

Group of Helping Hands (SAHAS) Nepal



ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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FOREWORD

The year 2020 was like no other, as the whole world was in the grip of a pandemic, reminding us of how unpredictable life could be and how even our best plans come to nothing. But most importantly, it highlights that no matter how tough time be our value, purpose, resilience, and serving marginalised, vulnerable, women, youths, and other disadvantaged groups remain constant. In those difficult situations, we stayed intact and grew together in embracing the changes caused by the pandemic.

We are very pleased to capacitate the local government, frontline health workers, and communities in tackling the challenges of COVID-19. Local governments were supported with essential health kits (PPE, surgical gloves, surgical masks, KN95 masks, sanitizers, thermometer, soaps, etc), radio jingle on preventive measures was aired in four ethnic languages, beds and other necessary items were distributed in quarantine facilities, food, and non-food items were distributed to vulnerable groups ensuring health and nutrition safety. CBOs and CBNOs were mobilized in awareness-raising at the community level ensuring all the community could access the right information at right time. A total of Nepalese Rupees 650,000 was donated by SAHAS Nepal staff and Nepalese Rupees 4,614,868 from new projects and projects revision, which was used in COVID-19 response activities.

This year was another milestone as SAHAS Nepal completed 25 glorious years of working with communities, a year of celebration and introspection. As we look back to the start of our journey in Okhaldhunga, we are thrilled to reflect on the uncountable changes that we have been able to bring about in the lives of many people. Today SAHAS Nepal is working in 22 districts of Nepal with diverse programmes and projects. All the accomplishments we have made so far are impossible without the support of funding partners, board members, dedicated staff, CBOs, CBNOs, and communities.

From its inception, SAHAS Nepal believed in a community-led and bottom-up approach for ensuring the sustainability of the development interventions. As of now, 27 Community Based Network Organisations (CBNOs) consisting of 1,577 Community Based Organisations (CBOs) is formed and registered with the respective District Administration Offices. These CBNOs are performing a vital role in the implementation of a wide range of community development activities in partnership with governmental and non-governmental organisations. In 2020, CBNOs were able to leverage a substantial amount of funds worth Nepalese Rupees 4,980,000 from different government bodies and other organisations that they are investing in sustainable livelihood and social change initiatives in their communities. SAHAS Nepal is also providing continuous technical backstopping and capacity development support to these CBNOs which is necessary for their sustainability.

SAHAS Nepal has initiated two new projects adding additional working areas and programme themes and expanding the horizon of partnership. As the COVID-19 pandemic was prevalent SAHAS Nepal organised numerous virtual capacity-building training for the effective and efficient utilization of its human resources and their continuous professional growth.

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to our funding partners for supporting SAHAS Nepal to grow as a leading civil society organization in Nepal. We would also like to thank our board members for their continued support and guidance. We highly admire the hard work, dedication, and commitment of our staff, which has been critical in achieving organizational mission and goal. Our special thanks also go to the farming communities, local government agencies, and stakeholders for their valuable support and contribution in successfully implementing our development programmes. Finally, we thank Joy Ransom for editing the report.

We are confident that new opportunities will open up to help us continue our efforts in community development activities. We are making a difference in the lives of marginalized and vulnerable communities and we wish to outshine this endeavor in the coming days.

Thank you !



Pratap Kumar Shrestha, PhD
Chairperson
SAHAS NEPAL



Surendra K. Shrestha, PhD
Executive Director
SAHAS NEPAL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Organisational Feature	4
Executive Board Members	4
Organisational Structure	5
Geographical Coverage	5
SAHAS Nepal contribution towards	
Sustainable Development Goals	6
Improved Food Security, Nutrition and Livelihood	8
Educated and Empowered Communities	11
Targeting Youths, Women and Marginalised People	14
One step to secure daughter's future	15
Evidence based Policy Change	19
Institutional Development	20
Infrastructure Development	24
Combating COVID-19	25
Organisational Activities	28
Human Resource	29
Financial Report	30
Funding Partners	36
List of Projects	37

ABBREVIATIONS

BfdW	Bread for the World
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CBNO	Community Based Network Organisation
CC	Climate Change
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CCM	Climate Change Mitigation
COVID	Corona Virus Infected Disease
CMCC	Community Managed Coaching Centers
CSA	Climate Smart Agriculture
CST	Climate Smart Technologies
CSV	Climate Smart Village
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ECD	Early Childhood Development
FELM	Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission
GA	General Assembly
GDP	Gross Development Product
GLOF	Glacier Lake Outbreak Flood
GESI	Gender Equity and Social Inclusion
HH	Household
ICS	Improved Cooking Stove
IGA	Income Generating Activities
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
KG	Kilo Gram
LDCRP	Local Disaster and Climate Resilient Plan
LI-BIRD	Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development
MC	Main Committee
MoHP	Ministry of Health and Population
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NRM	Natural Resource Management
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PVS	Participatory Varietal Selection
RBA	Right Based Approach
RM	Rural Municipality
SALT	Sloping Agricultural Land Technology
SF	Stromme Foundation
SHG	Self Help Group
SODI	Solidity Service International
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene



INTRODUCTION

Group of Helping Hands (SAHAS) Nepal is a non-profit, non-governmental, social development organisation founded in 1996. Since inception, the organisation has been working in remote rural areas focusing on vulnerable and socially excluded families who are deprived of development opportunities. SAHAS puts its development efforts towards strengthening the capacities of communities and local development partner organisations to create an enabling environment for sustaining development activities by fostering collective efforts of the communities themselves. SAHAS Nepal continues to use the "grassroots approach", "Rights-Based Approach (RBA)" and "inclusive community-based approach" to community development to identify and serve its target groups. These approaches involve group formation focusing on the

vulnerable, Dalits, women, persons with disability and other marginal groups, ensuring full ownership over their development activities.

Aligning with the federal structure of Nepal, SAHAS Nepal is working in 44 rural municipalities, six municipalities and two sub-metropolitan cities in all seven provinces.

SAHAS is currently implementing 16 projects engaging 1,577 Community Based Organisations (CBOs) and benefiting more than 40,000 Households. CBOs implement development programmes and projects in collaboration and coordination with local government bodies, sectoral line agencies and other development actors. In total 27 Community-Based Organisations Networks (CBNOs) have been successfully formed in working districts of SAHAS Nepal.

SAHAS Nepal continues to use the 'grassroots approach', 'Rights-Based Approach (RBA)' and 'inclusive community-based approach' to community development to identify and serve its target groups.





FOCUS

SAHAS Nepal focuses its efforts on vulnerable families and rural communities who are socially excluded and deprived of opportunity.



VISION

Prosperous and just society for future generations



MISSION

SAHAS Nepal increases the capacity of marginalized communities by using their collective efforts for mobilising resources to improve their prosperity.



CORE VALUES

EQUALITY

SAHAS Nepal values treating everyone equally and fairly regardless of gender, caste, ethnicity or economic position.

INTEGRITY

SAHAS Nepal seeks to have strong moral principles, being trustworthy and speaking the truth.

RESPECT

SAHAS Nepal believes in respecting each other and the communities they serve through cultural sensitivity, friendship, listening and understanding each other.

TRANSPARENCY

SAHAS Nepal seeks to be open and accountable to its staff and its communities by providing information about SAHAS Nepal and project plans that it expects to deliver.

LEARNING

SAHAS Nepal values learning and empowering its staff with new knowledge, skills, and experience through a reflection-action process. SAHAS encourages feedback from communities they serve and other stakeholders to improve its efforts.

TEAMWORK

SAHAS Nepal believes that being selfless and working as a team creates excellence through collective passion, intelligence and strength.

SUPPORTIVE WORKING ENVIRONMENT

SAHAS Nepal believes that all staff enjoys working in an environment that supports each other by providing constructive feedback and encouraging each other to grow and develop.

SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

SAHAS Nepal promotes technologies and ideas that will have a positive impact on nature and the environment.

STRATEGY

SAHAS Nepal implements the programs based on the experiences and learning from the previous project and carry forward the approaches and activities that have proven to be effective in reaching the poor and marginalised communities, with a strategic partnership of like-minded organisations.



ORGANISATIONAL FEATURES

The General Assembly (GA) of SAHAS Nepal is the highest governing body in the hierarchy of the organisation. It meets annually and brings amendments to the organisational structure and also provides the overall institutional policy framework. It reviews and approves strategies, programmes and plans, and ensures that SAHAS Nepal operates within the overall policy framework respecting its organisational vision, mission and focus. It also elects the Executive Committee for the period of four years. Presently the Executive Committee consists

of seven members (4 females and 3 males). The Executive Committee is responsible and accountable to the General Body for the smooth functioning of the organisational activities. The Executive Committee also nominates the Executive Director of the organisation to perform management functions, guide the staff members and link with donors for partnership. Managers work under the direct supervision of the Executive Director while Project coordinators lead the projects in consultation with the Executive Director and Managers.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS



