malpractice of Chaupadi and this will soon come to an effect. The new law sentences three-month jail or Rs. 3,000 fine or both against the culprit. MAM, women's groups and networks and like-minded CSOs were engaged in continuous campaigns at local affected areas and policy advocacy in the National level.

Since 2015, AAN and MAM were engaged to draft 'Rural Women Policy' for ensuring rights of rural women in development agenda. A technical team in coordination with National Women Commission was formed to carry out the work. After series of District and National level consultations with government stakeholders and civil society organizations, the policy has now been drafted and handed over to the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare. Currently, the policy is awaiting final approval from the parliament.

▲ *Community people's engagement in a campaign against Chaupadi in Bajura.*





Quality Education in a Safe and Equitable Environment

Education is a basic human right of all. The constitution of Nepal along with International conventions and National commitments as well as Sustainable Development Goal on education has focused on rights of children to have access to inclusive quality education for all. AAN is also committed to securing free, compulsory, quality public education and lifelong learning opportunities for all.

PROMOTING RIGHTS IN SCHOOLS

Contributed by mass awareness and advocacy on PRS to the children, parents and school authorities and formation of citizen education watch groups and networks for school monitoring, local stakeholders are now committed to ensure free and quality education in public schools. The School Improvement Plans (SIP) are also prepared in line with charter of 10 rights and are implemented in most of the schools.

Further, the schools have started to conduct participatory social audit and developed school code of conduct. On the other hand, child club's engagement with schools has helped to decrease corporal punishment, early/child marriage, untouchability and discrimination issues within the school premises.

At the same time, it was also found that the schools were collecting fees in the name of teaching in English medium and for various other extra-curricular activities. Since, the practice is against the constitution, various advocacy campaigns were organized to ensure free education. For instance in Bardiya, the issue was

raised and filed the case in Supreme Court, which was widely covered in the local and national media and the District Education Office (DEO) was pressurized through a delegation. As a result, the DEO immediately took action and the schools were asked not to receive any fees.



Case Study

Kamala is back to School

“My school is just a few minutes away from here,” shows Kamala Nepali, a 14-year-old native of Pakari, Doti, as she points the way to her school, which is a little further uphill from her home. However, the ascent to education for girls like Kamala in the remote villages of far-western regions is much farther than how Kamala innocently puts it. Due to her family’s circumstances, the school-loving child had to give up on her studies and drop out of school. “I have no one here except my grandmother. She tells me that my father has settled in India”. Kamala’s elder sister also lived with them, but when she too left home for work, she was left with no choice but to leave school to support her grandmother. “My grandmother is old and sick, who will look after her, if not me?” says Kamala.

Such forced responsibilities in kids since a young age is what has resulted in many school dropout cases in rural communities. After almost a year, it’s now been over two months since Kamala has resumed her studies from grade 4 in Shree Durga Lower Secondary School, a public school in Pakari. “The *didis* (seniors) of the school’s child club came for me and persuaded my grandmother to let me continue my studies,” she says. “I still help with all the household chores, but now, with the guidance of the *didis*, I can manage my time to study as well.” She adds, “When I grow older, I also want to help other students in need like the *didis* do.”

The child club that Kamala speaks so fondly of is Kalika Bal Club of her school. The clubs are functional in public schools to help protect children’s right (especially girls) to free education, along with nine other basic rights, to ensure improved access to quality education, and to create a child-friendly learning environment in public schools that is free from any kind of discrimination. “Our teachers are very helpful and friendly. I think that helped me make my return in school less intimidating.”

Kamala believes that despite what the communities feel about educating girls, when given the opportunity, there’s nothing that girls cannot attain in life. “Even girls have the right to dream of a greater future,” she says. “I want to go to Silgadhi (headquarter of the district) to complete my higher education when I finish school here,” she adds. “I want to become a doctor”, Kamala shares her aim with a smile.



« Community people are more vocal to raise concerns on PRS after mass awareness and advocacy on it.

The schools have started to conduct participatory social audit and developed school code of conduct.

Nepal Citizens' Education Report launched during Annual Conference on Strengthening Public Education in Nepal.



RIGHTS TO EDUCATION AND POLICY ADVOCACY

A High-Level Education Commission was formed by the government to provide suggestions on new education policies that could fit in the nation's recently formed federal structure. AAN and NCE Nepal submitted a suggestion booklet to the commission based on a yearlong research works. The booklet contained various suggestions highlighting education at different levels and early childhood education, school curriculum and textbooks, school governance and teachers' minimum qualifications, M&E and DRR in schools.

