

# Empowering Lives and Promoting Rights for Inclusive & Resilient Development





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Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Centre (KIRDARC) Nepal

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## Message from the Chairperson

I am pleased to present Annual Report 2015 for Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Centre (KIRDARC). This report provides a summary of the overall activities carried out by KIRDARC, its achievements and finance for the period of July 2014 –July 2015. For more than 15 years, KIRDARC has been driven by a passion for developing the capacity of poor and marginalized people protecting and promoting their rights for inclusive and equitable development. KIRDARC is one of the pioneer leading non-governmental organizations, working in remote parts of the Nepal focusing Karnali region. Given the broader political change and continuous shift in the development paradigm, both inside and outside the country, KIRDARC has reviewed, re-framed and refined its strategy periodically as deemed. KIRDARC Nepal has experiences of working together with different organizations since long on Climate Change, Disaster Risk Reduction; Food Security, Democracy, Human Rights, Governance, Inclusion, Education & Community Empowerment; Livelihood, Resource Management and Basic Services; Plural Media Development & Freedom of Expression; Research and Policy Advocacy; and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene. 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. The year 2015 had been an example of individual and collective changes that inspire KIRDARC to do more. Throughout the year, KIRDARC implemented several development projects under Wash, Livelihood, Education, CCA & DRR and Gender and Social Inclusion. KIRDARC expanded its working area to central region in Sindhupalchok, Kavre and Lalitpur districts after the devastating earthquake on April. I would like to place on record our appreciation for the consistent support we have received from government, donors, development partners, and network organizations, community organizations. Moreover KIRDARC is immensely grateful to hard-working employees for their generosity, commitment and continuous support.

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.

Thank you.  
Ran Lal Kulal  
Chairperson  
KIRDARC Nepal

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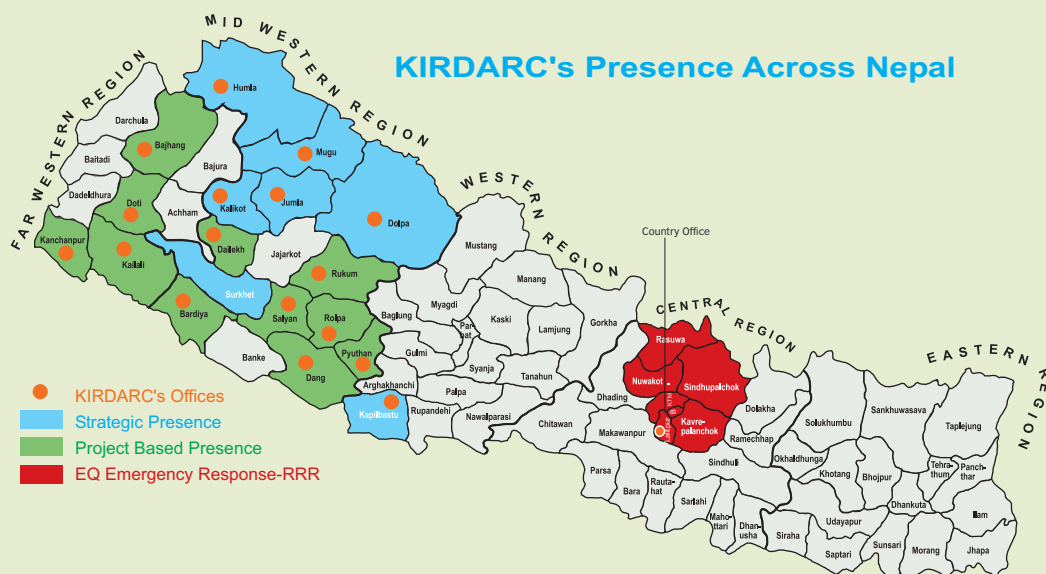
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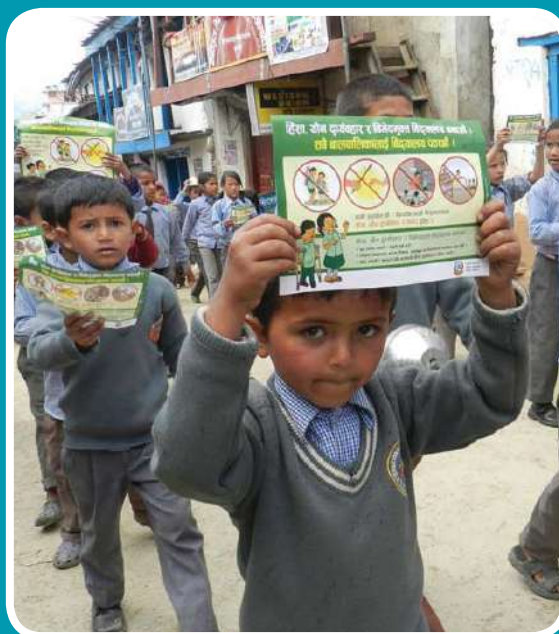
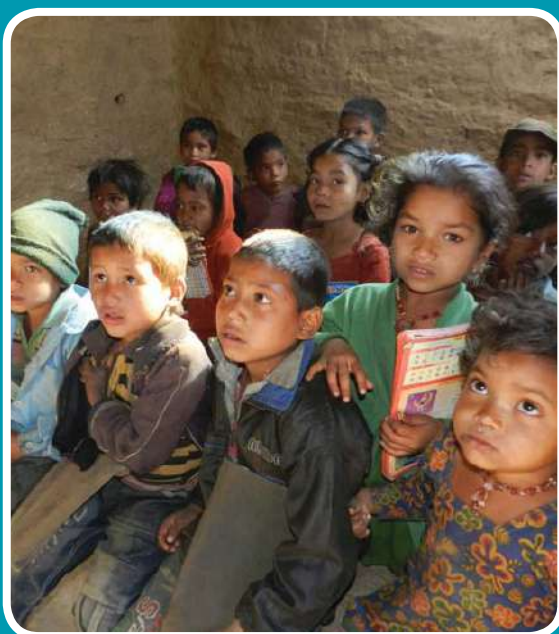
## WORKING AREA



It has been working with 700 CBOs, 15 local NGOs, 7 networks, 70 Schools, 150 Government mechanisms thematic committees, reaching to 280,000 people across Nepal