Pratap Shrestha, PhD
Chairperson



Balkumari Gurung
Vice Chairperson



Saraswati Bhandari
Treasurer



Sunil Shakya
Secretary



Sunil Thapa
Member



Satidevi Shrestha
Member

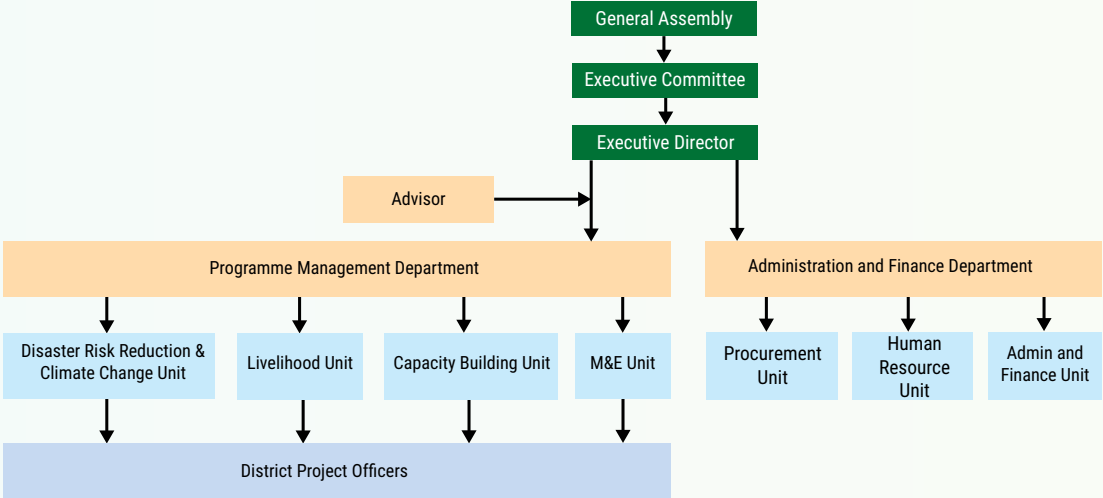


Sudha Khadka
Member

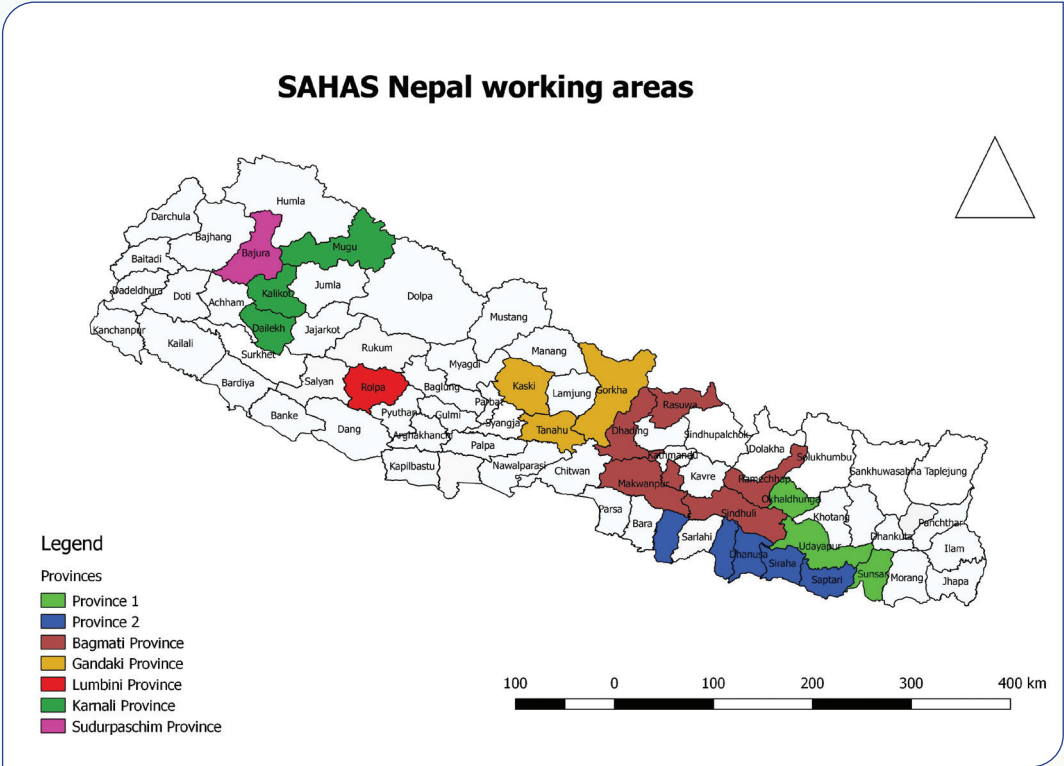


Surendra K. Shrestha, PhD
Executive Director (Invitee)

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE



SAHAS NEPAL CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

 <p>1 NO POVERTY</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 1,876 people were involved in off farm income generation activities ◆ 912 people supported through skill-based training ◆ 48 people started traditional occupation ◆ The income of 14,000 households (HHs) increased from NPR. 10,000 to NPR. 25,000 per annum on average
 <p>2 ZERO HUNGER</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 1,813 households increased their food security by one to two months ◆ 408 plastic houses constructed ◆ 208 drip irrigation supported ◆ 405 pot cleaning slabs constructed ◆ 1,509 livestock supported ◆ 1,189 poultry supported ◆ 1,441 people benefitted from livelihood related trainings ◆ 2,574 households supported with agri-base commercial materials ◆ 41 animal husbandries constructed ◆ 10 farmers started CSA (Zero Tillage farming) ◆ 8 Multipurpose nurseries established
 <p>3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 1,471 sanitation kits were supported ◆ 927 beneficiaries of health and dental camp ◆ 405 beneficiaries received training on Maternal and Child Health Care ◆ 381 beneficiaries participated in Eco Pad Making training ◆ 241 nutrition tests conducted ◆ 152 beneficiaries trained in preparation of super flour ◆ 49 first aid kits distributed ◆ 55,057 people reached directly ◆ 76,485 people reached indirectly
 <p>4 QUALITY EDUCATION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 3,047 students attended financial literacy class ◆ 133 Community Management Coaching Centre operated ◆ 4,135 students benefitted from ECD (Early Childhood Development) and CMCC ◆ 1,180 students benefitted from school furniture support ◆ 190 students benefitted from Scholarship ◆ 48 School teaching materials supported ◆ 3,399 students benefitted from school teaching ◆ 7 schools were renovated ◆ 720 students benefitted from school renovation

<p>5 GENDER EQUALITY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 1,442 Women hold decision-making power in CBOs and CBNOs ◆ 366 women lead CBOs and CBNOs ◆ NPR 9,210,758 women leverage resources ◆ 963 individuals participated in 16 days campaigns against gender violence ◆ 74 couples registered joint land ownership campaign ◆ 178 women involved in income generating work14 women jointly registered land with their husbands ◆ 1 ward declared Chaupadi free ◆ 5 disability certificates issued ◆ 2 Child marriage stopped
<p>6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 425 waste water collection constructed ◆ 21 Drinking Water System Constructed ◆ 17 Rain Water Harvesting Tank constructed ◆ 8 toilets constructed ◆ 6 irrigation canals constructed ◆ 526 population benefitted from irrigation canal ◆ 2,927 HHs benefitted from Drinking Water Scheme
<p>7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 751 improved cooking stoves supported ◆ 397 compost pits constructed ◆ 50 vermin pit constructed ◆ 25 solar supported
<p>10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 1 disability-friendly ramp constructed ◆ Reduced discriminatory practices in the beneficiary communities
<p>13 CLIMATE ACTION</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 3,088 trees planted and protected ◆ 112 participants of DRR Training ◆ 1 LDCRP formed ◆ 1,666 HHs adapted Climate Smart Technologies



IMPROVED FOOD SECURITY, NUTRITION AND LIVELIHOOD



1,813 HHs increased their food security by 1-2 months.

The consequences of COVID-19 spilling over to multiple sustainable development goals (SDGs) with an immediate threat to two intricately interrelated goals (Goal 1: No Poverty; Goal 2: Zero Hunger) and had negative effects on all pillars of food security (i.e., availability, access, utilization, and stability). Of the four pillars, the profound impact in the short-term is seen in availability and access to food, and in long term, it will impact all the four pillars of food security. In addition, as Nepal is already one of the most vulnerable countries in terms of food security due to its low agriculture production and productivity, persistent market price fluctuations, climate change, and political unrest, COVID-19 has made it more vulnerable.

Besides food and nutritional security, agriculture in Nepal is crucial to the national economy and livelihoods of

communities, but farmers suffer from small landholdings and low productivity. According to World Bank, agriculture accounts for about one-third of GDP and employs two-thirds of the population, particularly in rural areas where there are large numbers of marginalised and disadvantaged people, and where poverty, food insecurity, and malnutrition have the highest instances. To address these multi-layered challenges of food and nutrition security of marginalised communities and smallholder farmers, SAHAS Nepal has given a high priority to sustainable agriculture and has adopted an integrated farming system including technical and material support for different agricultural tools and techniques, small livestock rearing, off-farm income-generating activities for increasing food production as well as their income.

Rural women play a critical role

in supporting food and nutrition security and the income they generate is vital to improving the livelihoods and overall wellbeing of a chain of people. Acknowledging this fact, SAHAS Nepal organises women farmers into CBOs and builds their capacity to increase agricultural productivity, enhance access to markets, and improve family nutrition by diversifying the consumption of diverse nutritious foods.