A National level research on education status was also done by collecting data from more than 150 schools of 23 districts. The overall research work was focused on the targets and indicators of SDG and SSDP, with specific focus on equity, financing and taxation, quality, teacher's management, governance

and accountability on education sector. The research work is in the process of publication.

In one of the interaction programmes organized with High-Level Education Commission, alternatives to discourage parents on sending their children to private schools was discussed. It was shared that the parents could be asked to pay back government's investment for each child in public schools. This would also help parents to realize the importance of government fund at public sector.

AAN jointly with NCE Nepal organized an 'Annual Conference on Strengthening Public Education in Nepal'. The conference is fourth in a series of such conferences held during the previous years. The event was focused on creating a political space for civil society organizations, educators, and all those involved in the movement to contribute on education financing discourses.



COMPLEMENTING QUALITY EDUCATION

AAN supported with learning and playing materials, compound wall for building disaster resilient schools, drinking water facilities etc. to establish model schools with child friendly learning environment. The model schools were built to encourage other public schools and ensure similar facilities within them.

Similarly, Child Centred Learning (CCL) was promoted in schools. This helped to create a better learning environment and has also supported to reduce school drop outs. For instance in slum communities, it has helped to enhance children's regularities in schools. Further, since the government has provisioned for the establishment of Early Childhood Development (ECD) Center in all the primary schools,

The model schools were built to encourage other public schools and ensure similar facilities within them.

advocacy to ensure it is ongoing throughout the working areas.

National ECD learning and sharing workshop was jointly organized by AAN, DEO Kaski and CWES in Pokhara. It focused on sharing the learning and experience of Kaski's three-year project on ECD. It was also aimed to create a political space for CSOs, educators, ECD facilitators and all those involved in the movement for ensuring children's rights in early childhood development.

The Citizen's Education Report (CER) process has also been helpful to progress on PRS programme. For instance, it helped to identify that one of the schools in Bajura did not have SIP and it also had irregularities of teachers. After the CER process, the SIP was developed in coordination with District Education Office and the regularity of teachers was achieved by holding their payment of leave days.



◀ *Support for a classroom arrangement in Sankhuwasabha with an application of CCL approach.*



« *In coordination with SMC and school authorities, the child club initiated a provision of sanitary pads in Khaptadi School, Kailali to prevent girls' absenteeism during their menstruation.*

PROMOTING GIRLS' EDUCATION AND SCHOOL ENROLMENT CAMPAIGN

School Enrolment Campaigns were organized throughout the working areas in coordination with District Education Office, SMC, PTA, child clubs, students and teachers. Different door to door sensitization programmes, broadcast of PSAs in local radio, wider use of IEC materials through ReFLECT etc. were done for the campaign. This not only helped to encourage new admissions but was also equally helpful to bring drop out students back to schools. The child clubs were also mobilized to initiate anti-child marriage campaigns and promote girls' education. In Doti, teachers were trained to make homemade sanitary pads to ensure regularity of girls in schools and in Bara, a focal teacher was appointed for sharing SRHR issues without hesitation. Similarly, advocacy for constructing girls' friendly toilets is ongoing throughout the working areas.

Education watch groups/concern groups were also formed for upholding fundamental child rights. To quote their best practices, they were engaged to hold SMC accountable towards budget expenses, ensure school social audit and regularity of teachers in schools. In Banke, the religious leaders were oriented on child marriage, its consequences, legal provisions and penalties and commitments from them were received for not promoting child marriage within the communities.

In Doti, teachers were trained to make homemade sanitary pads to ensure regularity of girls in schools and in Bara, a focal teacher was appointed for sharing SRHR issues without hesitation.

ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGN ON EDUCATION FINANCING

Tax power campaign was organized in different working areas like Doti, Kailali and Palpa followed by its orientations and trainings to the community leaders, teachers, child club members and youth. IEC materials were developed and advocacy through media was widely practiced by developing and broadcasting radio talk



programmes, TV shows, radio jingles etc. This helped them to understand the context with the realization of further advocacy on tax justice, especially in the newly introduced local government structure. During the Global Action Week on Education, press conference and district level discourse with stakeholders were organized to emphasize issues of tax justice and education financing.

Tax power campaign helped the community members to understand the context with the realization of further advocacy on tax justice, especially in the newly introduced local government structure.