# Outcome -1

## HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

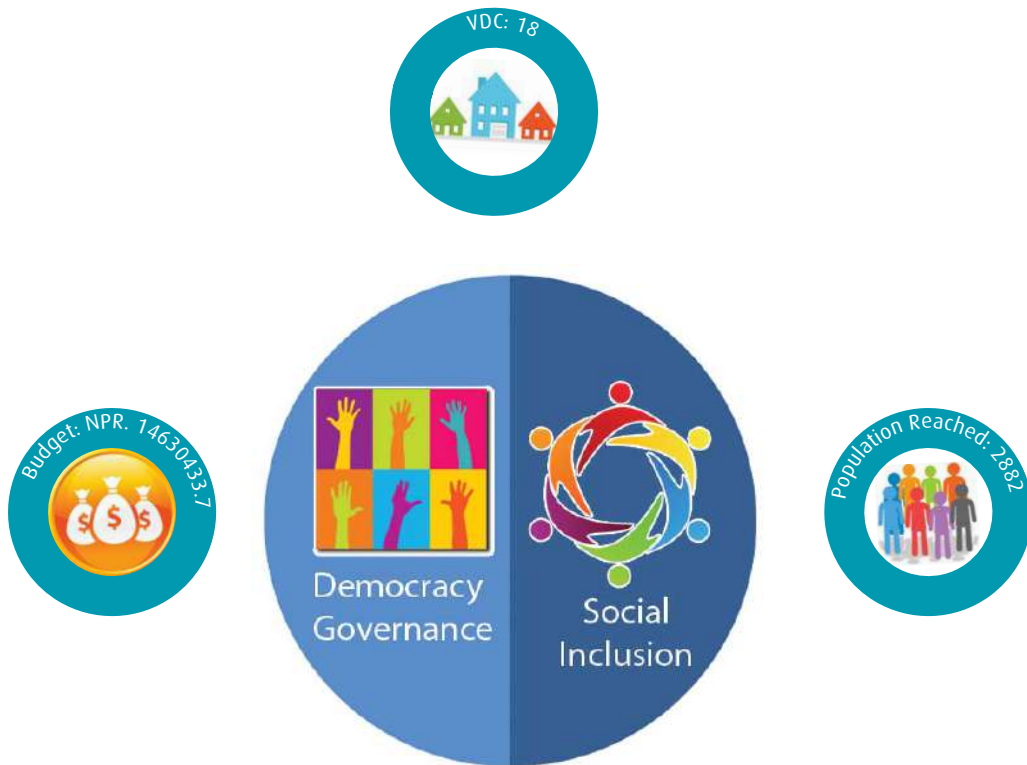


## Major Achievements

- ▶▶ Total 1989 adolescent's girls are organized in Animator Association for Social Action (ASSA) Network. They are practicing the local democratic practice and are engaged in campaigns on social issues, including Dalit and women rights protection, child marriage, dowry, trafficking, exploitation, discrimination, and other forms of violence and ill practices.
- ▶▶ Regular campaign on government accountability had ensured the human rights and social protection. The service delivery of government mechanism is improved in remote VDCs of Kapilbastu district. 55 people registered birth, 42 people registered marriage, 21 people get their disability card, 14 people get their citizenship certificate. 628 people were actively participated on planning meeting and were able to allocate the budget at VDC level for income generation activities.
- ▶▶ Increased birth registration in Kalikot, 1574 child was registered within 35 days among 2776. Those registered children received child grant (200 Rs per month) which is the biggest social protection scheme in Karnali.
- ▶▶ Community and parents and local stakeholders aware and engaged for ensuring quality education. 4 VDCs of Kalikot were declared as Compulsory and Basic education free VDC declaration meeting all the indicators of government. Similarly 3 VDCs were declared as 100 percent literate VDC.
- ▶▶ Improved education wastage indicators in working schools in Kalikoti.e increased learning achievement of basic education by 53 percent, increased survival rate in basic education by 66 percent and NER by 97 percent.
- ▶▶ Two Community Radios, NayaKarnali, Karnali expanded its outreach and promoted the voice of the voiceless on 5 districts ( Jumla, Mugu, Kalikot, Dailekh and Achham) reaching nearly 0.3 million population).
- ▶▶ People were aware and sensitized on sanitation, human rights and social security, child protection, gender and social inclusion, Climate Change and DRR, environment protection, public services, good governance, livelihood and income generation through different radio programs.

# Outcome -2

## DEMOCRACY GOVERNANCE AND SOCIAL INCLUSION





## Major Achievements

- ▶ KIRDARC organizational policies are updated with GESI responsive, and published GESI handbook and training manuals (Gender Equality and Social Inclusion, Rights-based Approach, and Local Governance and Community Development Program) as guideline for entire project staff and organization.
- ▶ Increased women participation in VDC council meeting and increased their concern in local planning process. They were able to get women grant and other social security allowances, regular vital registration, providing disability identity cards and allowance, and address for women issues and receive matching fund from VDC for women empowerment projects (community building for women; campaign against Chhaupadi practice, child marriage, polygamy, Jari practice, polygamy, women reproductive health, family planning ) and lead social dialogue and campaigns.
- ▶ Multi-stakeholder platform on forest established and functioned at 2 districts and 6 VDCs, of Jumla and Kalikot districts. Agriculture Environment Forest committee (AEFC) and District Forest Sector coordination committee (DFSCC) empowered and capacitated to address the issues of forest management and governance in local level.
- ▶ Good Governance is institutionalized in Jumla and Kalikot district, the process of annual social audit in CFUGs started, Operational plan of CFUGs updated annually and renew timely in Kalikot & Jumla district.
- ▶ Enhanced level of awareness among district level stakeholders, media, political parties and sense of local ownership on forest is created.





## CASE 1- From a Rebel to a Social Work

Bhaura Baniya, 24, was born in Bratu village of remote Shrikot Village Development Committee<sup>2</sup> (VDC) of Mugu district now lives with her husband in the remote village of Murma<sup>3</sup> about four hours of uphill walk from Gamgadhi, the headquarter of Mugu district. Bhaura's childhood was not pleasant to remember because her mother eloped with another man after early death of her younger brother because of abusive behaviour of her father. Bhaura grew up with her stepmother, who was always negative, abusive, and violent towards her. She never get the love and affection of a mother from a tender age. Because of all these pain and loneliness, Bhaura joined the Maoist movement<sup>4</sup> and served as a singer and full-time political worker for six years. After the war was over, Bhaura was lucky to meet Shivachan, with whom she married. However, her life is not easy even now. In Bhaura's agrarian family, a crop, mostly wheat, takes about a year to ripen. Scanty barley, beans, and potatoes are produced; her farmland is small, about 4 hals (about 1,017 square metres) of bari (dry upland) which produces food hardly enough for four months, and also the land is steeped at about 35 degrees, without proper terraces. Bhaura's family scavenges herbs for additional income.

Bhaura never went to school, but was happy that she learned reading and writing with the help of 'I Have a Voice' project. One day in 2011, didis(elder sisters) from the project arrived in

Bhaura's village and organised a meeting to run a literacy class. Initially, Bhaura was reluctant to join. Many people did not believe the project staff because many projects had mushroomed and disappeared in the past. She thought that her mother-in-law would not allow as she had a child in her lap. However, about two weeks later, after her friends in the village persuaded her, Bhaura joined the evening literacy class without her mother-in-law's consent while her husband was away in India for work. She took her infant with her in the class and started learning ka-kha-ga(Devnagari alphabets) in a congested, poorly lit room. The classmates decided to form the Rara Women Development Advocacy Group (RWDAG), but again she was not much interested to be part of it. Bhaura performed best in the class and was unanimously nominated for the post of secretary of RWDAG. She attended three residential trainings organized by the project in the village.

The activities they performed through WDAG were literacy class, sanitation in the community, including convincing people to construct toilets, repairing of ghatta(water mill), water source maintenance, and abolition of chhui(menstrual pollution). The group also lobbied against social evils such as untouchability, violence against women, child marriage, alcoholism, and gambling that was rampant in the community. They started to save 20 rupees per month and now have Rs. 13,000 in total savings. They also collected Rs. 25,000 from the VDC treasury.

