Transforming Lives and Societies:
Taking Action for Sustainable Development

Annual Report 2017
Expression of Thanks

I am pleased to bring forth this annual report to share the works, efforts and impacts made by KIRDARC Nepal in the year 2016-17. The report not only highlights our projects and activities but also presents the real stories from the field comprising the real voices of people. Despite the challenging geographic terrain and scattered settlements in the hill and mountain areas in which we work, KIRDARC Nepal has made the utmost effort to reach the unreached communities for protecting and promoting their rights. The report provides an overview of our work and the achievements that we have been able to make. Throughout the year, KIRDARC implemented several development projects under Wash, Livelihood, Education, CCA & DRR and Gender and Social Inclusion. The report is an outcome of wide range of interactions, review and reflections of the progress, issues and challenges faced in the course of implementing the project at all levels including regular thematic support, monitoring and documentation at different level.

I am hopeful that this Annual report will be a useful document for all development partners and agencies to gain better understanding of KIRDARC and we look forward to another exciting year ahead. As always, we look forward to your feedback, comments and critiques.

"KIRDARC efforts will directly link with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and has taken this as a major contribution for Nepal as a state member to fulfill SDG goals in 2030 and KIRDARC expresses organisation committement to involve in this mission in coming days."

As we embark on our journey towards new learnings and developments, I would like to take this opportunity to extend our sincere thanks to everyone – our partner organizations, donors, executive board members and colleagues. Together we have made significant progress in the past year and look forward to growth and expansion in the years ahead. Most importantly, I heartily thank the people from the communities who worked with us, welcomed us into their lives and becoming a part of the change that we dream to create.

Happy reading!

Min Bahadur Shahi
Executive Director
OUR VISION
A just and prosperous society with people having equal access to and ownership over resources and opportunities, where people are enjoying their fundamental human rights.

OUR MISSION
is to enable people and communities to claim and exercise their human rights, including the right to be free from poverty and neglect.

About KIRDARC
KIRDARC always considers the promotion of human rights and endorsement of civil, political, socio-economic and cultural rights as well as the right to food and right to development with equal emphasis for the people of Mountain region. Hence, as a development organization KIRDARC believes in Human Rights Based Development Approach, where people are recognized as the active agent of their own development, for which they are capacitated to influence the public policy and to claim their above mentioned rights.
KIRDARC Localizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

On September 25th 2015, countries adopted a set of goals to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all as part of a new sustainable development agenda. Over the next fifteen years, with these new goals that universally apply to all, countries will mobilize efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind. The global goals are important, world-changing objectives that will require cooperation among governments, international organizations and world leaders.

To ensure that the SDGs make sense within local contexts, particular emphasis should be given to the quality of changes achieved and the end result on people’s lives the SDG should be localized. KIRDARC Nepal is working on eight different goals and trying to localize the SDGs. Making the SDGs fully pertinent in Nepal may be challenging since some key issues to Nepal were not fully incorporated into the goals. Nepal’s priority focus should be on the basic needs goals and environmental goals, since the country’s mountains are highly vulnerable to climate change. Mountain ecosystems are included only in Goal 15, but they form a key resource for Nepal’s development. As Nepal translates the SDGs into action across its diverse landscapes, appropriate implementation in vulnerable mountain communities and ecosystems should be a priority. KIRDARC is working collaboratively with multi stakeholders to relate the goals & targets at local context engaging maintaining communities towards achieving them.
An overview of PROGRESS/ACHIEVEMENTS
Achievements

- Increased employment and livelihood opportunities promoting appropriate technologies, local knowledge and natural resources management. 1125 HHs supported on Income Generating Activities (IGA) such as Yak, Horse, Goat, Buffalo and Bee keeping in Mugu. Total of NPR 18,97,140 is collected as revolving fund and used for alternative livelihood options to overcome poverty.

- Established on or off-farm small scale enterprise by 3281 HHs in Surkhet and Kapilbastu and the average income of the Self Help Groups (SHGs) members is NRs. 51,699 which is 50% of increment of their monthly income.

Results

4788

We reached 4788 HHS in 6 municipalities and 2 rural municipalities of Mugu, Surkhet & Kapilbastu
ENSURE HEALTHY LIVES AND PROMOTE WELL-BEING FOR ALL AT ALL AGES

Achievements

- Improved health status of women and children in earthquake-affected community of Kavre district through rehabilitated and reconstruction of health institutions and sanitation facilities. 5918 People of 1193 HHs directly benefited and increased health access from 54% to 100% in the project area.

- 10,000 local communities got access to proper health facilities through 8 equipped health posts in Kavre.

- 5600 marginalized women got health facilities and services through construction of Birthing Centre in Dolpa.