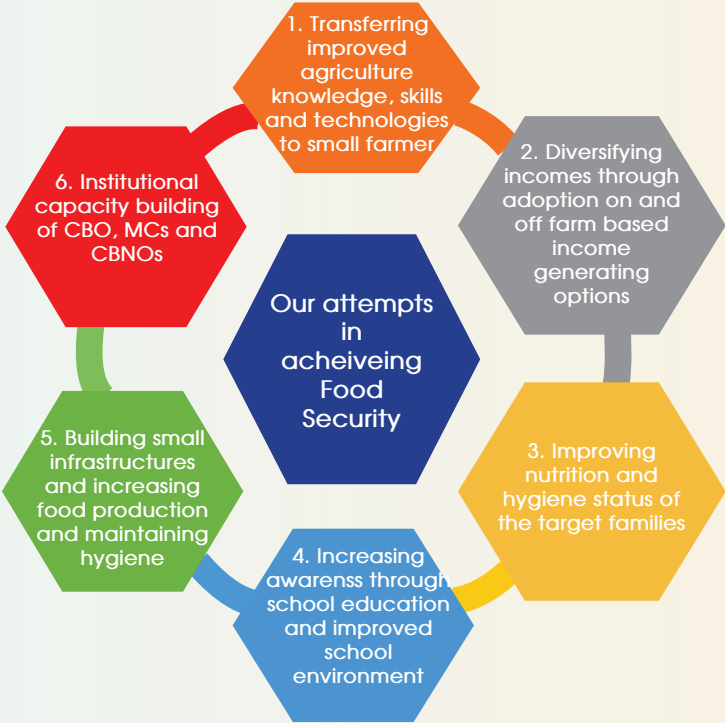
A total of 408 plastic houses were constructed and supported with drip irrigation for seasonal and off-seasonal vegetable farming. Similarly, a total of 2,698 livestock were supported including 1,189 poultry. Also, 405

utensil cleaning slabs were constructed. In addition, ten beneficiaries practiced zero tillage farming and eight multipurpose nurseries were established. In total 2,574 HHs were supported with agri-based commercial materials. A total of 1,441 people were trained with livelihood-related training and 912 people were provided with skill-based training and supports. After this 48 people started traditional occupation and 1,876 people were involved in off-farm income-generating activities. Also, 241 children under 5 years received a nutrition test to determine the prevalence of malnutrition, and 152 people including mothers of malnourished children were trained on the preparation

of super flour, a high-energy, high-protein, easily digestible mixture of grains and greens, given to children as weaning food supplement. Through these various interventions on food security, nutrition, and livelihood a total of 1,813 HHs have increased their food security by 1-2 months.



SAHAS NEPAL APPROACH IN FOOD SECURITY PILLARS



FROM ORDINARY TO ROLE MODEL FARMER

Krishna Bahadur Tamang was an illiterate ordinary farmer who had gone through many hardships for the subsistence of his family members. Due to the lack of technical knowledge and market access he used to cultivate a few tomatoes in traditional ways and distribute to neighbors free of cost. Farmers used to keep their land barren as there was no irrigation facility for cultivation.

When SAHAS Nepal implemented a livelihood project, Krishna had a negative concept about NGO/INGOs and their working approach. After a long discussion, he was convinced and agreed to become the chairperson of Chyanga Farmers Group. Being capacitated through different interventions, he gained technical knowledge on vegetable farming. For irrigation purposes, SAHAS Nepal supported cement and pipes for the construction of an irrigation pond from which he was able to produce saplings. From the production of saplings, he started supplying saplings of vegetables and fruits around his communities and generated a good income. He expanded the varieties of production to include organic mushrooms, oats, tomatoes, cauliflowers, and other vegetables. From mushroom farming alone he was able to generate income worth Nepalese Rupees 60,000.

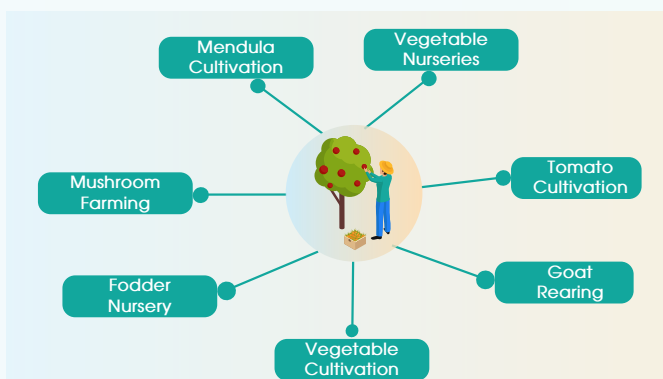
His marketing style is quite different. He never sells his products to traders or wholesalers from any place. He takes his organic products and

saplings to market by himself. "Now everybody knows that I only sell organic products for less price and there is high demand in the market. Being inspired by me, neighboring farmers in my ward have reduced the excessive use of chemical fertilizer for pest protection and have increased production from small areas of land." says Krishna Bahadur Tamang.

Considering the lack of forage seeds in Katari and farmers importing from Sindhuli and Siraha district, Krishna has started Mendola and Causo forage cultivation locally taking land on lease for which he pays Nepalese Rupees 10,000 per year. This year he earned Nepalese Rupees 42,500 by selling 150 Kg of Mendola and 20 kg of Causo grass seeds. SAHAS Nepal is supporting him in marketing and technical knowledge. He supplies grass seeds to other different organisations and goat farm owners. Krishna Bahadur Tamang has been selling

other vegetables such as oats, tomatoes, radishes, and gourds on a daily basis. He is recognised as the only organic farmer in the Katari area. He earns Nepalese Rupees 200,000 annually by selling vegetables, grass, and nurseries. With that earning, he is managing his family's needs. He also encouraged other farmers to start vegetable farming and provided necessary technical assistance. He has legally registered his nursery garden as a nursery firm in Agriculture Development Office, Katari and revenue office, Udaypur, and had hired staff to help him.

With the help of SAHAS Nepal, a drastic change can be seen in this community now. People who used to leave the field barren now have started seasonal vegetable farming and making a good income. All the houses have a kitchen garden and the village has been transformed. Krishna thanks SAHAS Nepal for supporting him to become a sustainable model farmer.





EDUCATED AND EMPOWERED COMMUNITIES



74 HHs registered their land jointly between husband and wife

Educated and empowered communities are the epitome of sustainable community development so SAHAS Nepal has a primary focus of educating and empowering the communities through different capacity-building training, education program, financial literacy classes, improving quality education, materials support, and so on. Different awareness-raising activities on rights, policies, social issues helped in creating consciousness about the citizens' rights and entitlements.

SAHAS Nepal believes in promoting inclusive quality education for all children irrespective of their gender, class, and caste. The outbreak of COVID-19 disrupted the education system, therefore 133 CMCC were supported

with educational materials to provide continuity of education. Schools were supported to upgrade the ECD centers and scholarship was provided to 190 students for retaining students to continue their education. To develop their understanding of financial transactions, preparing a business plan, and start-up an enterprise a total of 3,047 Musahar adolescent girls were trained in financial literacy training.

SAHAS Nepal works forming and mobilizing CBOs, SHGs, SAMVAD, and other local structures and capacitating on different social issues related to women and children, social mal-practices, governance, and accountability. Groups are also empowered to prioritize their needs and aspirations where they prepare their plans and submit them to local

government and other line agencies for the community development activities. Local structures were able to leverage resources both in cash and kind worth of Nepalese Rupees 8,058,991 in the year 2020. Besides, local structures were empowered with on and off-farm income generating activities, skill-based training, and supported with agri-based technologies accessing them to a decent job and economic independence. These local structures advocated with local government from which a total of 20 citizens received citizenship, 14 couples registered for a marriage certificate, and five persons with disabilities were able to make disability cards and receive services from duty bearers.

SAHAS Nepal organized different day celebrations which have helped to develop realization on their rights and entitlements. A total of 2,034 participated in international women's days, children's days, environment day, and many more. Besides, 960 participated in 16 days campaigns against gender-based violence. These awareness-raising activities helped communities to voice up against the social mal-practices and advocate with local government to minimize the future occurrence of social issues which will hinder women's empowerment and development. During the



emergencies, the incidents of child marriage, and child-violence gender-based violence outnumbered therefore, SAHAS Nepal aired numerous radio jingles on gender-based violence, child-protection with a toll-free number to address the issues in both Nepali and four ethnic languages. SAHAS

Nepal closely monitored communities to prevent such incidents in close coordination with local government bodies. In the year 2020, a total of 74 couples registered their land jointly between husband and wife increasing women's access to the right to property and creating a shift in traditional patriarchal notion.





PANIPURI & CHATPAT SELLING MAKES NISHA SELF-EMPLOYED

Nisha Kumari Sada, 16, is a resident of Chhiresornath Municipality-3 in Dhanusha district. She is an elder daughter of her family in a five-member family. The major source of income of her family was daily labor. Due to poverty and lack of awareness she was unable to receive any formal education.

For Nisha and her family life was extremely hard as they experienced poverty and social discrimination. When SAHAS Nepal implemented the project, which focused on empowering Musahar girls with enterprise, Nisha became a part of the project. With another 16 girls

from the center, she attended Accelerate learning programme and life skills classes to learn literacy, numeracy, and other important skills needed for our life. Afterward, she was enrolled in financial literacy classes for increasing their capacity in the basic skills required in running a self-employing enterprise selling Panipuri and chatpat. She received a 3-day training for the same purpose and started her enterprise in a roundabout near Ward office in her community in October 2019. She also received materials support to her start-up enterprise.

Nisha's panipuri and chatpat business flourished in a short period of time and she was able to earn NPR. 37,000 within few months of starting business. When COVID-19 first wave was spreading in the communities

her business was disrupted but her income made it possible to manage the livelihood for her families and add grocery items to her enterprise with plans to further expand it. As oriented in her financial literacy class, she has started savings in a local cooperative in order to expand her business later. She has been able to save NPR. 4,000 in the cooperative. The important result is she has become literate and has been supporting her family in managing their livelihoods. Her family is very happy to see her progress and are quite keenly supporting and encouraging her to expand the enterprise.

She is planning to get a citizenship certificate so that she could also approach and leverage resources from Palikas to further expand her business.



In the rural areas of Nepal, communities experience high rates of poverty leading to various types of socio-cultural stigmas and discrimination against women, children, and youths. The low level of education and consciousness among the communities are hindering community development and amplify the multitude of discrimination faced by these groups at the individual, family, and community levels.

SAHAS Nepal is working with these groups to raise awareness of the rights and entitlements and empowering them to address social issues and bring equality, social harmony, and cohesion. For

from national and international level and mobilises them through SAMVAD, volunteering opportunities, internship, and youth exchange programme.