Since Bhaura joined the project, many things have changed in the community. The women think it is better that their husbands are coming to listen to them. They have stopped gambling and drinking in public places. They possess a certain amount of money from the project-related work. In the past, Bhaura's mobility was restricted to the village. Now her movement has increased to the district headquarters and the office of the District Development Committee (DDC) she

<sup>1</sup> The lowest administrative unit of Government of Nepal

<sup>2</sup> Murma, about 3,100 meters above the sea level, is a west-faced, steep small village comprising 68 clustered households beneath the Murma Top (Murma Palace) of Takure kings (kings belonging to the peak areas on the other side of Lake Rara, the biggest and one of the most beautiful lakes of Nepal). Murma is believed to have been the garden and pleasure-seeking place of the then kings.

<sup>3</sup> A man who lives with his in-laws and inherits their property.

<sup>4</sup> Maoist movement was an armed conflict ignited by the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) from 1996 to 2006 against the monarchy and feudal society, claiming more than 18,000 lives, which ultimately overthrew the monarchy and re-established democracy in Nepal.

feels dignified that she can spend her earnings as required. Under her leadership, chhui has been reduced from 7 days to 3 days. She led the village Deuda team of 3 members and her group came first, with the cash prize of Rs. 10,000, half of which was kept in the bank account and the other half spent on proposal development for Himali Group for setting up a museum with a sales outlet of local products. Women in the group have started to keep some money in their possession, from which they can buy clothes, food, stationery and medicines for their children.

While asked about the negative effects of the project on household and community. Her mother-in-law said that Bhaura would leave her 3-year-old kid at home when going to Gumgadhi. Her husband remarked that all was well. Then, the mother in-law reacted: 'Yi joipoi ekbhaigaya' (The husband and wife are united). Her mother-in-law reluctantly accepted Bhaura's success: 'Aru ta thikaichhamukhalebhaigai' (All is well but she retorts a lot). It means that if her mother-in-

law shouts she replies back with a bigger voice. Because Bhaura speaks back, her mother-in-law is still skeptical about women leadership. The mother-in-law thinks that it is because of the literacy class. Bhaura knows hakims (big shots) at Gumgadi. Also, Bhaura has changed things in terms of division of work at home; she advises her husband to work together in the field and he does. Bhaura wants to educate her daughter but is not sure whether she will be able.

After talking to Bhaura, it seems that they have created a space to strengthen the condition and position of women in the community. The triple gender roles are changing: men and women are sharing household chores, are working in the field together equally, and are attending community meetings. People of the most marginalized groups are being trained, and they are on the path of improvement. Most importantly, Bhaura, being a rebel in the past, has a safe and stable life, a lovely daughter, and a supportive husband.



## CASE II - A Second Life

Dhauri Nepali was born in Neher village of Fotu VDC one of the most remote villages of Mugu district. She was born as a second child among 4 siblings, with 2 elder and a younger brother. She married to Gyansing Nepali, an educated fellow who had studied up to grade 12 of Jaira, Humla. The Nepali family holds a small patch of land (1 hal), which produces food only for four months. Jaira is one of the remotest village of Mugu, and reaching the village is challenging because of steep ascends and descends via narrow footpaths from 1,000 metres to 3000 meters above the seal level.

Dhauri never went to school in her maternal home, joined the literacy class at the inspiration of her group members and her husband. 'Jharo balera pani padhyau, Mukhama torch balera pani padhyau' (We studied by firing the pine twigs, and also hanging torch in the mouth'), says Dhauri. The classes ran in the morning during leisure seasons and in the evening during busy seasons after all household chores were over. They studied by sprinkling water over their faces to keep them from falling asleep after a long day's work. 'I feel proud of joining the class, and I know the value of paper and pen now,' she says.

Dhauri joined the Sundar Women Development Advocacy Group (SWDAG) and actively participate in the group activities such as paying membership fees, taking part in rallies and community activities, and cleaning and maintaining peace in the community. Monthly saving is Rs. 100, and the total amount accumulated is about Rs. 16,500 to date. The group has been able to set up the rules of the game in the village, in areas such as Chhui, gambling, and drinking. They fine Rs.





600, Rs. 200, and Rs. 500 for grazing ox, goat, and cows in crop fields, respectively. The group has made toilets construction mandatory to all families in the community.

Before she joined the class, it was difficult for her to face males because nobody wanted to talk to a woman. 'We were shy, scared, and camouflaged under the scarf. People used to say what kind of woman this was. How dare she show her face in front of men? A shameless lady!' People used to call women. Now things have changed so that 'we can speak up, put voices on the fore, and argue on relevant subjects', Dhauli asserts. She emotionally puts her message as below: Dharkotanchhau, Dharkobat ajiwantan dobhaya (We draw lines, and from the lines.... we draw life)

'So many things have changed since then,' she remarked. In the community, Chhuihas been almost abolished and untouchability does not exist anymore. Drinking and gambling have been stopped: at least people do not do it publicly or in front of women. SWDAG has been playing a mediating role in ascertaining the rights of the women, children, and elderly people. They advocated against polygamy in the village: in one polygamy case due to their advocacy each month a husband needs to deposit half of his salary to the account of his first wife. At home, things have been changing compared to the past. In those days, 'when even brothers were not allowed to study, how could we study?' asks Dhauli. 'Such was the society then.' Both her husband and Dhauli share work equally if she goes to field her

husband looks after household chores, including cooking, washing, and sending children to school. Dhauli clarifies the position of women in society as: Chhora chhori kuna, Buhari dhoka (Sons and daughters at the corner, daughter-in-laws at the door). This is an old saying, meaning that while sons and daughters stay at a safer place and can rest, daughters-in-law stay at a risky place with frequent demands of work. Dhauli explains son preference with the example of her own family. She remembers when her mother delivered her brothers, her mother was loved and cared by all. Unlike other participants, Dhauli had travelled to many places within the district during the course of Maoist movement because the rebels forcefully took the villagers in the rallies, processions, and war. She visited Galba, Rahulbang, Jima, Sorukot, Natharpu, Furmur, and Kolti during this period. She has been to Simkot for citizenship certificate and Nepalgunj once for treatment.

When I asked about sustainability of the work they have been doing, she just said 'Bato ko bikas garne' (Improve the already built roads of the development). She assured that they will continue to work together.

It is amazing to note that illiterate women like Dhauli have insights to develop her community. She well understands the situation and analyses the root causes of discrimination prevailing in the community.