HARNESSING YOUTH POWER

With the enhanced capacity built through leadership skills and mass mobilization, youth and Activista members were involved in community level ReFLECT circles to fight back existing injustices. They were also mobilized in tax justice campaigns and were trained on Rtl to make use of it and encourage communities.

Further, the Global Action Week on Education was organized by mobilizing youth in different programmes like street drama performance, signature campaign, safe city campaign, One Billion Rising, International Youth Day celebration etc. In Lalitpur, they were mobilized to contribute labour work for constructing a health post in Chapagaun and Badikhel.



◀ *Deputy Mayor of Gauriganga Municipality, Kailali expressing her views on tax power and public education in a workshop organized with locally elected female representatives.*



▲ Youth engaged in an initiative to promote Girls' Education.

Different capacity build-up programmes for youth like five days of 'Youth Democracy Camp' was organized. It helped 31 young people to enhance their knowledge, skills and ideas on human rights, peace, governance and participatory democracy. Similarly, 'Youth Entrepreneurship Camp' was organized for 30 youth to widen their knowledge on business plan, market analysis, Government initiated programmes on entrepreneurship backed by the inspiring change stories of youth entrepreneurs in Nepal. Further, the youth are also oriented on SDGs and encouraged to contribute on them.

In 2008, the Government announced 'Youth Self-Employment Fund' to

provide un-mortgaged loans of up to Rs. 200,000 at low interest rates. The provision was to support unemployed youths for setting up their own business and to ease the growing pressure in job market. But it was found that most of the youth living in poverty were unaware of it and some fund was also noticed of being misused. So, a dialogue programme on it was organized in Bara to aware youth for its proper utilization and discourage the misuse.

The youth were also encouraged to write academic journals on contemporary socio-cultural, political and economic contexts and they were published in a book, 'Nepal Youth Journal'.

With the enhanced capacity built through leadership skills and mass mobilization, youth and Activista members were involved in community level ReFLECT circles to fight back existing injustices.

Case Study

Leadership in Making: Village Child Club to National Adolescence Network

Ms. Monika Ranabhat, a local residence of Kristi, Kaski served Village Child Club as a chair from 2068-2069. It was a new experience for her to act as a chair. Remembering those days, Ms. Monika reminisces “I had no idea what I should do for the club but I did have faith on me that I could do something noticeable”. Meanwhile, Siddhartha Club, a partner of AAN provided leadership training for all chairs of child club which boosted her confidence to a new level. She also took master of ceremony training and improved her public speaking skill. As a chair, you are supposed to publicly shed light on the objectives and achievements of your organization. So, being able to do it is a key, she shared.

During her tenure, leading the celebration of child participation year 2011 and campaign against child marriage 2012 were some of the major events. In doing so, she had to coordinate with external stakeholders, like minded organizations and civil society organizations through Siddhartha Club. This was very useful to widen her experience and broaden her networking. As she was involved in overall process of those events, she became more aware on the structural causes of gender-based inequalities and discrimination and how power plays a decisive role.

Under the leadership of armed police force, child club members were vigorously involved in destroying cannabis plant which was cultivated in Kristi. From the child club's network, one girl from Kristi who was at risk of trafficking was identified and rescued. Interventions as such provided child club members with greater exposure beyond their school premises. The network has also been receiving greater acknowledgements with multiple invitations from the government and civil society organizations for learning and sharing visits.

Ms. Ranabhat experienced a remarkable shift when she was selected in 11-membered adolescence group at the district level. This has given her opportunity to work with several child clubs in a bigger scale. Currently, she serves as a vice chair of National Adolescence Network. This is a 15-membered network, which is representing 22 districts, at present.

Ms. Ranabhat is a striking example of how much one can contribute for social transformation if s/he possesses right attitude, basic understanding on social issues and commitment to bring positive change. If such commitment persists, the day will come when the society will be benefited by her leadership in a bigger scale. It might not be unfair to say that credit partly goes to AAN and Siddhartha Club for providing her leadership development right from her early age.



▲ Construction of an Early Childhood Development Centre in a flood affected area of Morang.

PROMOTING SAFETY AND DRR IN SCHOOLS

DMC formation at school level, Participatory Vulnerability Assessment and preparation of disaster management plan, capacity building to teachers, parents and students, wider community sensitization programmes, simulation exercise, small scale support for mitigation etc. were some of the initiatives implemented to promote safety and DRR in schools. For instance in a hilly area of Doti, a school was supported to build a playground with a compound wall. The wall helped to ensure security of the children. For this, the community also succeeded to claim fund from the local bodies.



OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL INITIATIVES AND PROCESSES

NEW COUNTRY STRATEGY PAPER (CSP)-V, 'ACTION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE'

The new CSP-V, 'Action for Social Justice' has been prepared after rigorous process of consultation with partner NGOs, AAN staff, board, GA members and AAI. It is a guiding document to craft our way forward for the next five years from 2018-2023. It also ensures alignment with the changed local and national governance context and structure.

THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

AAN's 3rd General Assembly was organized on 24th September 2017. Organizational progress updates and financial status were shared along with the drafting process and progress of upcoming Country Strategy Paper V. As a proposition by the board for new general assembly, four new GA members were appointed. Now, there are 19 members in General Assembly including 9 from the National Board.

▲ *AAN's Third General Assembly. It has 19 members in General Assembly including 9 from the National Board.*

NATIONAL SOCIAL AUDIT

Since 2004, AAN has been carrying out National Social Audit (SA) every year with an aim to promote accountability and transparency in the presence of community representatives, partner organizations, stakeholders, media representatives, networks/alliances and government officials. Giving continuity to it, the 14th SA was organized in Kathmandu on 16th June 2017.

WOMEN'S FORUM

Women's Forum is AAN's one of the most important forums where all the women staff participate to share a formal space to enable, develop and empower the knowledge, skills and perspectives of women staff. The forum also aims to sensitize staff about national policies and practices and motivates to contribute



◀ Participants going through organizational achievements in the gallery presentation during 14th National Social Audit.

and make them more women friendly. This year, 10th in a series of such forums was organized.

ACTION RESEARCH

To promote evidence based intervention, AAN is partnering with different academic universities to conduct action research like: the research on Bonded Labour: Haruwa Charuwa communities of Siraha and Saptari with University of Sussex; on Insecurity and Uncertainty: Marginalised young people's living rights in fragile and conflict affected situations in Nepal and Ethiopia with University of London and on Post Disaster Reconstruction with Coventry University.

REVIEW, EVALUATION AND IMPACT STUDY

The review, evaluation and impact study are the accountability processes of AAN to help us assess

and reflect our performance over a certain interval of time and consider the lessons learnt to plan for the next strategy. These periodic studies also complement the regular M&E work that leads towards a more comprehensive learning cycle.

In order to link the lessons learnt from the reviews with improved future actions, efforts are made to critically discuss the review recommendations with the partners. These recommendations will further be incorporated in the renewed partnership agreements. Moreover, the practice of peer-to-peer review

process between partners is found as an effective process to build partner capacity and improve shared learning. This year as well, such studies were organized and the recommendations were provided.

REGULAR AUDIT TO ENSURE TRANSPARENCY

16 internal audits and 33 external audits were conducted in 2017 followed by preparation and

▼ *Field Visit during Holistic Audit of LRP 34, Sankhuwasabha. Holistic Audit is a blend of Governance, Finance, Social/Public and Programme audits.*





Children's engagement to connect with supporters through child message. ►►

dissemination of their reports. Regular audit visits to the partners and the auditors' recommendations being shared were instrumental to check the misappropriation of funds and the receipt of their monthly financial reports on time. Further, the holistic audit approach gave an insight to review the partner's governance, policies and social audit activities, cost effectiveness and working efficiency.

GOING GREEN

AAN is a 'green sensitive' organization and the staff are now fully aware that their small contribution has a huge impact on minimizing the risk of carbon emission. Various measures like reducing travels by making use of video conferences and skype meetings, limiting print copies, discouraging the use of flex prints and non-disposable plastic bags, being conscious on energy consumption etc. were undertaken to contribute for the initiative.

SPONSORSHIP SUPPORTER RETENTION

The available Child Sponsorship links as of December 2017 are 8,902 and that of Next Step (non-child sponsorship) links are 2,174. In 2017, the link rate saw negative growth rate of 3.73%, mainly because of financial reason at the supporters' end.