ONE STEP TO SECURE DAUGHTER'S FUTURE

Shiva Budathoki, 41 lives in Bisuna Tole, Koiralkharka-4. She lives with a three-member family which includes her husband, daughter, and herself. Her husband serves in Nepal Army. In the past, her family condition was decent but in the last four years, things started getting extremely difficult for her family. The couple after 17 years of marriage had a baby boy but the infant suffered numerous health complications. They spent every penny they had on his treatment, took out a loan from elites but they could not save their baby's life. They had a daughter but she had a mental disability.

Gita, 17 is suffering from a developmental disability and she seeks her mother's support for the smallest chores of her life. She used to be confined with her mother and stay close to her as much as possible. But things started to change when the SAMVAD animator took Gita to the SAMVAD center. Gita started enjoying the company of other members of SAMVAD and started to play with them. She could not understand everything they discuss in SAMVAD but she started developing self-confidence and going out. SAMVAD adolescents accepted her as who she is and treat her with respect and dignity.

Shiva is now also a member of Parent SAMVAD and learning new things that she had never thought of. She received knowledge about the group, the importance of the group, social mapping, different kinds

of social issues, and so on. With the help of the group Shiva also reared 60 local chickens and earned income worth of Nepalese Rupees 40,000. This was the first time she has been involved in any business and she is happy to continue it. She used to take a loan from neighbours but now she can give a loan to other needy members of the community. Shiva appreciated her group and their effort to support her.

Shiva said, "From Each One Teach One program I became aware of how to talk with PwD. Even my daughter was PwD I never knew how to behave and talk." Her behaviour towards Gita had also changed. Even though there still are problems in their life, they are managing and dealing with the problems tactfully with help of SAMVAD and Parent SAMVAD.



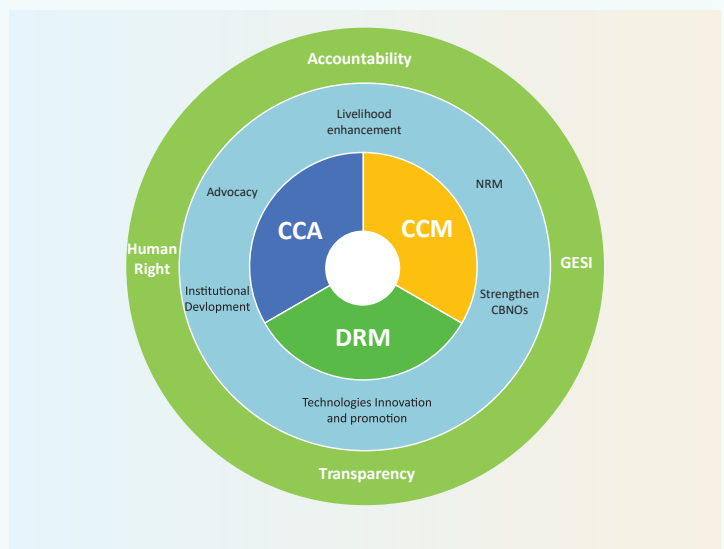
BUILDING DISASTER AND CLIMATE RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

As disasters and the impacts of climate change are unpredictable, the communities and the settlement they live in need to be resilient. With its unique geophysical settings and socio-economic conditions, Nepal is highly vulnerable to natural disasters and climate risks. A combination of poverty, climate change, rapid urbanization, and mountainous terrain makes Nepal highly prone to disasters. Nepal is one of the poorest and least developed countries in the world, is ranked 11th for earthquake

risk and 30th for flood risks on a global scale. Similarly, though Nepal is responsible for less than 0.025% of global greenhouse emission, is ranked 4th most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and the most vulnerable are marginalized and smallholder farmers. Nepal also faces high magnitudes and intensities of a multitude of other natural hazards such as landslides, fire, hailstone, windstorms, thunderbolts, cloudburst, drought, Glacier Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF), avalanches,

and epidemics. This situation is further compounded by adverse climatic conditions, topographic features, environmental degradation, population growth, etc.

Climate change (CC) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) are closely linked. More extreme weather events in the future are likely to increase the number and scale of disasters, while at the same time, the existing methods and tools of disaster risk reduction provide powerful capacities for



adaptation to climate change. Recognizing this fact, SAHAS follows a 3-pronged approach of climate change mitigation, adaptation, and disaster risk management; and promotes climate-resilient agriculture (CRA) to strengthen the capacity of focused communities for improving sustainable food production, food security, and income of smallholder farmers and to adopt different climate-resilient technologies, whereby grassroots institutions like CBOs and CBNOs are strengthened to ultimately build disaster and climate-smart communities. Integrated

pest management (IPM), sloping agricultural land technology (SALT), zero tillage are few CRA practices to mention. Plastic house cultivation, drip irrigation, improved cooking stoves, legume integration, etc. are some of the climate-resilient technologies being practiced by the communities. Cross-cutting issues like GESI, accountability, transparency and human rights are kept at the centre while introducing these climate-smart technologies. Also, in various project districts, villages have been identified and promoted as climate-smart villages (CSV).

A total of 112 people were trained on climate change mitigation and adaptation, and on disaster risk reduction and management as efforts for climate action and for building sustainable cities communities. Also, 763 HHs victimized by flood, landslide, and fire hazards were supported with relief materials. Similarly, one local disaster and climate-resilient plan (LDCRP) was formed. 25 solar were supported for rural lighting. Similarly, 3,088 trees were planted and protected to increase carbon sink. A total of 1,666 HHs adapted one or more climate-smart technologies.

SAHAS NEPAL ADAPTING CLIMATE RESILIENT TECHNOLOGIES

- Crop/livestock insurance
- Climate awareness
- Plastic house
- Home gardens
- Community seed banks
- Crop rotation
- Action research

- Rainwater harvesting
- Farm ponds
- Micro irrigation
- Drought tolerant cultivars
- SRI



- Improved cattle sheds
- Farm yards manure management
- Legumes farming
- SALT
- Biopesticides

- Agroforestry
- Green manuring
- Mulching
- Conservation agriculture

- Improved cooking stove
- Bio gas



TECHNOLOGIES SUPPORT FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION ENSURING FOOD SECURITY OF SMALL AND MARGINALIZED FARMERS



Tapli Rural Municipality is located in Udayapur district where most people were involved in the traditional farming process leading to lower agriculture yields, production, and productivity. The impact of climate change like drought, heavy rainfall, outbreak of animal diseases, and many more were hindering farmers production and food security.

When SAHAS Nepal implemented its project, the major focus was on adaptation and mitigation to climate change. SAHAS Nepal organised different trainings, introduction of climate smart technologies, and supported communities to minimize the impact of climate change. For new technologies in intensification in rural area, SAHAS Nepal provided commercial vegetable farming, seed production, home garden, bio pesticide demonstration, improved goat farming training. For the adaptation and mitigation of climate change, SAHAS Nepal supported shed improvement, vermin compost, grey water collection, PVS on cereals and vegetables, drought tolerant crops, ICS, drums for bio pesticide making, irrigation system, tunnel, drip set and seeds and oriented farmers on climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.

Farmers also received modern training on vegetable cultivation and practices which has improved

their production and productivity. The use of technologies has helped in adaptation to climate change as well as increasing production leading to income generation. Altogether 234 CBO members have accessed different climate resilient technologies and enhanced their knowledge and skills.

Seeing the success of activity implemented in field by SAHAS Nepal and the progress and community in coordination of local farmers, Tapli RM and wards provided Nepalese Rupees 250,000 for irrigation which will cultivate 9 hectare of land and intensify the productivity. They have supported Nepalese Rupees 150,000 for rice mill which has reduced the work load of rural women by making it easier to process their agriculture products. Similarly, 1,191 KG of Manakamana Maize seed and 25 Shed Improvement have been supported to farmers from the Tapli Rural Municipality.

As these community members have access to resources and capacity for income generation, they are motivated to scale up their products and link with local government to utilize fund allocated by R.M. By adapting to and mitigating the effects of climate change, their production can increase. So, the small marginalized farmers are gradually ensuring their food security for the whole year adopting climate change and mitigation technologies in agriculture and animal husbandry sector with support from SAHAS Nepal and Local Government.



EVIDENCED BASED POLICY CHANGE

In order to bring lasting change in the communities, it is of utmost importance that community members should be capacitated enough to bring changes in the policy at the local level based on their needs and aspirations. Policy guides the community to change for the better society prevailing peace and justice. SAHAS Nepal believes in empowering communities for active and meaningful participation in decision-making at the local level where their voices are heard and adhere accordingly.

SAHAS Nepal is working primarily with the focused communities to bring positive changes in society. For this, SAHAS Nepal is engaged in raising their voices against social malpractices, making the right-holders aware of their rights and entitlements, and holding duty-bearers accountable towards the right holders through collective efforts. Several awareness programmes were organised at different levels against social malpractices such as child marriage, Chaupadi, gender and caste-based discrimination, domestic violence, and dowry system, and so on. Rallies,



interaction meetings, and day celebrations were organised in cooperation and coordination with local governments and line agencies. SAHAS Nepal is providing voices to those unheard before and for people who cannot speak up for themselves.

The participation of the direct and indirect beneficiaries in the above-mentioned awareness activities was massive and outnumbered. A total of 2,034 were reached out from different day celebrations such as women's day, child rights day, Human Rights Day, etc., to raise awareness on many issues.

963 people participated in 16-days campaigns against

gender violence that comprised drama, role play, rallies. These initiatives contributed to reduced violence against women and girls in the communities. To ensure women exercise their rights on the property, SAHAS Nepal is advocating and mainstreaming the joint land ownership concept where 74 husbands and wife jointly registered their land. Different lobby and advocacy activities helped to significantly reduce socio-cultural discrimination and injustice, empower communities to voice their opinions and rights, and improve decision-making at the household and community level.