# Outcome -3

## Livelihood and Living Conditions



## Major Achievements

- ▶▶ Basic sanitation access reached 25500 HHs and 845 HHs received water supply in 6 working district (Humla, Jumla, Mugu, Dolpa, Kalikot and Surkhet) during 2015. Kalikot and Jumla stepped towards total sanitation campaign with 12450 population access on improved sanitation
- ▶▶ The government recognized the indigenous knowledge and traditional practices in sanitation in High mountain VDCs of Dolpa and Humla (Limi and Saldang, Vijer) and this practice could be replicated as a model on other mountain VDCs to meet the target of government declaring 100 percent ODF till 2017.
- ▶▶ Government focused/District Water supply and sanitation office established and functionalized Post Construction Support Unit (PCS) especially for the functionality that is looking back the already constructed water schemes and making plan to reoperate.
- ▶▶ 30 un-functional water schemes were improved with minor support and functionalized which PCS provided improved and safe drinking water 11,723 (Eleven Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty Three Only) in Dolpa, Jumla and Kalikot district.
- ▶▶ Total 1806 Self Help Group Members are benefitted from Income Generating Activities ( off farm and on farm i.e Goat rearing, Poultry, Group Fish farming, vegetable farming, Pig farming, tailoring, hair cutting, laundry, Carpenter, sewing and cutting etc) in Surkhet and Kapilbastu district and similarly, monthly saving and credit activities is also being promoted .
- ▶▶ KIRDARC has increased their institutional capacity to mainstream Disaster Risk Reduction into their projects portfolio and to advocate for it at local and national level. ADCR (a loose network) was linked with the National level Youth network to advocate local level DRR issues at national level. Village and District Development Committees of Kalikot mainstreamed standard CDBP model into their annual development plan and allocated budget
- ▶▶ A practical Mountain friendly LDRMP was developed and implemented, that supported the wider participation of communities and provide easy out for the preparation & implementation of the plan. KIRDARC supported on developing LDRMCs and CBDRMC at district and local level in its working districts. Surkhet district institutionalised 3 LDRMCs and 10 CBDRMC in their DRR planning process to conduct DRR activities at VDC and District level
- ▶▶ 20 schools from six VDCs of kalikot districts produced school disaster management plan and they mainstreamed their agendas in local development planning process through LDMC.
- ▶▶ Climate change monitoring Dairy is developed and started to collect information monthly on Humla, Mugu and Kalikot to monitor the impacts of climate change.

## CASE III - Women Commencement for Disaster Risk

Thirpu VDC is about 17 kilometers far from the headquarter Manma, Kalikot. Brahmin, Chhetri, dalit the major ethnic groups living in the area. Major occupation of those people is livestock rearing and farming. Women have been spending most of the time in domestic affairs, livestock rearing and farming activities. Community people, students, people with disabilities, along with women had to cross Nahare river taking cattle for grazing, going school, job and farming. Moreover, during monsoon season, they had to face problem to cross river due to heavy flood though the bridge was under construction since 2010. People had no option to use the same bridge. Satya Devi Bam, age 17 lost her life while going to school passing through the river and Danta Bam, age 27, person with disability was also swiped away by the river in the in 2013.

In this scenario, CBDRR project focused on mainstreaming disaster into development interventions and inclusion of vulnerable

groups of the society during the planning process. Therefore, the existing LDMC was reformed and revitalized with inclusive approach in 2013. LDMC members were provided capacity building training on Community Based Disaster Risk Management and Mainstreaming DRR into Development that created a space to excluded & vulnerable groups like Dalit, women and people with Disability to raise their voices and concerns. The project facilitated LDMC to develop Local Disaster Risk Management Plan (LDRMP). This facilitated them to identify risks of their community. The prominent issue shared by women was the use of incomplete bridge has increased the risk. The issue was shared among the local government, too, as per LDRMP plan. These issues were raised strongly in the forum in monthly meeting of LDMC and LDMC put pressure to complete the construction process as a result bridge was constructed.





## CASE IV - Malati as a Change Actor

Malati is an 18 years old school going girl, studying in class 10 in Kalika Secondary School, Badki of Jumla district. Malati not only goes to school rather she works in field, cooks food for family and collect water in normal days. But, her family has superstitious belief that if women/ girls enters inside the home and touch anything at the time of menstruation, God will get angry and bothers them so they never allow Malati to enter inside the home and touch anything. Not only this, they forbid her from going school in 4 days in each month believing that, menstruate girls should not touch books because goddess Saraswati got angry.

**Malati said,** *"During menstruation period, I always hesitate going to school due to lack of adolescent friendly environment in school. There is a myth of strictly restriction of touching and studying books by menstruating girls in our community. So I lost my study time during menstruation period. Consequently I was unsuccessful in class 6 examination due to absent in class for 4 days for each month during menstruation period."*

*In our society, no any lady of menstruating period should take any dairy products like Ghee, curd, milk and I always missed such product during menstruation period. I don't know of using pads during menstruation, which made me untidy, self guilty, most of the clothes became red spotted during menstruation.*

*I used to sleep in animal shed during each menstruation period. Most of my menstruation period I usually suffered from limb swelling, lower abdominal pain, and sometime fainting attack. I always remain isolated in animal shed during every menstruation period. One day two boys were trying to enter in animal shed at night time; they started mocking me, I was so nervous and terrified at that situation. Immediately I shouted to my younger sister and they ran away soon after my sister arrived. I have faced such type of terrible and harassing situation in most of my menstruation period."*



*Similarly, she said that, "most of the menstruation related issues like personal hygiene, food taboos, and social exclusion during menstruation have been clarified after menstruation hygiene management training conducted by KIRDARC Nepal with financial support from Water Aid Nepal. It was very beneficial and helpful for maintaining the menstruation period hygienically which will keep healthily throughout my life. I have been aware that different nutritious food is necessary during menstruation period. Due to food taboos, and other myths, superstitions related to menstruation which are prevalent in most of our society and which are also deeply rooted in our mind, had created barriers in establishing the healthful and civilized society. I became aware that the menstruating is normal process and each and every female have to be. I am also unaware and have no idea of using sanitary pad and I always used unhygienic piece of cloth during menstruation period consequently I had been victim of scabies infestation, itching symptoms in lower (genital) part, urine burning (might be urinary tract infection). Now this MHM training provided me helpful knowledge and skills to make sanitary pads which leads women and girls of menstruating period to stay clean and healthy. Today I am more confident and feel no any hesitation during menstruation period which leads me to attend classes regularly in school nowadays."*

After getting training on menstruation hygiene management, gaining knowledge, idea on Menstruation as the natural cycle, it has nothing to do with any other bad thing and, she not only



convinced her family rather community people. Now, in her community, they used to listen to her interestingly and she always trying to do more clarification on myths, superstition regarding menstruation. They became more positive towards her and they are trying to bring expected healthful behaviors like providing nutritious food, maintaining personal hygiene and discouraging animal shed for sleeping during menstruation.

Today, Malati is a happy girl. She is a regular in school and is excelling in her studies. She remains

present during her menstrual days also. She does not miss her classes and during her free time, she plays with her friends, takes part in extra-curricular activities.

Like Malati, many other girls of her school who have reached their puberty, do not hesitate to come to school during these days.

## CASE V - “PURUS BINA PANI KHANA ROKINNA”

Kusha Shahi a female resident of Badki-1 Jumla. She has 5 members in her family. She is 30 years of old and she had only primary level of education. She is always busy in her household activities and agriculture activities for her family survival. She is also the prominent women in Badki VDC. She is contributing her efforts in social activities for her community people.

KIRDARC Nepal implementing the Badki Water Supply System with the financial support of WaterAid Nepal, to provide sustainable inclusive easy access of drinking water, ensuring the sanitary environment by means of mobilization for the safe disposal of feces and urine, ultimately will improve the overall health status of respective community people.