FUND RAISING (FR)

AAN is moving towards the concept of resource generation, a paradigm shift from conventional FR to deriving a pool of resource to support its programme and the target community. The few efforts initiated in 2017 for the smooth FR process are being systematized for fundraising through project management guidelines, programme-led funding planning and making efforts for FR database. In 2017, AAN was successful to receive 9 projects of diverse nature and themes.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) MANAGEMENT

IT Unit invested in new technology to build a robust IT infrastructure in the organization in terms of agility, scalability and security. For instance, in 2017, the organizational systems were switched to 'Office 365' to provide a cloud-based platform for better work efficiency and 'Microsoft One Drive' was installed to provide more data security with cloud-based storage. Similarly, IT Unit is continuing its helpdesk to support the related issues across the organization. It is regularly supporting the organization with the installation of updated and secure software as well as needful orientation/training to AAN staff.

More importantly, as a part of the digitization process, IT unit implemented and rolled out an online database system for organizational Quarterly Performance Plan and Quarterly Performance Report. IT Unit was also involved in ongoing software system enhancement and upgradation of

database systems like HRMIS, Online quantitative database system etc.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL UPDATE

AAN's Actual Regular Giving Income in 2017 was nearly 1.59 million Great Britain Pound (GBP) with an increment by 7.43% if compared with the plan. Similarly, the actual 'Other Income' (partnership) was increased by 34.65% due to the receipt of additional income for earthquake response initiatives.

The overall income position of AAN for the year 2017 is:

GBP '000

Income	2017 (Actual)	2017 (Plan)
Regular Giving	1,589	1,479
Other Income	3,691	2,741
Total Income	5,280	4,220

The Funding Affiliate-wise breakdown and composition of Regular Giving Income for 2017 is:

GBP '000

Regular Giving Income	2017 (Actual)	2017 (Plan)
ActionAid Brazil	74	43
ActionAid Greece	143	145
ActionAid Ireland	157	171
ActionAid Italy	491	484
ActionAid Spain	190	154
ActionAid UK	534	482
Total	1,589	1,479

GBP '000

Regular Giving Income	2017 (Actual)	2017 (Composition)
ActionAid Brazil	74	5%
ActionAid Greece	143	9%
ActionAid Ireland	157	10%
ActionAid Italy	491	31%
ActionAid Spain	190	12%
ActionAid UK	534	34%
Total	1,589	100%

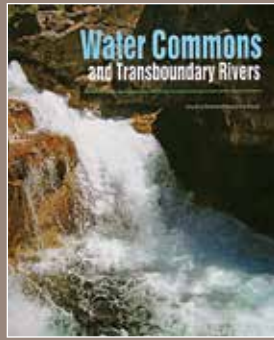
AA UK and AA Italy were the major contributors of 2017 budget, which respectively comprised 34% and 31% of the total income earned from the

regular giving income. Similarly, the contribution of AA Brazil, Greece, Ireland and Spain were 5%, 9%, 10% and 12% respectively.

GBP '000

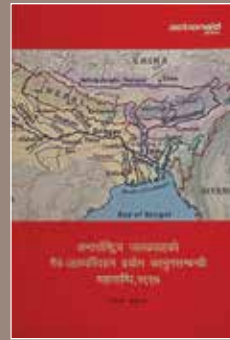
EXPENDITURE		
Natural Cost Classification	2017 (Actual)	2017 (Plan)
Grants and Community Inputs	4,281	3,871
Salaries and Benefits (staff costs)	422	552
Travel and transportation	43	85
Office and service costs	97	174
Total	4,843	4,682
Statutory Cost Analysis	Actual	Plan
Project Costs	4,480	4,131
Fundraising Costs	100	135
Governance Costs	38	42
Support Costs	225	374
Total	4,843	4,682

The total income and expenditure for the year 2017 are more or less in line with the plan; the expenditure is just higher by 3.43%.



Water Commons and Transboundary Rivers

It is a research report published jointly by AAN and ISET Nepal. In context of the country's agreement with India on the Koshi, Gandak and Mahakali rivers, it explored livelihood of the riparian communities in terms of water use and disaster risk management.



UN Watercourse Convention 1997

It is a Nepali translation of the convention, which emphasizes the protection, preservation and management of transboundary ecosystems, primarily prescribing principles, norms, general and substantive procedures for the non-navigational use of international watercourses.



A Case Study of Gandak River Agreement

It uses 1959 Gandak River Agreement between Nepal and India as a case study to assess performances of the infrastructure built under the treaty and their services in Nepal. It further examines the context of irrigation, hydropower and flood mitigation issues in plain areas of Nawalparasi.