74 HHs registered land jointly between husband and wife



2,034 population reached through different day celebration



963 population participated in 16 days campaign against gender violence



Two child marriage stopped



5 person with disabilities received Disability card

WOMEN TOGETHER DEMOLISH CHAU SHED

Chaupadi is a traditional practice prevalent especially in the villages of far and mid-western regions of Nepal. Chaupadi is derived from two words "chau" which means menstruation and "padi" which means women. Bajura is one of the far western districts where chaupadi is still in practice. Generally, women or girls stay in separate hut or cattle shed (chau goth) for 5 to 7 days during menstruation.

All the girls and women during their menstruation used to stay in separate huts and cattle sheds as there was superstitious belief among the community, that a god or goodness may be angered if the practice is violated, which could result in a shorter life, the death of livestock or destruction of crops. The entire community practiced Chauapdhi and women were deprived of consuming animal bi-products and nutritious food. Women and girls faced physical hardship and mental stress during their stay in Chau apart from that the risk from external and environmental factors threatened their lives and safety.

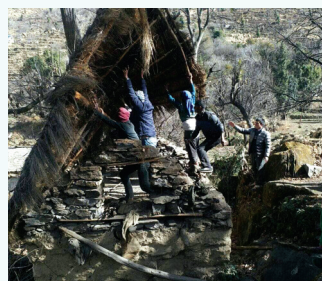
SAHAS Nepal implemented its project focusing on empowering communities through the formation of

CBOs where they were capacitated through training, awareness-raising activities on social issues, income-generating opportunities, and women empowerment to bring positive societal change through exercising their rights and entitlements and abolishing social mal-practices. These empowerment activities brought to light the harmful practices and hardships women were facing during menstruation. In the initiation of Hatemalo Farmers group and Ukhadi Chaurata Farmers group and coordination with Badimalika Municipality, civil society organisations, District Police, and line agencies organised Chau free ward declaration program. Badimalika Municipality-9 was declared Chau free ward as all the Chau shed were demolished by the women themselves with a commitment to stay in a safer place in understanding with family members. The ounce of strength women showed to destroy Chau was commendable and it was possible through all the awareness-raising and mobilization conducted by SAHAS Nepal. Besides, to improve menstrual hygiene SAHAS Nepal also organised sanitary pad-making training using eco-friendly sustainable clothes.

Ukhadi churata farmers group's joint secretary Krishna B.K says, "After the free Chau goth declaration now females are safe from

possible sexual abuses and snake bites. In winter most women used to suffer from pneumonia, gout diseases but now there won't be such cases. As the menstruation period is a sensitive time for women and girls now, they can have healthy food, take rest and give special attention to their hygiene". "This was the beginning of the change yet there are many further steps to be taken to make Bajura Chau a free ward and we are committed to doing that with SAHAS Nepal support." says local teacher Goma Kadyat.

The declaration of the Chau free ward had brought hope among other communities that if they work together against social issues change is possible. The CBOs are committed to working together with other groups members so that women do not need to face hardship but can live safe, hygienic, and dignified menstruation days.





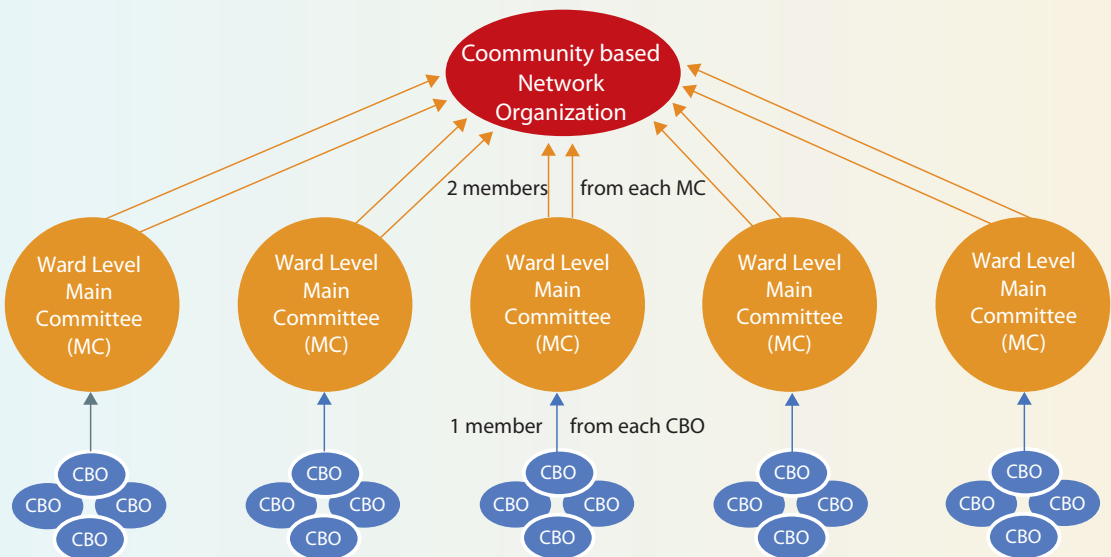
INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

From the inception SAHAS Nepal has adopted a sustainable community-led development approach which is based on the idea of putting the community at the centre and empowering them by organizing them into CBOs and later forming CBNOs out of CBOs, which foster collaboration with local government and other like agencies for continuing community development efforts initiated by SAHAS Nepal in their areas.

For the sustainability of the CBNOs, SAHAS Nepal focuses

on technical backstopping and continuous capacity building through different training, workshop, exposure visits etc. CBNOs enhance their institutional capacities in the administrative, managerial, financial and programmatic sphere in an inclusive and participatory manner. With the enhanced capacities, CBNOs were able to leverage resources NPR. 4,980,000 from different government bodies and like-minded organisations, and they are working for sustainable development and social change in the community

SAHAS NEPAL WORKING APPROACH IN FORMATION OF COMMUNITY BASED NETWORK ORGANISATION



CBNOs leverages NPR. 4,980,000 from different line agencies for development activities.

LIST OF CBNOS

S.N.	CBNOs Name	District	No. of CBOs	Total Member (HHs)
1	Gramin Mahila Jagaran Samuha (GMJS)	Okhaldhunga	66	810
2	Likhu Demba Community Development Forum (LDCDF)	Okhaldhunga	83	1583
3	Kotgadhi Shikhar Samaj (KOSIS) Nepal	Okhaldhunga	73	1226
4	Sunkoshi Kakani Community Development Forum Nepal	Okhaldhunga	107	2283
5	Pragatishil yathartha Samaj (PRAYAS) Nepal	Okhaldhunga	58	1304
6	Sustainable Rural Empowerment Network (SUREN)	Okhaldhunga	7	10,075
7	Libju Commnity Development Forum	Okhaldhunga	48	943
8	BISWAS Nepal	Udayapur	64	1389
9	Sustainable Development Society Nepal	Lalitpur	55	1239
10	Chhimkeshowari Melmilap Kisan (Chhimeki) Samaj	Tanahun	43	912
11	Dhevghat Bandipur Kisan (DEBAKI)	Tanahun	40	998
12	Chuli Community Society	Gorkha	38	716
13	Arughat Dharche Rachanatmak (ADHAR) Samaj	Gorkha	37	726
14	Trisuli Development Society	Dhading	34	689
15	Shree Tripura Ganga Jamuna Ekata Samaj (TRIGANGA)	Dhading	32	855
16	Pachaljarna Society for National Development (PSND)	Kalikot	46	1490
17	Rural Community Development Centre (RDC)	Kalikot	40	1136
18	Swablambi Ekata Samaj (SES)-Nepal	Dailekh	45	1129
19	Chayanath Development Society (CDS)	Mugu	27	696
20	Karnali Gramin Bikas Kendra (KRDC)	Mugu	51	1422
21	Rural Development Society	Mugu	22	800
22	Panchakoshi Ekata Samaj (PRAYAS) Dailekh	Dailekh	54	1353
23	Balimalika Samudiyak Bikas Samaj (BCDS)	Bajura	46	1226
24	Budhinanda Srijansil Bikash Manch (BCDF)	Bajura	54	1629
25	Inclusive Development Forum	Okhaldhunga	58	1501
26	Mahabharat Bikas Samaj	Udayapur	64	1144
27	Srijansil Bikash Samaj	Lalitpur	31	704
Total			1,304	41,145

SMALL STEPS TO BUILD A JUST SOCIETY

In the northern part of Gorkha district of Gandaki Pradesh lies Arughat Rural Municipality where "Arughat Dharche Rachanatmak (ADHAR) Samaj" office is located, one of the local organisations which was established in 2017. The main objective of the organisation is to unite the vulnerable communities for social development and income generation, help them to become self-reliant by developing awareness among themselves, commercialisation, and marketing of agricultural and livestock products. Keeping the same objective in mind, a total of 37 groups and four main committees was formed within the jurisdiction of this organisation capacitating the groups and Main committees to demand their rights with the stakeholders and to provide government services.

The project has been operational since 2019 in coordination with SAHAS Nepal. The project includes programs such as drinking water maintenance, improved cooking stoves (ICS), small animal support, different on and off-farm activities, public awareness programs related to nutrition and hygiene, and advocacy. Such programs are being carried out in partnership between the two organisations with an annual budget of NPR. 500,000. As resources are

limited, the organisation has developed a strategic plan for the sustainability of the organization and to provide the maximum service to the CBOs. The network organization discusses the demands of all the CBOs and Main committees and identifies the stakeholders and prepares a proposal to address the plans. "We are very happy that SAHAS Nepal has created a network for leadership and led it on a legal path for implementation", happily shares ADHAR Samaj chairperson Ben Bahadur Ale.