For the achievement of the planned objective KIRDARC Nepal has Organized 5 days Pre-Construction Training along with other different activities to the persons who are self-motivating, capable, and time managing for social work, especially who could work as a care taker for the sustainability operation of water supply system. In this context some of the issues raised in the community, she told that “I was so disappointed that some of the people of Badki underestimated my capacity, motives towards my community. They told me that you can not do such type of works and keep busy with your household activities. I have also complained to KIRDARC Nepal staffs in this issue of gender biasness.”

As per the KIRDARC Nepal values of social inclusion, gender equity and justice for all, the





discussion was held within VWASH CC members of Badki and other local people. Most of the male goes to India and other location in search of Job in winter and village almost became empty in terms of youth male. There remains no any trained male for regular operation – maintenance of water supply system.

Due to the result all the women raise single voice to appoint female as care taker for the regular operation of water so then, they might not worry about the discontinuity in absence of trained male in winter. But some of the male has raised the challenge that, how could a woman work like man and who will be ready for the job, but, brave Kusha has answered by raising her had to work as care taker promising to work more effectively than any male before. As after appointing as a care taker, she said that, “ I am happy to be selected as a Care Taker carrying belief of numbers of women challenging against male domain and counter challenged that “ PURUS BINA PANI KHANA ROKINNA.”

## CASE VI - Saved from early child marriage



Bimala Dhobi, 32 lives with her 2 sons and 2 twins' daughter in a Sanusikutawa of Kapilvastu district. She is one of the participants of Dialogue center (REFLECT) run by joint partnership of KIRDARC-Nepal and Stromme foundation.

The mother of four children has no other income source besides an income generate from small plot of land and daily wages. She said “my husband

died 8 years ago and being a single women; I am caring all my children with great difficulties. It's really hard to manage the expenses on food, their study and other expenditure. Thus, I am compelled to decide for the marriage of my 13 years old daughter, Laxmi Dhobi.

The dialogue center operating in her locality changed Ms, Dhobi mind when the issue of early child marriage was discussed. She explained “I hadn't noticed the long term impacts of child marriage. I was speechless when we all the participants interacted and discussed the many harmful causes and effects of early child marriage .Then, I realized among 25 participants of dialogue center that child marriage is a crime .In addition, she further said I talked to the bride on potential harmful effects and punishment by laws on child marriage thus, I decided to withdraw the decision of my daughter marriage till she become 20. I will support her study as much as she wants; for that I will work and struggle hard.

Ms Dhobi is just one of the cases that the project able to stop the early child marriage through its realization and internalization REFLECT led process. But there are number of such cases that have not been raised due to many factors where the project needs to be addressed.

## Outcome -4

# INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING OF KIRDARC

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## Karnali Kachahari : Dialouge for Change

Karnali Kachahari is a plat form for discourse, starting from policy makers, practitioners and users together with enthusiasts from the wider spectrum: development workers, researchers, intellectuals, social leaders, academicians, students, media, tourists and those who have cultural connections with the region in order to seek common solution of the problems/issues and agendas with collective effort. This platform creates a forum to streamline the voices of Karnali people and to continue dialogue at the national and international levels. It is a consortium of CSOs working in Karnali region. KIRDARC Nepal is hosting the secretariat since December, 2009. Karnali Kachahari is one of the major means to contribute in achieving the strategic objectives of KIRDARC Nepal "Advocacy and Campaign launched at all levels to establish economic, social and cultural rights as fundamental entitlements and to promote people's access to basic services".

Aiming to influence top level policy makers, encourage the national level activists and CSOs on holistic development of Karnali through sustainable management of natural resources particularly NTFPs production, trade and business development, national level. The national Level Karnali Kachahari has been conducted in collaboration will FECOFUN and Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation and close coordination with project implementing partners. The overall objective was to promote rights and fair development through inclusive economic growth and strengthen multi-stakeholders dialogue on forest based economy for mountain people.

Around 150 participants covering wide range of district and national levels take holders including Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation (MOFSC), Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal (FECOFUN), Policy makers, CA Members, Media personnel, Government line agencies and district level stakeholders Karnali Jadibuti Traders Network, District Forest Office, CFUGs and national level NGOs and the forest sector actively participated in the event. The Kachahari concluded that Mountain forests of Nepal are unique and important in terms of biodiversity and other ecosystem services .Karnali is very rich in high value NTFPs including medicinal and aromatic plants that have good market potential. For the sustainable management of the community forest and livelihood improvement of poor and forest-dependent communities there is need of income diversification especially from NTFPs. The focus on processing of NTFPs at local level, market value chain, and lead firm to lead the industry, external support to marginalized groups for inclusive

development and linkage to quick returning IGAs to NTFPs ultra poor cultivator will obviously support NTFP trade and business development in Karnali. The royalty rates established for NTFPs/MAPs are inappropriate and irrational.

Similarly, With financial support of Multi Stakeholders Forestry Programme (MSFP) Kachahari was jointly organised by KIRDARC and AFFON on 13th July 2015 in Kathmandu to discuss on issues and challenges of forest governance and the existing policies with different stakeholders. Before organising the National Level KK, Local level and district level KK were organised at Jumla and Kalikot district with local, cluster and district levels covering wider range of participation of CFUGs, local stakeholders, AEFC, DFSCC and District forest .The overall objective of the KK was to share the findings of the local and district level KK, to discuss widely among multi- stakeholders and to identify issues and challenges of Forest Governance for the poor. Around 50 participants covering wide range of stakeholders including Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal (FECOFUN), Community Based Forestry Supporters Network (COFSUN) policy makers, NRM confederations, CA Members, Media personnel, government line agencies and different agencies working on the forest sector actively participated in the event. The KK concluded.

Thaat is tremendous pressure in forest resource like illicit felling and encroachment. Good forest governance is necessary to reduce the pressure on forest and sustainable supply of forest resource to support the life of rural people. Active management and commercialisation of forest is possible only from good forest sector governance.

Forest governance should be poor friendly. Good forest governance is attained through better co-ordination among different levels (local, regional and national). Though there are institutional frameworks, there is no real space as different layers do not have equal power. The major challenges of forest governance are differential access, low productivity and sustainability. Forest related Policies and laws are not well defined. Policy/decision makers are within a confined cocoon and the peripheral layers are not being able to influence them. Misconducts among the policy facilitators are a great challenge. Capacitating the available resources is the major issue. Similarly lack of coordination among different stakeholders is leaving the issues unaddressed to meet the expectations. Capitalisation of the NTFP sources is lagging.