Good Practices of Gandak Water Rights Campaign

The book documents campaign and struggle for water commons highlighting major milestone of Gandak Water Struggle Committee. It gives an overview of people's perspective on the issue. The book is in Nepali language.



Journey to Reconstruction after Earthquake: Stories of Change

It documents the evidences of community led reconstruction through changes in the lives of earthquake affected people. It is published both in Nepali and English language.



ActionAid Nepal in Emergency Response

This book presents AAN's post-earthquake emergency response initiatives followed by long-term community led reconstruction programme.

KNOWLEDGE GENERATION IN 2017



Participatory Democracy: Reflection on Process and Issues

The book is a collection of papers presented during the 5th Annual Conference on Participatory Democracy in December 2016 and related multi-dimensional reflections linked with contemporary socio-cultural and political contexts.



Our Policies

Based on the Constitution of Nepal 2015, the book highlights the provisions for receiving citizenship, budget development process of Nepal Government and relationship between transparency and good governance. It is in Nepali language.



Prayas (Attempt)

It is a collection of successful case studies from Palpa and Baitadi, where a three-year project, 'Empowerment & Democracy-Maintaining the Role of NSAs in Nepal in Local Governance & Accountability' was implemented. It is also in Nepali language.



Safe Cities: Results from Scoping Study in Earthquake Affected Districts in Nepal

It is a study to explore and understand sexual harassment in public areas, briefly mapping out existing services and stakeholders in the sector and to gain an insight on demographic and socio-cultural factors associated with GBV in the study areas.



Safe City Programme: Women Safety Audit Report

It is a study carried out on Women Safety Audit in one selected ward of four districts: Dhading, Nuwakot, Sindhupalchowk and Bhaktapur. It assesses the state of women's safety in public spaces.



Photo Story

The book presents six success stories from the two and half year project, 'Promoting Quality Education through Progressive Domestic Resource Mobilization'. The project was focused on strengthening public education through 10 rights of education under PRS framework and work on tax justice and public financing in education.



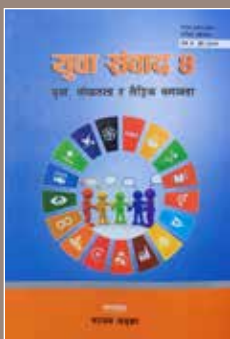
Nepal Citizens' Education Report

This report identifies the extent to which Nepal's children, especially girls, are accessing good quality primary education and recommends improvements notably in government policies. It is based on extensive collaborative research among communities and school stakeholders in 25 schools of Kailali and Doti districts.



Financial Management in Public Schools

It is a study report on education financing, resource mobilization and financial management conducted in 20 public schools of Kailali. The report acts as an important tool for further advocacy on the need of increasing education financing in public schools of Nepal. It is published in Nepali language.



Youth Dialogue-4

It is a fourth volume of the book and is a collection of papers presented during a discussion programme with the similar title. This volume is a collection of articles on issues of youth, democracy and gender equality. It is in Nepali language.



Education in the New Government Structure of Nepal

It presents a brief description of the constitutional provisions on education along with the related laws and policies in all three tiers of the nation's government structure. It is in Nepali language.



Brief Analysis of National Education Budget (F.Y. 2017/18): Educational Perspective

It is an analysis of the National budget 2017/18 with the focus on education so as to identify the major priority areas in it and those that are left behind.



Nepal Youth Journal: Youth and Entrepreneurship

The second volume of the book is comprised of research-based articles by 8 aspiring youth professionals to shed light on the contextual analysis of youth and entrepreneurship. It is believed to create a dynamic discourse to prepare needful policy plans and interventions for youth entrepreneurship development.

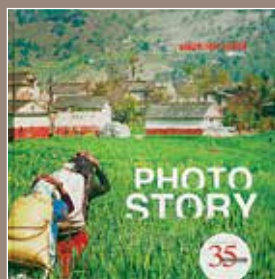
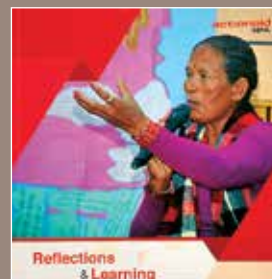


Photo Story

It is a pictorial presentation of the context, the process and the results of AAN's major involvements; which include various critical issues of Natural Resources and Livelihood, Post-disaster Relief, Reconstruction and Building Resilience, Quality Public Service, Participatory Democratic Governance, Women's Rights and Quality Education Rights.