Results

15600

We reached in 15600 HHs in 1 municipality and 5 rural municipalities of Dolpa and Kavre.
ENSURE INCLUSIVE AND QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL AND PROMOTE LIFELONG LEARNING

Achievements

- Increased access to quality education of 23000 school going children through teacher training, classroom management, teaching learning materials, infrastructure improvement in Mugu, Kalikot and Dolpa. Increased class one enrollment by 90 percent with Early Childhood Development (ECD) graduate.

- Increased school enrolment of girls and dalit children and improved gender disparity status i.e 3 rural municipality declared 100 percent school enrollment in Kalikot.

- Strengthened capacity of School Management Committee (SMC) and Parents Teachers Association (PTA) to improve school governance as they started regular monitoring of school, regular meeting, and resource generation.

- Increased the learning achievement of primary grade by 6 percent from the baseline in Kalikot (from 42 to 48 percent).

Results

23000

We reached in 23000 school going children in 4 municipalities and 11 rural municipalities of Humla, Mugu, Kalikot and Dolpa.
3235 marginalised women were empowered and strengthened on their rights in Humla and Mugu. Enhanced knowledge on social malpractices and capacity of women and adolescent girls is strengthened. 4 wards declared as chhaupadi discrimination free ward in Kanchanpur.

1241 male members and social leaders engaged in different social awareness campaigns and sensitized on human rights in Humla and Mugu. 27 members of the 18 Women Development Advocacy Group (WDAG) and networks claimed for candidacy and nominated in local election 2017. Among them 11 candidate elected in different position 1 Deputy Mayor, and other members.

2317 adolescent’s girls and women are empowered on their rights in Kapilbastu and Surkhet. The participation and representation of SHG members in ward citizen forum, VDC council and District Council have been increased.

107 SHGs members affiliated in Ward Citizen Forum (WCF) as general member in Surkhet and Kapilbastu and 4 members were elected in vital position. Similarly, 17 members were selected as general member in VDC council member whereas one member was elected in district council.

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**ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS**

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**Achievements**

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**Results**

15848

We reached in 15848 women and adolescent girls in 5 municipalities and 6 rural municipalities Kapilbastu, Dadeldhura, Kanchanpur, Surkhet, Mugu and Humla.
Increased access to 29% on sanitation facilities & safe drinking water in the project area through ODF campaigning and support to construct and rehabilitated the water supply systems in Kavre.

Harmonized relationship and reduce duplication of the project intervention which contributed to enhance and increased the performance of WASH stakeholders in the respective districts.

Improved health status of the people through access of quality water i.e. increased up to 19%, from 79% to 98% reached during end line survey in Kavre.

Water fetching time for women has been decreased significantly from 73% to 27% and consumption of water also increased from 98 liter per household to 243 liter in Kavre.

5918 People from 1193 HHs from earthquake affected community benefitted from 60 Community taps, 2 school tap and 2 CGD friendly toilets in Kavre. Similarly 1884 people including students benefitted from 18 community tap and 5 school tap in Jumla i.e. 54% to 100% access reached for water supply in the project area.

KIRDARC Nepal facilitated and supports to have improved sanitation accessed for 48345 population in Karnali including Kavre where total of 20 VDCs (18 in Karnali and 2 in Kavre) and Jumla were declared as ODF during the fiscal year.

**Results**

48345

We reached in 48345 HHS in 6 municipalities and 8 rural municipalities in all district of Karnali and Kavre
Achievements

- 3 communities and local institutions strengthened to enhance disaster resilience, environmental protection and established early warning systems and disaster response mechanism on flood, landslide, and diarrheal outbreak in Kavre.

- 93 people capacitated on early outbreak detection, Formed RRT (Rapid Response Team) and functional mechanism. Similarly, 72 stakeholders including CBOs, NGOs, civil society, and alliance, capacitated on DRR mainstreaming into wash from WSUCs, WASH-CC and local government officials in Kavre.

- 6 LDRMCS formed and trained on DRR mainstreaming in development process, early warning, disaster risk reduction along with development of LDRMP through VCA process in Humla and Mugu.

Results

995

We reached in 995 HHS in 1 municipality 5 rural municipalities in Mugu, Humla Kalikot and Kavre
TAKE URGENT ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS

Achievements

- 17 local institutions strengthened to enhance environmental protection and climate change adaptation and advocate for climate justice in mountain region.

- 10000 people aware and capacitated on impacts of climate change. Generate field level data on impacts of climate change through climate change monitoring diary on mountain region.

- Advocate at national, regional and global level for climate justice focusing poor and marginalized mountain communities.

Results

We reached 10000 population in Kailkot, Mugu and national level
**Achievements**

- Improved human rights education participates and contributed to local development process. More than 90 people are now members of local level structures such as School Management Committee (SMC), Waterland Sanitation User Groups (WSUGs), Community Forest User Group (CFUG) etc. 19 of the Aadhar Kendra (AK) members won in local election at various ward level positions.