## RARA CONFERENCE: Stepping Stone on Mountain Climate Change Agenda

Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment (MOSTE) and KIRDARC organized a National conference on Climate Change and Environmental Threats: Protecting Lives and Livelihoods of Mountain People in Nepal at 30-31 October 2014, at Rara, Mugu attracting wide range of public - civil society, political leaders, local communities, indigenous people, women, dalit, development practitioners, researchers, media, private sector, national and international agencies, governmental and non-governmental organizations and development partners aiming at developing national momentum on Mountain Agenda in the context of changing climate. KIRDARC organized this conference to share the knowledge, understand impacts of climate change and responses developed and associated adverse effects in bio-cultural diversity and livelihood of mountain people to develop a common mountain action with existing challenges and opportunities as the basis for future actions

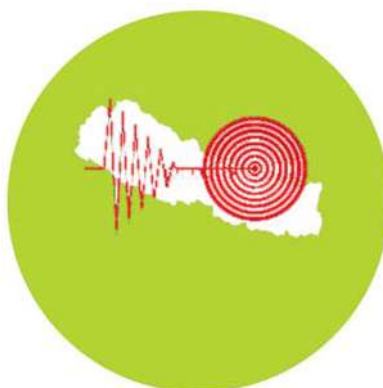
The conference was held just before COP 20 in Peru Lima to show how lives and livelihoods of mountain people are affected by climate change. It is the biggest government and civil society mountain initiative, provided a common platform to deliberate mountain issues and to arrive at a common solution to resolve the needs and concerns of the mountain regions with the meaningful participation of mountain communities. The Conference came up with RARA Declaration to start Mountain Agenda momentum in Nepal through effective engagement of civil society in a coordinated approach and eventually enhancing visibility of mountain issues in the global processes, thus enabling better life and livelihood of mountain people in harmony with nature.



# Outcome -5

## Emergency Response

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## KIRDARC Emergency Support at Earthquake affected Areas

On 25 April a 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal with the epicentre located at Barpak, Gorkha district. The earthquake severely impacted 14 out of the 75 districts in the country, left over 8,000 people dead and destroyed over 480,000 houses. On 12 May, another earthquake measuring 7.3 in magnitude struck in Dolakha District. The earthquake caused additional buildings to collapse. Some 150 people were killed and many others injured as a result. Aftershocks continue to be felt across the country further increasing the trauma amongst those affected.

KIRDARC Nepal is working in emergency relief support since long. KIRDARC provided emergency support to flood victims of Kalikot district on 2013. Similarly it also supported to flood affected people of Surkhet district during 2014. KIRDARC Nepal mobilized the emergency response team to address the emergency situation. Urgently after the quake relief support were provided on Sindhupalchok, Kavre, Dhading and Lalitpur districts with support of different organisations such as TDH, WaterAid, Stromme Foundation, UNICEF, Restless development etc. KIRDARC provided relief support materials to more than 5000 HHs in Kavre and Sindhupalchok Districts including Food (also focused child and Lactating women), Shelter and Nonfood items, WASH Items (Hygiene Kits, Water Tanks).

After providing relief support materials KIRDARC Nepal is now heavily engaged in Post-quake recovery process. In this scenario, it reached few more districts such as, Rasuwa, Lalitpur and Kathmandu & Kavre and focusing our work on Protection, and Education.

Mobile Child friendly space was conducted at Kavre and Sindhupalchok Districts in order to manage mental stress, anxiety, and trauma and prepare them for normal day to day life. Temporary Learning Shelters are constructed at Kathmandu and Lalitpur districts as per the government-set standard at a community schools damaged due to the Earthquake has been handed over to the schools.

The team coordinated with DDRC & Cluster and discussed to finalize affected area to distribute relief support as per the respective cluster plan and priority of the earthquake affected area for effective distribution of the relief material. Team coordinated with education, protection and WASH cluster in respective districts. Several rounds of meetings were conducted with them and highly affected schools were identified. For community mobilization team coordinated with School Management Committee (SMC), Parents and Teachers Association (PTA). Well experienced engineers were deployed in respective districts for TLC construction.



## Major Achievements

- ▶ After the devastating Earthquake KIRDARC expanded its working area at central region of Nepal (Kavre, Sindhupalchok, Lalitpur and Kathmandu) based on its past working experience on disaster at Karnali region.
- ▶ KIRDARC built alliance and networks with different organizations and became members of different networks such as climate Action Network South Asia (CANSAs), <http://www.cansouthasia.net/> and Humanitarian Accountability Monitoring Initiatives (HAMI) [www.hami.org.np](http://www.hami.org.np)
- ▶ To advocate on Mountain agendas and Issues Mountain concern group Nepalese Civil society Mountain Initiative (NCSMI) was formed and KIRDARC Nepal hosts its secretariat.
- ▶ Executive Director of KIRDARC Mr. Min Bahadur Shahi is elected as a deputy president of AMARC International and Convener of HAMI.
- ▶ KIRDARC revised its existing policies and developed some new guidelines such as Toll free number handling guideline is developed and operationalized to strengthen the governance and accountability of the organization. MEAL approach is institutionalized and adapted in all ongoing interventions to ensure the transparency and built trust among donor and communities.
- ▶ Capacity development plan was developed and Board members and management team are capacitated on institutional good governance and resource mobilization.

## Challenges

Major challenges faced during the periods are as follows

- ▶ After the promulgation of new constitution the protest of unsatisfied groups in Karnali region, Surkhet and Kapilbastu. Fear of damage to physical properties and human life has been a major barrier to conduct daily operational and activities due to the political insurgence.
- ▶ Continued vacuum of local governing bodies is one of the major challenges effecting local level decisionmaking process.
- ▶ In Dolpa and Mugu district, the airport was blocked for 3 months because of construction activities which hampered for timely implementation of project activities and halted the staff movement as air transportation is the ultimate medium of transportation in the district.
- ▶ Impacts of Climate change and disasters such as unusual rainfall, snowfall and landslide highly affected the day to day life of local community and to effectively conduct the development interventions.
- ▶ Regular Project management was hampered after the devastating earthquake as the team was mobilized on relief support activities on the earthquake affected districts.
- ▶ It was hard to meet the strategic target of the year in Karnali as the resource is diverted after the April earthquake.



# Audit Report/Financial Summary

## Financial Outlook

KIRDARC has a well-established finance and audit system. The accounting systems are fully computerised. KIRDARC applies FAMAS software to systematically manage and keep up-to-date all the documents related to finance and procurement. While the KIRDARC Finance and

General Administration Division employs the internal financial controls of the organisation, the external audit of the financial matters is done by the authorised independent audit firms (Chartered Accountants) duly appointed by the Annual General Meeting of the organisation. The financial statements of the year are given below:

### Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Center (KIRDARC Nepal)

**Mahat VDC, Jumla, Karnali, Nepal**

#### **Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)**

As at 31 Asadh 2072 (16 July 2015)

		Amount in Rs.		
SN	Assets	Sch	Current Year	Previous Year
1	<b>Non Current Assets:</b>		<b>38,247,431.32</b>	<b>7,623,298.14</b>
	Properties, Plant and Equipment	1	38,247,431.32	7,623,298.14
2	<b>Investment:</b>	2		
3	<b>Current Assets:</b>		<b>77,682,150.65</b>	<b>42,698,461.67</b>
3.1	Advances & Receivables	3	43,612,615.49	29,837,975.23
3.2	Inventory	4		-
3.3	Cash and Bank Balances	5	34,069,535.16	12,860,486.44
	<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>115,929,581.97</b>	<b>50,321,759.81</b>