Reflections and Learning 2016

It is an annual report of 2016 with the programmatic achievements, financial details, case studies and progresses over the year.

LOCAL RIGHTS PROGRAMME - 2017

District	Name of Long-term LRP Partner
Kaski	Siddhartha Club (SC) Children and Women Empowerment Society (CWES)
Nawalparasi	Indreni Social Development Forum (ISDF) Majhi Musahar Bote Kalyan Sewa Samiti (MMBKSS)
Bara	Janchetana Jagaran Abhiyan (JJA) Rural Development Centre (RDC)
Morang/Jhapa	Madan Bhandari Memorial Academy Nepal (MBMAN) Nari Bikash Sangh (NBS)
Udayapur	Nepal Social Development People Empowerment Centre (NESPEC) Chelibeti Club (CBC)
Bajura	Human Resource Centre (HRC) Participatory Effort at Children Education and Women Initiative Nepal (Peacewin)
Banke	Bheri Environment Excellence Group (BEE Group) Nepal Muslim Samaj Bikas Chetana Kendra (NMSBCK)
Terhathum	Dalit Awareness Society (DAS) Deurali Society (DS)
Kathmandu	Homenet Nepal (HNN) Nepal Mahila Ekta Samaj (NMES)
Bardiya	Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj (KMJS)
Sankhuwasabha	The Society Touch (TST)
Doti	Early Development Centre (EDC)
Siraha	Dalit Jana Kalyan Yuba Club (DJKYC)
Palpa	Social Resource Development Centre Nepal (SRDCN)

ANNEX 1

PROJECTS MANAGED IN 2017

SN	Projects	Donor	Implementing Partner	Duration
1	Supporting Women in Nepal to Rebuild their Lives after Disaster	Alborada Foundation	Rasuwa: Nepal Agroforestry Foundation (NAF)	August 2016 to July 2019
2	Women's Rights Programme II (SAMMUNATI)	Irish Aid	Chitwan: Chitwan Sakriya Mahila Samuha (CSMS) Makwanpur: Makwanpur Mahila Samuha (MMS) Parsa: Divya Yuwa Club (DYC) Lalitpur: Prerana (Secretariat of Mahila Adhikar Manch)	Jan 2017 to Dec 2021
3	Making it Work for Women	UK Giving Club	Doti: Equality Development Center (EDC) Bardiya: Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj (KMJS)	May 2017 to Aug 2020
4	Empowerment and Democracy – Maintaining the Role of NSAs in Local Governance and Accountability	EU Delegation in Nepal	Palpa: Women Welfare Association (WWA) Baitadi: Bhumeswor Community Development Organization (BCDO)	March 2014 to February 2017
5	Community Led Reconstruction Programme (CLRP)	Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), Disaster Preparedness and Response Fund (DPRF)	Sindhupalchowk: Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC) Kavrepalanchowk: Center for Rural Educational Development (CRED) Dolakha: Ecology, Agriculture and Rural Development Society (ECARDS) Rasuwa: Nepal Agro Forestry Foundation (NAF) Kathmandu: HomeNet Nepal (HNN) Makwanpur: Makwanpur Mahila Samuha (MMS)	April 2015 to April 2018

ANNEX 2

6	Promoting Quality Education through Progressive Domestic Resources Mobilization Project	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation	Kailali: FAYA - Nepal Doti: Equality Development Centre (EDC)	July 2015 to December 2017
7	People-led Solution for Better Accountability Practices	Governance Facility Nepal	Sindhupalchowk: Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC) Kavrepalanchowk: Center for Rural Educational Development (CRED) Dolakha: Human Rights Awareness and Development Centre (HURADEC) Rasuwa: Nepal Agro Forestry Foundation (NAF) Kathmandu: Institute for Social and Environmental Transition - Nepal (ISET-Nepal)	December 2015 to November 2018
8	Transforming the Lives of Disadvantaged Communities in Nepal by Improving Access to Clean, Safe Water and Sanitation Facilities	The Hodgson Charitable Trust	Morang: Nari Bikas Sangh (NBS)	Jan 2016 to June 2017
9	Building a new Childcare Centre to help break the cycle of poverty as well as supporting Early Childhood Learning and Education	AA Ireland	Doti: Equality Development Center (EDC)	August 2017 to May 2018
10	Strengthening Women's Education & Economic Empowerment	Soroptimist International	Terhathum: Deurali Society (DS) Dalit Awareness Society (DAS)	June 2017 to June 2018



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