Among the various proposals submitted in the year 2019, ADHAR Samaj was able to access the resources of NPR. 150,000 for 150 pot cleaning slab construction, NPR. 170,000 animal shed improvement, NPR. 170,000 for dish dryers, and NPR. 50,000 for goat rearing. Through different allocated resources communities were receiving the maximum benefit from local government where their actual needs were met.

Besides, ADHAR Samaj was actively involved in awareness raising on different social issues in the community. They organise timely meeting to discuss about social issues and make action plans to mitigate those issues. ADHAR Samaj is keeping women at the centre to ensure their meaningful participation and decision making.

In addition to the regular activities under livelihood options and women empowerment, organisation also focuses on the capacity



building of the stakeholders. A 2-day capacity building training on the "Local Disaster and Climate Resilient Management Plan" was organised. ADHAR Samaj also supported local health post with different safety equipment to fight against COVID-19 pandemic, continuously engaged in awareness raising and advocating for rights of CBO members.

ADHAR Samaj is in regular coordination with local government and other stakeholders where they discuss possible areas for the resource allocation and sharing for community development activities. ADHAR Samaj submit proposals to these institutes based on need of the member and implement activities. The long term planning and strategic direction which ADHAR Samaj has set will surely lead to sustainability and concept of community-led development approach.





INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Rural areas still lack basic community infrastructures which constrain the livelihood enhancement of the communities and climate change has exacerbated communities' access to clean and safe drinking water. SAHAS Nepal has been engaged in the construction and renovation of different small-scale infrastructures such as irrigation canals, wastewater collection ponds, rainwater harvest tanks, drinking water facilities, trail bridges, and so

on. A total of six irrigation canals were renovated and constructed benefitting a total of 526 HHs by improving irrigation facilities in 143 hectares of land. With the irrigation facilities, the area under cultivation and crop productivity has increased.

In addition, 21 drinking water schemes were constructed thus increasing access of people to clean and safe drinking water. This has also reduced women's time and burden to fetch water, so they utilize the time for other productive work. Reduction of water-borne diseases was noticed which also improved the health and sanitation of the rural communities. A total of 2,927 HHs cut benefitted from the construction of the drinking water system. A total of 17 rainwater harvesting structures and 425 wastewater collection



ponds have been constructed which have promoted the reuse of water which otherwise would have lost. A total of eight toilets were constructed in schools and in communities improving the health and sanitation of the communities. The overall constructions of the infrastructure have improved the socio-economic conditions of the rural communities with an indirect impact on food security as well.

DELIGHTED SCHOOL AND CHILDREN AFTER CONSTRUCTION OF TOILET AND DRINKING WATER SYSTEM

Bajura district is located in the far-western region of Nepal which has a minimum living standard and is deprived of basic facilities. People mostly rely on agriculture and migrant labor for managing their livelihood. The children were deprived of achieving quality education because of minimum resources, qualified human resources, poor infrastructures, poor hygiene and sanitation, and many other reasons.

The condition of the Laxmi Secondary School, located in Badimalika Municipality of Bajura was similar. The children and teachers were deprived of clean and safe drinking water as there were no facilities in the drinking

water system. Children used to carry water bottles from home but it was insufficient for the whole day. Besides, the school lacked toilet facilities leading to open defecation around the school causing poor sanitation and numerous health issues among children and teachers.

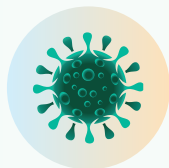
SAHAS Nepal started implementing the project to promote safe and alternative environment education for continuing education in Bajura district amid COVID-19. The project supported in the construction of a toilet and drinking water system which has helped to change the entire outlook of school and improved hygiene.

SAHAS Nepal in resource sharing with the Local Initiatives for Food Security Transformation (LIFT) project, Good Neighbors, and PEACEWIN constructed two gender-friendly toilets (one for girls and one for boys) which have helped girls to attend the schools

in dignified ways during their menstruation leading to reduced absenteeism. The construction of a drinking water system has helped students to access clean and safe drinking water in the school. The additional water after the consumption was used for toilet and handwashing purposes. The construction of the infrastructure has helped students and teachers to improve hygiene and sanitation around the school.

Students are delighted to come to school and study on regular basis. Now they do not need to worry about fetching water in the middle of the classroom rather they are fully focused on learning. This also has helped the learning environment





COMBATING COVID-19

The unprecedented outbreak of the COVID-19 caused a massive impact on the daily lifestyle and livelihood of the people worldwide. People around the world were confined in the home as the lockdown was imposed in every infected country as it was the only an alternative to break the chain of transmission rate among the communities. Nepal was no exception from the infection and its impact on the people. Almost every fabric of society was impacted from health to daily livelihood. Some of the major problems faced by Nepal were unemployment and financial crisis, an increase in domestic violence and rape cases, social stigmatisation faced by COVID-19 infected people, changes in the food supply chain, artificial market shortage, decrease in quality of education, and so on. Despite the many difficulties, SAHAS Nepal and its staff were committed to serving the communities and stayed close with the communities they serve.

At the initial phase of the outbreak of the COVID-19, SAHAS Nepal developed swift strategies at organisational and project level in line with the decision made by Nepal

Government and MoHP. At the organisational level, the emergency committee was formed followed by the preparation of working guidelines, circulating the messages, and developing the alternatives to work during the crisis. At the project level, staff were coordinating with local government, raising awareness on the prevention and mitigation of the spread of the virus, disseminating the right information to communities, advocating and networking with the line agencies and relevant stakeholders, and implementing the project activities ensuring safety and following all the preventives measures.



SAHAS Nepal implemented numerous activities under different thematic areas for the response of the COVID-19 in its programme activities.

1. Advocacy

SAHAS Nepal believes in engaging the community for different activities. SAHAS Nepal engaged in lobbying local government to ensure vulnerable groups of people received relief. To ensure all the communities could access the right to information, staff were involved in circulating the right information. SAHAS Nepal also played a role in linking the communities with duty bearers and like-minded organisations for relief

2. Health

During the outbreak of COVID-19, the health sector was one of the crucial segments of the community in delivering the services. Despite their immense importance, numerous challenges were faced in the sector as they lacked proper infrastructures, equipment, and resources to tackle COVID-19. For capacity building of health sectors, SAHAS Nepal supported various equipment which eased in tracing, tracking, and treating of COVID-19 infected patients.

A. WASH

One of the most effective ways to be prevented from COVID-19 was proper handwashing with soap and clean water. Therefore, SAHAS Nepal conducted numerous events about handwashing benefitting more than 23,837 people. Along

with that 44 handwashing stations were also established where community people would easily access soap and clean water for handwashing. SAMVAD adolescents, staffs were continuously engaged in disseminating the information about the proper handwashing and its benefit to the community.

B. Health Kit support

Due to the lack of basic health supplies and equipment frontline health workers were reluctant to treat the infected person as they had the fear of transmission. In order to capacitate the local government structures, SAHAS Nepal supported health kits containing PPE set, Thermal gun, Sanitizer, Globes, Soap, N95 masks, surgical masks, boots, and so on so that the health workers could treat the patients in dignified ways. Along with the distribution of goods, the organization also provided training on the use of PPE sets, its benefits, and the proper disposal method of PPE.

3. Awareness

Awareness-raising was the key to break the chain of transmission among the communities. SAHAS Nepal was actively involved in awareness-raising through activities like hoarding broad installation, flex, and brochure distribution. The awareness-raising materials clearly contained the message about the preventive measures against the COVID-19. One of the remarkable events on awareness-raising was the broadcasting of a radio jingle containing the message

about COVID-19, its preventive measures were broadcasted in Nepali as well as four ethnic languages; Tamang, Gurung, Maithali, and Magar which helped all the community to receive the right information at right time. Besides, there were overwhelming incidents of social issues during the emergency; therefore radio jingle also contained the message about Gender-based Violence, Child-protection, and a toll-free number to address such issues.

4. Education

During the COVID-19 lockdown, almost all of the educational institutions were halted, which caused stress among the students and changes in the study pattern. SAHAS Nepal started the Community Managed Coaching Center which was the lynchpin in enabling the continuous learning habits of students. SAMVAD adolescents operated the CMCC in their respective wards ensuring all the safety measures and taught the students their daily curricula. The promising approach helped the students to continue their education despite the unprecedented situation.

5. Relief

On the one hand, the lockdown was helping to control the spread of the virus, while on the other hand, it was affecting vulnerable families depending on daily wage. To help such families from immediate starvation, SAHAS Nepal immediately carried out relief work in its working districts. The organisation with the help of its staff, identified the

poor families and distributed relief packages based on their needs. Cash and basic food items such as rice, lentil, salt, oil, vegetables were provided to more than 6,480 families who were severely affected by the lockdown. SAHAS also initiated "Muthidan" campaign through which the local community collected various local food products in daily basis taking some portion of their daily requirement. The collected items were then distributed to the poor families. Sasha Nepal also contribution for a long to voucher for efficient use of resources and supported migrant workers there job duty COVID-19 lockdown. with that, bed sheets, blankets and other food items were also distributed to 48 quarantine centres. This support saved poor families from immediate starvation and left them with food for next few months.





SAHAS NEPAL AGAINST PANDEMIC

The sudden outbreak of COVID-19 caused fear and havoc among the communities whereas the health system was disrupted with insufficient resources to tackle the pandemic. The situation was getting out of hand with high spread rate and minimum resources. The condition of rural areas was even worse as providing proper health and sanitation is always challenging. As fears continue to grow over the COVID-19 outbreak, more patients were visiting the health posts to get themselves checked every day. But local government and medical personnel lacked proper protective gear to treat the patient. To control the spread of COVID-19, Protective equipment and effective plan was needed. Local governments were trying to purchase health materials such as thermal gun, PPE but those were out of reach.