		Amount in Rs.		
	Liabilities	Sch	Current Year	Previous Year
1	<b>Surplus, Reserves and Funds:</b>		<b>11,469,184.49</b>	<b>12,337,064.70</b>
1.1	Surplus 5,089,944.68			2,948,904.37
	Previous Year Adjustment (5,780.01)			
1.2	Addition during the year (2,015,148.39)			2,141,040.31
	<b>Total Surplus 3,069,016.28</b>			<b>5,089,944.68</b>
1.3	Project/Program 1 (Project Assets Fund) 3,920,446.26	6.1		2,374,116.07
1.4	Capital Reserves (Basket Assets Fund) 388,122.99	6.2		509,297.99
1.5	Project/Program 2 (Program Assets Fund) 4,091,598.96	6.3		4,363,705.96
2	<b>Funds (Donor's Fund):</b>		<b>30,237,570.93</b>	<b>(2,253,792.75)</b>
2.1	Project/Program 2 Fund Balance 3,054,074.49	6.4.1	-	(3,414,408.95)
2.2	Project/Program 1 Fund Balance 27,183,496.44	6.5	-	1,160,616.20
2.3	Land and Building Reserve Fund			
3	<b>Long Term Loan</b>		<b>23,000,000.00</b>	<b>-</b>
4	<b>Current Liabilities &amp; Provisions :</b>		<b>51,222,826.55</b>	<b>40,238,487.86</b>
4.1	Current Liabilities, Payables and Provisions	7	51,222,826.55	40,238,487.86
	<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>115,929,581.97</b>	<b>50,321,759.81</b>

Notes to Financial Statements

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Schedules referred above forms integral part of this Statement

As per our report of even date

Bhairab Bahadur Mahat  
Treasurer

Kushendra Mahat  
Chairperson

CA. Prabin D. Joshi  
Prabin Joshi & Co.  
Chartered Accountants

Rabindra Shrestha  
Finance Coordinator

Mih Bahadur Shahi  
Executive Director

**Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Center (KIRDARC Nepal)**  
**Mahat VDC, Jumla, Karnali, Nepal**

**Statement of Comprehensive Income (Income & Expenditure Statement)**

For the period from 1 Shrawan 2071 to 31 Asadh 2072 (Corresponding to 17 July 2014 to 16 July 2015)

Amount in Rs.

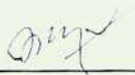
Income	Sch	Current Year	Previous Year
Restricted Grant Received-Part I	6.4.1	73,601,619.19	87,094,810.60
Restricted Grant Received-Part II	8	67,507,955.28	44,196,168.25
General Income	9	3,605,630.11	4,770,193.49
<b>Total Income (A)</b>		<b>144,715,204.58</b>	<b>136,061,172.34</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Office General Expenses	10	5,620,778.50	2,629,153.18
Project/Program Expenditure			-
Restricted Program Activities	6.4.1	73,601,619.19	87,094,810.60
Project/Program Received	8	67,507,955.28	44,196,168.25
<b>Total Expenditure (B)</b>		<b>146,730,352.97</b>	<b>133,920,132.03</b>
<b>Excess of Income over Expenditure (A-B)</b>		<b>(2,015,148.39)</b>	<b>2,141,040.31</b>
<b>Appropriation Account</b>			
<b>Appropriation to</b>			
Fixed Assets Fund			-
Special Program			-
General Fund		(2,015,148.39)	2,141,040.31
<b>(Deficit) /Surplus Balance Transferred to B/S</b>		<b>(2,015,148.39)</b>	<b>2,141,040.31</b>


**Notes to Financial Statements**


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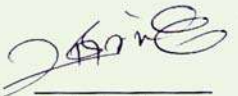
Schedules referred above forms integral part of


As per our report on even date

  
**Bhairab Bahadur Mahat**  
Treasurer

  
**Kushendra Mahat**  
Chairperson

  
**CA. Prabin D. Joshi**  
Prabin Joshi & Co.  
Chartered Accountants

  
**Rabindra Shrestha**  
Finance Coordinator

  
**Min Bahadur Shahi**  
Executive Director



## List of Projects in 2015

S.N	Name of Project	Components/ Outcomes Area	Funding Partner	District	Reach	Annual Budget	VDCs
1	Social Mobilisation program through poverty alleviation	Outcome area 3: Livelihoods and Living Condition	PAF	Mugu	3745 people	1447642.37	5
2	FRWSS-14 Functionality of Rural Water Supply Services (FRWSS)	Outcome area 3: Livelihoods and Living Condition	SNV	Kalikot, Jumla, Dolpa	845 HHs	8216148.55	15
3	SSH4A-15 Sustaining Improved WASH Services in Karnali	Outcome area 3: Livelihoods and Living Condition	SNV/DFID/ DFAT	Jumla, Humla, Mugu, Kalikot and Dolpa	15500 HHs	5508179.98	39
4	Girls Scholarship program	Outcome area 1: Human Rights and Social Protection	Ncell	5 districts of Karnali	5 girls	180000	
5	Samvad Program	<u>Outcome 3:</u> Livelihoods and Living Conditions	Strommes Foundation	Surkhet		14676063.06	12
6	SEEDS (Socio-economic empowerment with dignity and sustainability)	<u>Outcome 3:</u> Livelihoods and Living Conditions	Stromme Foundation	Kapilbastu and Surkhet	2110 (580 Surkhet& 1530 Kaplibastu)	9205501.28	8
7	Pre Vocational Education	<u>Outcome 1:</u> Human Rights and Social Protection	World Education	Mugu&Kalikot	2027	2293931.63	2
8	Promoting Pro Poor Forest Governance in Karnali	<u>Outcome 2:</u> Democracy, Governance and Social Inclusion	MSFP	Jumla&Kalikot	2000	5313224.78	6
9	Girl Empowerment Program	<u>Outcome 1:</u> Human Rights and Social Protection	Restless evelopment	Mugu&Kalikot	2977	5011487.82	2
10	Early Grading Reading Project	<u>Outcome 1:</u> Human Rights and Social Protection	World Education	Mugu&Kalikot	6292 students	5368494.31	14
11	Integrated Child Protection (WASH)	<u>Outcome 3:</u> Livelihoods and Living Conditions	TDH	Humla	433 HHs	5605344.75	3
12	Karnali quality education (KQEP) /Child Protection Project	<u>Outcome 1:</u> Human Rights and Social Protection	SCI	Kalikot	11472 students	11462390.75	10