- 1900 women and youths sensitized on human rights education and they are now able to claim their rights, participate and contribute to local development process. Out of 129 human rights violation cases collected at least 20 of them were referred to concerned stakeholder.

- 100 government officials capacitated on National Action Plan on Human Rights (NAPHR), Improved service delivery mechanism of government stakeholders.

- 90 women from 18 WDAGs actively engaged in local level planning process where 1750219 NPR allocated by 5 VDCs for women empowerment in Humla and Mugu.

- Worked as a bridge to bring out the voice of the affected community on policy making process and played a role of watch dog on reconstruction process for accountability of government and non-government stakeholders through conference, caravan, policy dialogues, and media engagement.

**Results**

11900

We reached in 11900 population in 7 municipalities and 9 rural municipalities in Karnali region and Surkhet and national level.
STORIES FROM GROUND
I never get chance to full my stomach with food when I was child. Due to poverty and food scarcity we have to go to other VDCs for work. My brother and sisters were small and I had all the responsibilities to take care of them. I got married at the age of fourteen and at the age of nineteen I became mother of my first child (daughter). Nine years after giving birth to 5 children, I became pregnant again. I delivered my sixth baby on filed where I suffered from illness and became unconscious. When I awake, I saw my child was on the mouth of the crow on a tree nearby me. My family called the traditional healers and health workers for treatment but in vain all the treatment were failed. Slowly, I could not move the left leg and right hand of my body. I was completely isolated avoided and unnoticed. I was a burden to my family. I started struggling with my life.

I got opportunity to enroll in the interventions of the VOICE project, 14 month non-formal literacy classes. We discuss on the recent issues of people with disability and we also raise their voices for disability inclusion in planning process at local level. People with disability were not included in the development and social activities before but, now we have started to raise our voices in favour of inclusion of the people with disability. I was sensitized on human right, women right and the rights of people with disability. In the beginning, I could not write the letters because my right hand was not working. But, when I know about Jhamak Ghimire in the literacy books, it encouraged me a lot. Now, my life has been changed as if it is my re-incarnation. Now I am active member of the group of people with disability and other women’s saving groups.

District Livelihoods Support Office (DLSO) was providing small grant for the women groups for livestock. I applied for the call and was awarded with small grant and started poultry in my own house now I am able to earn something and support my family. Now, I am saving my income in revolving fund. And I am planning to take loan to enlarge business.
42 years Dana Neupane is the member of Ganesh SABAL group Dhaulagoha 6 Khada (Palanta Rural municipality, ward no 1) facilitated by KIRDARC Nepal with the financial support of Mission East. She has poor economic status and her seven member family solely depends on agriculture. Seasonal migration to India is the option for her husband to earn some money. Basically she was engaged in household chores and sometimes she used to go for labor work in infrastructure construction.

Before joining the group, Neupane did not have an idea about literacy, leadership and socio economic rights of women. In the beginning when she came in group she did not know how to catch a pen and how to write words. Being a illiterate she was dominated by the society and she usually feel embarrassed to put her views and raise voice in front of others.

After joining the group she started to read and write. Her knowledge on socio economic rights of women such as; right to education, right to leadership is increased. She had started participating on different meetings, social activities and to participate in IGAs. She is aware on discriminatory socio cultural practices such as; chhaupadi, child marriage, untouchability and shaman. After having knowledge on socio economic rights, life skills and discriminatory socio cultural practices she has changed her practice during menstruation. Before, she used to stay in outside of the home but nowadays she stays within home. Her self-confidence level is boost up.

Now she is elected as vice chairperson of Palanta rural municipality. After being a vice chairperson, she got the opportunity to visit different places and peoples. She has been committed with group and community people for improving the women socio economic status. In the same way, she raised the voice for the women empowerment during the rural municipality council. She is committed to eradicate social malpractices such as; chhaupadi, child marriage, polygamy, untouchability, gambling, Alcohol and violence against women. Likewise, she emphasized to keep women socio economic empowerment program in local policy.

Moreover, she acknowledged SABAL group helped for making her literate and enhancing confidence and leadership skills. In addition, she felt more proud because she can use pen for the signature whereas other some members of council use thumb for the signature. Likewise, she got the opportunity to give an interview for Kantipur daily, national newspaper and local FM.
Chandrakala BK, 25, lives at Gurvakot Municipality ward number 8, Surkhet. She got married at the age of 15. After marriage could not continue her education. Due to poor financial condition her husband went abroad taking the debt of 100000 from the local landlord. But after two years, dead body of his husband arrived along with mere 50000 rupees.