As a part of the response to the coronavirus pandemic, SAHAS Nepal stepped forward to help frontline healthcare workers

and enhance capacity of local government by supporting the medical supplies which are required to examine and treat patients. SAHAS Nepal supported different health kits which include thermometer, surgical masks, PPE sets, KN95 masks, sanitizers, surgical gloves, soaps, handwash, face shield, etc. which created enabling environment to examine and treat patients. Frontline health workers also felt dignified to while using those kits.

Local governments were also capacitated through support, awareness raising activities to fight against the COVID-19. "Before support, health workers were working with low quality PPE. Some workers even wore their own clothes on duty and

were worried about infection. But now having WHO standard PPE, we can work without any stress. We feel safe." says Healthpost helper Shanta Khanal.

During the lockdown, Rural Municipalities tried to bring back their residents who were stranded in borders and other districts. SAHAS Nepal supported quarantine beds, pillows, bed sheets, food and non-food items for the proper management of quarantine services. Health kits were used to monitor their health condition on daily basis which has helped to break the chain of the spread. "We have seen and heard many quarantine facilities which lacked basic facilities but with help of SAHAS Nepal we are able to receive services. I cannot wait back to go home after 14 days." says Prem B.K who was staying in quarantine facility in Dailekh.

Local government also thanked SAHAS Nepal for the immense support and capacity building during the time of pandemic. Community people are grateful to receive basic health equipment during pandemic



ORGANISATIONAL ACTIVITIES

25 ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

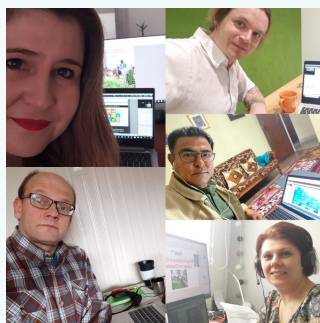
Group of Helping Hands (SAHAS) Nepal organized virtual 25th AGM on 11 October 2020 where Surendra Kumar Shrestha, Ph.D., Executive Director presented the overall progress of the organisation along with the financial progress. All the executive and general members were present in the virtual AGM. Pratap Kumar Shrestha, Ph.D., Chairperson presented the progress of the strategic plan and discussed the way forward for a new strategic direction. The surge of COVID-19 was spreading rapidly therefore, for the safety and security of staff



and members virtual AGM was conducted. The formal meeting was ended with a closing remark from Executive Director and Chairperson.

CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING FROM FUNDING PARTNERS:

As one of the capacity building of the partner organizations, the funding partner organized numerous capacity building training like climate change, data management, advocacy, social media, etc. which immensely helped to enhance organisational capacity in the different themes. Several professionals from different backgrounds participated in the meeting. Due to the COVID-19 major of the training were conducted virtually making the optimum use of information technology. The training helped staff and organisational capacity to enhance the skill and knowledge on different topics.



CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING TO STAFF:

Group of Helping Hands (SAHAS) Nepal gives the major emphasis on the capacity building of staff for their professional and organisational development. Due to the unprecedented situation incurred by COVID-19

most of the capacity building trainings were organised through virtual means. SAHAS Nepal also conducted different trainings like climate change, gender-based violence, building success studies, joint land ownership, etc. were organized at organizational and project level. This year due to COVID-19 most of the training were delivered through virtual means which helped staff to gain a deeper understanding of the issues and enhance their professional growth.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION: MEETING WITH SAHAS NEPAL'S BOARD AND SENIOR STAFF

Group of Helping Hands (SAHAS) Nepal conducted a meeting with the SAHAS Nepal board and senior staff for discussing the new strategic direction for the next five years. During the meeting, the staff and board were divided into different groups, and discussion was made on the possible new themes and direction for SAHAS Nepal. SAHAS Nepal staff reviewed the current situation and drafted the possible themes and working areas for the strategic direction. Similarly, discussion was also made on the donor mapping for the new possible funding opportunities. The meeting was facilitated by SAHAS Nepal board members.

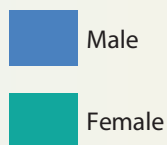
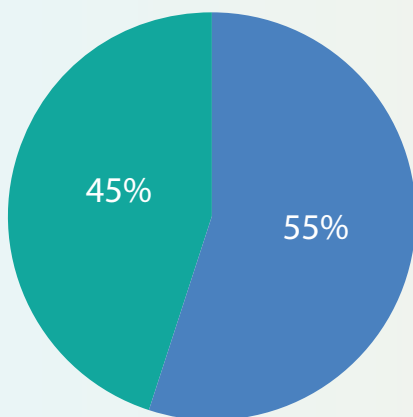


HUMAN RESOURCE

SAHAS Nepal values its human resource team of highly committed professionals with varied experiences who are continuously working to achieve organisation's vision, mission and goal. A total of 185

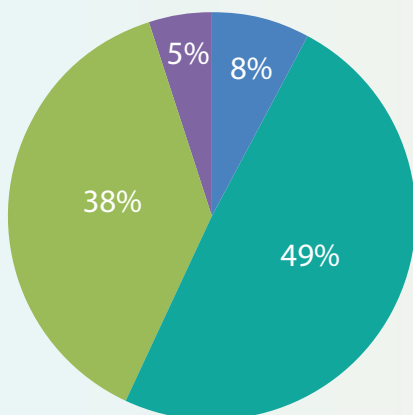
staff (101 male and 84 female) are currently working in 22 districts of Nepal. SAHAS Nepal maintains 'unity in diversity' by recruiting qualified staff from different social backgrounds.

Gender Composition



Total Staff	185
Male	101
Female	84

Ethnic Composition



FINANCIAL REPORT



PP PRADHAN & CO
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

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Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements of Group Of Helping Hands (SAHAS) Nepal For 1 Srawan 2076 to 31 Ashad 2077 (17 July 2019 to 15 July 2020)

Opinion

We have audited the attached financial statements of **Group of Helping Hands Nepal**, for the year from 1 Srawan 2076 to 31 Ashad 2077 (17 July 2019 to 15 July 2020), which comprises of the Balance Sheet as at 31 Ashad 2077 (15 July 2020), Income and Expenditure Statement and other explanatory notes for the year then ended.

In our opinion,

- the accompanying financial statement is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and other relevant practices
- nothing came to our attention to indicate that an adequate internal control system was not in place and the organization was not compliant with applicable laws and regulation

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) and Nepal Standards on Auditing (NSAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the financial statement section of our report. We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statement, and we have fulfilled our other responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial statement in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statement that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statement, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so. Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organization's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statement

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statement.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. •
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the adequacy of the Organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management. •
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statement or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Auditor



Pratap P Pradhan
Principal
PP Pradhan & Co.

Date: 08 October 2020
Place: Kathmandu


UDIN Number:201009CA00010uJvST

Group of Helping Hands (SAHAS) Nepal
Lalitpur
Consolidated Balance Sheet
As at Ashadh 31, 2077 (July 15, 2020)

	Sch	Current Year Amount in NPR	Previous Year Amount in NPR
Fixed Assets	1	27,214,678.00	26,542,410.00
Current Assets			
Inventory	2	1,159,906.40	195,208.00
Debtors and Prepayments	3	3,592,642.70	2,513,799.27
Programme Fund Receivable	8	3,742,603.01	10,967,984.20
Cash in Hand	4	116,923.00	113,068.15
Cash at Bank	5	19,558,268.85	18,355,540.89
		28,170,343.96	32,145,600.51
Current Liabilities			
Gratuity		3,360,524.00	6,688,693.30
Creditors	6	10,136,965.45	13,772,224.29
		13,497,489.45	20,460,917.59
Net Assets		41,887,532.51	38,227,092.92
Represented By			
Gratuity Fund		4,756,596.39	3,346,676.37
Fixed Assets Capital Fund	7	11,408,435.50	10,646,238.50
Reserve SAHAS Nepal		12,400,684.06	12,422,864.71
Programme Fund Payable	8	13,321,816.56	11,811,313.34
		41,887,532.51	38,227,092.92
Significant Accounting Policies and Notes	32	As per our attached report of even date	

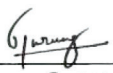

Dr. Pratap Kumar Shrestha
Chairperson


Sarswati Bhandari
Treasurer


Pratap P Pradhan
Principal
PP Pradhan & Co.
Chartered Accountants


Dr. Surendra Kumar Shrestha
Executive Director




Somaya Gurung
Administrative and
Finance Coordinator

Date: October 08, 2020
Lalitpur, Nepal

Group of Helping Hands (SAHAS) Nepal
Lalitpur
Consolidated Income and Expenditure Statement
For the year ended Ashadh 31, 2077 (July 15, 2020)


	Sub-Sch	Current Year Amount in NPR	Previous Year Amount in NPR
Income			
Subscription Fee		10,500.00	8,400.00
Donation		881,533.67	3,184,984.00
Interest on Bank Deposit		306,135.81	52,382.81
Programme Overhead		120,359.33	37,828.75
Miscellaneous Income		17,133.66	242,190.00
Donation for COVID		591,081.00	-
Recovery of Vehicle Cost		92,125.00	120,000.00
Recovery from Projects		210,092,503.05	216,991,048.59
Total Income		212,111,371.52	220,636,834.15
Expenditure			
Organization			
Recurring			
Audit Fee		60,000.00	60,000.00
Organisation Admin Cost		120,248.10	125,286.95
Travel		12,730.00	13,925.00
Meeting & Workshop		112,056.85	601,623.00
Depreciation		99,194.00	123,392.00
Project Support		309,177.54	717,588.00
Project Write Off		416,527.63	1,173,993.69
Preparation Fee		237,647.00	109,116.00
Salaries & Benefits - Program Staff		58,601.00	512,821.00
Relief - COVID 19		591,081.00	-
Monitoring, Consultancy & Networking		23,786.00	212,391.00
Total Recurring Organization		2,041,049.12	3,650,136.64
Program Fund Expenses			
Program Expenses	8.1	210,092,503.05	216,991,048.59
Total Recurring Program		210,092,503.05	216,991,048.59
Total Expenditure		212,133,552.17	220,641,185.23
Surplus/(Deficit)		(22,180.65)	(4,351.08)