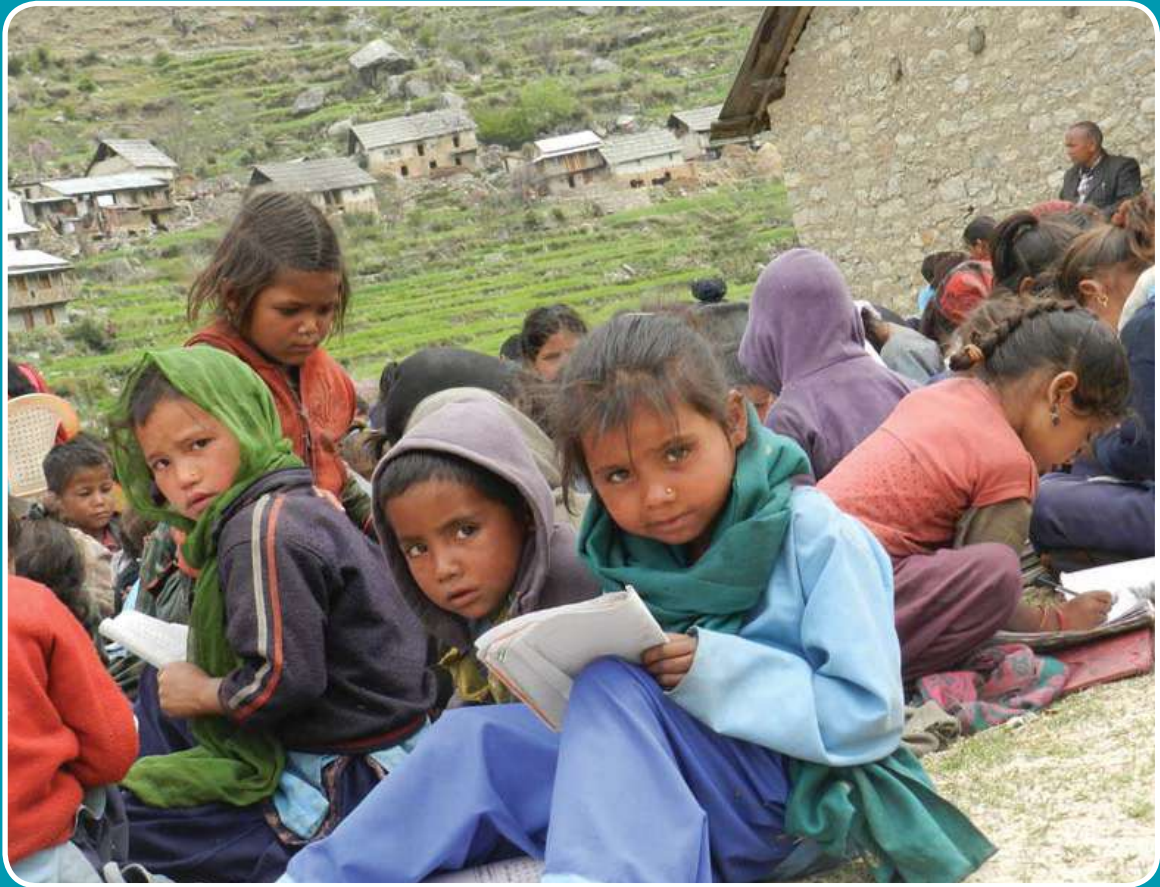
13	Integrated Project	<u>Outcome area 1:</u> Human Rights and Social Protection	SCI/Norad	Kalikot	108 schools and 90 Early Child care and development centre (ECCD)	8527479.15	12
14	AFFIRM	<u>Outcome area 3:</u> Livelihoods and Living Conditions	Mission East /DMCDD	Humla, MuguKalikot	18 WDAGs	1622011.59	6
15	I have a Voice	<u>Outcome area 2:</u> Democracy, Governance and Social Inclusion	Mission East	Humla, Mugu	18 WDAGs	7156909.42	6
16	Investing in Future : Child led Disaster Risk Reduction in Karnali	<u>Outcome area 3:</u> Livelihoods and Living Conditions	Mission East	Kalikot	100 Teachers of 50 schools	5599941.84	5
17	Access to trade and Business and Social Inclusion (ATIS-Karnali)	<u>Outcome area 3:</u> Livelihoods and Living Conditions	Mission East	Humla, Mugu, Jumla	2293 people	4829983	17
18	Voicing for Equality and Justice(VOICE)	<u>Outcome area 2:</u> Democracy, Governance and Social Inclusion	Mission East		18 WDAGs,441 women	2160299.50	6

## Emergency

1	Immediate Emergency Response to Earthquake		TDH	Kavre	600 HHs	1611541	3
2	Meeting the immediate survival and relief needs of earthquake survivors		TDH	Kavre, Sindhupalchok	2000 HHs	4051159.50	7
3	Emergency Response in Southern Lalitpur and Rasuwa		Restless evelopment	Lalitpur, Kathmandu and Rasuwa	121 TLCs, 41 CFS	1571397	15
4	Emergency Response to Earthquake		Water Aid	Kavre	400 HHs	2163117.40	2
5	Execute the relief support to earthquake in Sindhupalchok		Stromme Foundation	Sindhupalchok	600 HHs	1495785	3
6	Emergency		UNICEF	Surkhet	1400 HHs	2361481	12
7	Emergency		Mission East	Surkhet	1461 HHS	2313002	12

# Acronyms

ABU:	Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union
ACORAB:	Association of Community Radio Broadcasters Nepal
ADCR:	Alliance for Disaster and Climate Resilience
AEP:	Alternative Education Programme
AGM:	Annual General Meeting
ALA:	Adaptive Livelihoods in Action, Nepal
AMARC:	World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters
ASHA:	Animators and Self-Help Associations
ATIS:	Access to Trade Inclusion and Social Justice
CAAFAG:	Children Associated with Armed Force and Group
CAS:	Continue Assessment System
CBDRR:	Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction
CBO:	Community Based Organization
CCA:	Climate Change Adaptation
CEMIS:	Community Education Management and Information System
CFUG:	Community Forest Users Group
CSO:	Civil Society Organization
CSP :	Community Support Program
DDC:	District Development Committee
DDRC:	District Disaster Response Committee
DRR:	Disaster Risk Reduction
EC:	European Commission
ECD:	Early Childhood Development
FRWSS :	Functionality in Rural Water Supply Services
GESI:	Gender and Social Inclusion
HRDN:	District Human Rights Network
HRPG:	Human Rights and Peace Group
IGA:	Income Generation Activity
INGO:	International Non Government Organization
KIRDARC:	Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Center
KK:	Karnali Kachahari
LDMC:	Local Disaster Management Committee
LDRMP:	Local Disaster Risk Management Plan
LGCDP:	Local Governance and Community Development Programme
LNGO:	Local Non Government Organization
MP:	Mountain Partnership
NGO:	Non Government Organization
NTFP:	Non-Timber Forest Product
ODF:	Open Defecation Free
ODW:	Operation Day work
PAF:	Poverty Alleviation Fund
PATC:	Project Advice and Training
PCS:	Post Construction Service Unit
SABAL:	Supporting Adolescents for Better Access to Livelihoods
SHG:	Self Help Group
SIWIK:	Sustaining Improved WASH Services in Karnali
SK:	Samvad Kendra
SMC:	School Management Committee
SSH4A:	Sustainable Sanitation and Hygiene for All
SST:	Samvad Support Team
UNICEF:	United Nation International Children Emergency Fund
VDC:	Village Development Committee
WASH:	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WCF:	Ward Citizen Forum
WDAG:	Women Development Advocacy Group
WSSDO:	Water Sanitation sub Division office
YADC:	Youth Alliance for Disaster and Climate Resilience



Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Centre (KIRDARC) Nepal, which is an NGO established in 1999, is an initiation of youths from Karnali zone with a vision of just and prosperous society with people having access to and ownership over resources. KIRDARC Nepal's mission is to enable Karnali people to claim and exercise their human rights, including the right against poverty and neglect by way of educating, organizing and mobilizing people themselves in actions that promote human rights; research and evidence-based policy advocacy; and just and judicious resource mobilization in the region.

**[www.kirdarc.org](http://www.kirdarc.org)**



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Website: <http://www.kirdarc.org>