“All my dreams were shattered I became widow at the age of 18 but I stay strong for my children. I began to manage my living by daily wages works available in farming and crushing gitti by carrying my daughter on the lap. Those days were the most difficult phase of my life” said Chandrakala with eyes full of tears”.

After joining the SAMVAD Kendra an intervention of KIRDARC which targets the dalit and adolescents girls and women and empowers them. Her confidence level was improved and she was able speak up in front of others. She was selected as the coordinator of Citizen Awareness Center. She learned about VDC budgeting and planning process and able to allocate some budget. She was continuously engaged in discussion on issues related to child marriage, gender based violence, polygamy, drug addiction at SAMVAD Kendra and Citizen Awareness Forum. Not only socially she is now empowered economically as well. With the support of SAMVAD she had started pig farming and now with that money she had started buffalo farming.

She was nominated for the post of village municipal member for the local election which was held on Baishak 31st 2074. She was selected for the candidate among 250 nominees. She got total 884 votes and got elected as Ward member from Nepali Congress.

“Now, I have planned for implementing IGA practices along empowering to the group for effective implementation. For this, I am determined for my active participation at Kendra for making it more effective in this Municipality. Developing hope in me and making me believe on myself was only possible due to the Kendra. SAMVAD, Kendra is the actual foundation for my changed life. I am determined for serving the community. Let’s see!”
“We used to wake up early in the morning carrying the baskets with jar to fetch water after waiting for one hour. Had trouble of slippery path and bite of gnat during monsoon and extreme cold during winter.”-Lalsari Rawat-Tamti-5, Baragaun, Jumla.

Baragaun is located at one hour drive and 6 hour walk from the district headquarter of Jumla district. The community people were facing difficulties in fetching drinking water and were compelled to drink unsafe water. Lack of water availability in school resulted the diarrheal cases in the children reflecting the poor sanitation status.

KIRDARC Nepal implemented “Sustaining Improved WASH services in Karnali” since August 2016 in the Baragaun, Tamti VDC. The construction of new water supply system including 13 community taps, 1 reservoir tank, 1 intake and a child friendly taps in school has helped people to consume safe, reliable and adequate drinking water. Additional to that various hygiene awareness campaigns, capacity building on total sanitation indicators, education on Menstruation Hygiene Management, capacity building of users committee has played a vital role for building the capacity of the users and changing their hygienic behavior including the ownership of the water supply system.

“We used to consume turbid water, didn’t know was it safe or not. But now we have taps nearby our house and water is safe. Further we have used the waste water from the tap in kitchen garden and consume vegetables too.”–Mun Bahadur Rawat (local resident of Baragaun)

“The participation of women for community contribution in pipeline excavation, local materials collection has been significantly more than the men. The reason behind this might be the expectation of women to get the taps nearby their house.”-Bishnu Thapa (local resident of Baragaun)
Two days Mountain Conference on ‘Rethinking Development Agenda: Advancing Resilient Livelihood of Mountain People’ was organized on December 11 and 12, 2016 in Nagarkot, Bhaktapur. Wide range of public, along with the representatives of civil society, local, and governmental and non-governmental organizations participated in the conference. The conference was jointly organized by Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Centre (KIRDARC) Nepal and Nepalese Civil Society Mountain Initiative (NCSMI).

KIRDARC Nepal is advocating for the development of mountain region and believes that for the development of the region it must be backed by sound legislation and policies that incorporates the development of adequate infrastructure, encourages investment from the private sector, and guarantees efficient knowledge and technology transfer to mountain areas. KIRDARC organized National Conference on Climate Change and Environmental threats: protecting lives and livelihood of Mountain people on October 2014, in Rara, Mugu named as Rara conference that provided ample opportunity to building collaborative efforts through need based result oriented and effective networking and alliance building.

In this backdrop, KIRDARC Nepal together with NCSMI organized the Mountain Conference on 11—12 December 2016 at Nagarkot with the objective to enhance the level of concrete cooperation among all the stakeholders, including the private sector, local communities, civil society and youths and develop collaborative efforts among all Mountain districts for advancing livelihoods of Mountain people. Develop civil society engagement in sustainable Mountain development along with climate change adaptation, identify the potentialities of mountain resources for addressing the livelihoods in Mountain regions and to draw attention of national level stakeholders to prepare food security strategy/plan for addressing and improving the food security condition of Mountain dwellers.

The conference put forward the Mountain Declaration to initiate momentum on Mountain Agenda in Nepal through effective engagement of civil society in a co-ordinate approach and eventually enhancing visibility of mountain issues in the global processes, thus enabling better life and livelihood of mountain people in more harmony with nature.
## List of Programs

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Financial Statement

- Goal 1: 1%
- Goal 2: 9%
- Goal 3: 11%
- Goal 4: 13%
- Goal 5: 16%
- Goal 6: 22%
- Goal 11 & 13: 16%
- Goal 16: 27%