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes 30

Schedule 1 to 30 are integral part of the Financial Statements As per our attached report of even date


Dr. Pratap Kumar Shrestha
 Chairperson


Sarswati Bhandari
 Treasurer


Pratap P Pradhan
 Principal
 PP Pradhan & Co.
 Chartered Accountants


Dr. Surendra Kumar Shrestha
 Executive Director


Somaya Gurung
 Administrative and
 Finance Coordinator


Date: October 08, 2020
 Lalitpur, Nepal


Group of Helping Hands (SAHAS) Nepal
Lalitpur
Statement of Cash Flow
For the year ended Ashadh 31, 2077 (July 15, 2020)

	Current Year Amount in NPR	Previous Year Amount in NPR
Surplus/(Deficit) for the FY	(22,180.65)	(4,351.08)
Add back non cash items		
Depreciation	99,194.00	123,392.00
Change in Working Capital		
(Increase)/Decrease in Inventory	(964,698.40)	32,394.00
(Increase)/Decrease in Debtors and Prepayments	(1,078,843.43)	1,658,696.38
Increase/(Decrease) in Gratuity	(3,328,169.30)	2,360,009.30
Increase/(Decrease) Creditors	(3,635,258.84)	6,165,455.27
	(8,929,956.62)	10,335,595.87
Cash flow from Investing Activities		
Purchase of Fixed Assets and movement in Capital Fund	(9,265.00)	(64,580.00)
Increase/(Decrease) in Gratuity Fund	1,409,920.02	3,346,676.37
	1,400,655.02	3,282,096.37
Cash flow from Financing Activities		
(Increase)/Decrease in Project Fund Receivable	7,225,381.19	(5,995,039.95)
Increase/(Decrease) in Project Fund Payable	1,510,503.22	(26,120,621.61)
	8,735,884.41	(32,115,661.56)
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalent	1,206,582.81	(18,497,969.32)
Cash and Cash Equivalent at the beginning of period	18,468,609.04	36,966,578.36
Cash and Cash Equivalent at the end of period	19,675,191.85	18,468,609.04

As per our attached report of even date

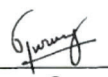

Dr. Pratap Kumar Shrestha
Chairperson


Sarwati Bhandari
Treasurer


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Principal
PP Pradhan & Co.
Chartered Accountants


Dr. Surendra Kumar Shrestha
Executive Director




Somaya Gurung
Administrative and
Finance Coordinator

Date: October 08, 2020
Lalitpur, Nepal

Group of Helping Hands (SAHAS) Nepal
Lalitpur
Sub-schedule to the Balance Sheet
Partnership Programme Fund
For the year ended Ashadh 31, 2077 (July 15, 2020)

S.N	Programme	Funded By	Sch	Fund Balance as at 17 July, 2019	Received/ in FY 2019/20	Interest in FY 2019/20	Expenditure in FY 2019/20	Adjustment	Transferred	Fund Balance as at 15 July, 2020
1	Act Now	FK Norway	9	(113,587.97)	1,489,684.97	6,372.18	(1,403,961.00)	-	-	(21,491.82)
2	BBB	Felm	10	1,148,497.85	48,589.00	-	(1,197,086.85)	-	-	(0.00)
3	BBL	Norlha		1,150.66	-	-	-	(1,150.66)	-	-
4	Bio-Diversity	SODI	11	(528,220.13)	10,730,440.23	49,492.04	(10,834,905.10)	-	-	(583,192.96)
5	BtB	SCON	12	(589,761.49)	26,520,055.00	-	(26,224,994.00)	-	-	(294,700.49)
6	CARE Partnership	CARE Nepal		146,142.02	-	22,569.20	-	(168,711.22)	-	-
7	CDM	BtW	13	1,683,566.53	8,541,099.65	34,777.53	(11,720,816.45)	-	-	(1,461,372.74)
9	CEFAIS III	BtW		(385,378.63)	-	5,403.09	-	379,975.54	-	-
10	Child Aid - Education	Child Aid	14	-	1,940,859.90	-	(695,590.90)	-	-	1,245,269.00
11	Child Aid - COVID	Child Aid	15	-	698,216.40	-	(470,044.90)	-	-	228,171.50
12	EDILIS	SODI		26,927.72	-	-	-	(26,927.72)	-	-
13	EERN	Street Child		23,546.18	-	-	-	(23,546.18)	-	-
14	ELLEP-II	Felm	16	848,561.31	30,540,177.35	92,451.52	(31,903,588.64)	-	-	(422,398.46)
15	HG-IV	Li-Bird		(13,975.27)	-	1,099.04	-	12,876.23	-	-
16	INF-COVID	INF-UK	17	-	1,035,126.96	-	(257,000.00)	-	-	778,126.96
17	LIFT III	BtW		(677,962.01)	680,038.41	21,035.11	(1,350.00)	(21,761.51)	-	-
18	LIFT IV	BtW	18	(7,025,454.89)	77,337,392.30	550,693.43	(71,553,300.57)	-	-	(690,669.73)
19	LWF	LWF	19	-	1,932,346.00	-	(1,932,346.00)	-	-	-
20	MNM	Street Child	20	-	3,603,872.00	14,038.23	(3,886,687.04)	-	-	(268,776.81)
21	NFSI- MCC	MCC		181,160.00	-	-	-	-	-	181,160.00
22	NFSI-II	MCC	21	(1,080,447.43)	9,025,393.91	23,592.38	(7,751,219.86)	-	-	217,319.00
23	Nepal Team and PRAYAS	Nepal Team	22	1,063,925.47	1,865,496.75	-	(1,095,320.53)	-	-	1,834,101.69
24	PERI	MCC	23	(91,098.11)	3,963,831.36	4,508.29	(3,096,685.00)	-	(780,556.54)	-
25	Reforestation	Felm	24	927,951.61	-	-	(927,951.61)	-	-	-
26	RFF	Li-Bird		341,098.00	-	-	-	-	-	341,098.00
27	RMF	RMF	25	436,504.81	677,122.92	-	(614,720.00)	-	-	498,907.73
28	SALS II	Norlha		4,557.39	-	-	-	(4,557.39)	-	-
29	SEEDS II	Stromme Foundation	26	1,459,703.46	21,449,562.00	78,450.53	(21,351,464.00)	-	-	1,636,251.99
30	SC-COVID	SCON	27	-	2,929,954.00	-	(1,134,468.00)	-	-	1,795,486.00
31	SUPPER-II	CARE Nepal	28	(462,098.27)	9,573,027.87	-	(9,110,929.60)	-	-	-
32	TBSU	DOC, Okhaldhunga	29	2,069,779.28	366,900.00	-	(995,081.00)	-	-	1,441,598.28
33	Travelteer	Travelteer	30	-	1,196,248.00	-	(985,606.00)	-	-	210,642.00
34	WELI	Germany Embassy		38,892.00	-	-	-	(38,892.00)	-	-
35	WEP	Norlha	31	1,405,825.18	2,447,622.24	7,632.99	(947,386.00)	-	-	2,913,684.41
Total				839,805.27	218,593,057.22	942,105.56	(210,092,503.05)	107,305.09	(780,556.54)	9,579,213.55



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20 YEARS WITH COMMUNITY

FUNDING PARTNERS



LIST OF PROJECTS

S.N.	Name of Project	Districts	Funding Partner
1.	Local Initiative for Food Security Transformation (LIFT)	Okhaldhunga, Lalitpur, Udayapur, Kalikot, Bajura and Mugu	BfdW, Germany
2.	Gold Standard for Global Goals	Udayapur, Sindhuli and Makwanpur	BfdW, Germany
3.	Enhancing Livelihood through Local Effort Project (ELLEP)	Gorkha, Tanahun, Dhading and Mugu	Felm Finland
4.	Socio-Economic Empowerment with Dignity and Sustainability (SEEDS Phase II)	Rolpa	Stromme Foundation
5.	Biodiversity and Resource Management for Sustainable Food Security in Mountain Community Nepal	Dailekh	SODI
6.	Breaking the bond (BTB)	Mahottari, Dhanusa, and Siraha	STREET CHILD OF NEPAL
7.	Marginalised No More	Sunsari, Saptari	
8.	Sustainable Agriculture for Livelihood Security Phase II	Rasuwa	FreresDe Nos Freres
9.	Small Scale Reforestation Initiatives for Reduction of Carbon Emission Project	Udayapur	Felm
10.	Promoting Inclusive and Quality Education in Public School	Ramechhap	Child Aid Network
11.	Promoting Safe and Alternative Environment for continuing Education in the Covid-19 context in Bajura	Bajura	INF/UK
12.	HOPE	Gorkha	LWF
13.	RRF	Mahottari, Dhanusa, Siraha, Sunsari, and, Saptari	STREET CHILD OF NEPAL
14.	Youth Exchange Programme	Rolpa	NOREC
15.	Meselmi School Meal programme	Okhaldhunga	Rosie May Foundation
16.	Trail Bridge Sub-Sector Unit	Okhaldhunga	Helvetas & District Development Committee



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