



LIFE NEPAL

Information is the means of empowering people

Janakpur Sub-Metropolitan City-9

Pidarichouk, Dhanusha

Province No. 2, Nepal

Annual Report

2019-2020

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Acknowledgements



"It is my great pleasure to present the annual report 2019/2020 of LIFE Nepal to our beneficiaries, stakeholders, well-wishers, and funding agencies. We executed different programs in Province No.2 of Nepal in the area of Child and Early Marriage, Youth and Adolescent Engagement, Awareness Campaign on COVID-19 Pandemic, Psychosocial Counselling, and Emergency Response including Flood with the technical and financial assistance from UNICEF, GFF, TPO, and MRGE and in coordination with Provincial and local governments. The programs obliged for ending child marriage, protecting the rights of adolescent girls and boys, plummeting violence and discrimination, preventing community people from COVID-19 Pandemic, learning response to school students, equipping local governments and local youths for disaster preparedness with simulation on flood.

I am grateful to all the actors and colleague as well as government and funding agencies who supported us in numerous ways and encourage us for this integral achievement made so far.

We promise to continue our efforts and will move ahead with the mission and goal of the organization in 2020 also. Your suggestion and feedback for the improvement of the program in the future would be highly appreciative."

- Surait Thakur, President

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Acronyms

AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
COVID	Corona Virus Disease
CfC	Campaign for COVID
CtC	Child to Child
CPSW	Community based Psychosocial Workers
DCC	District Coordination Committee
FoP	Formulation of Local Level Policy
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IEC	Information, Education, Communication
LDCRP	Local Disaster and Climate Resilience Plan
MLC	Monitoring, Learning, and Communication
MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
MRGE	Minority Rights Group Europe
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PTA	Parent Teacher Association
PASA	Problem Analysis and Solving Approach
PSA	Public Service Announcement
PtP	Parent to Parent
RM	Rural Municipality
SMC	School Management Committee
TPO	Transcultural Psychosocial Organization
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WOREC	Women Rehabilitation Center
UfA	Union for Agenda
UoS	Use of Skill

1 Organization in Brief

1.1 History

LIFE Nepal is a non-profit making organization registered at the District Administration Office, Dhanusha in 2012. It is affiliated with the Social Welfare Council, Kathmandu. LIFE is women and youth led organization. It is centred in Province No. 2. LIFE Nepal aims to ensure the basic needs likewise education, health, social protection, and livelihood of people (especially girls, Dalit, Muslim, women, youth, and people with disability). Therefore, it endeavours to build up the capacity or community people and key stakeholders through modern technology transfer that contributes to the key thought of LIFE Nepal “*Information is the means of empowering people*” (<https://lifenepal.org.np/>).

Since its establishment in 2012, LIFE Nepal has been awareness raising and advocating for key community issues like promotion of girls education, literacy (numeracy, reading and writing skills) quality education, early grade reading, gender based violence, zero discrimination, strengthening civil society for accountability, local governance, women and youth empowerment, life skills and income generation opportunity to pro-poor and marginalized communities, conflict resolution and peace building, cultural promotion through curriculum development in local language, and capacity building, education response in emergency (earthquake, flood, firing, windstorm, cold wave, heatwave, and COVID-Corona Virus Disease pandemic), disaster risk management, and climate change resilient from local government to district and provincial to national level in the partnership with key stakeholder and like-minded organizations and through the mobilization of young and girls champions as well as local, national and international volunteers.

LIFE Nepal has proven experiences in the area of curriculum development, contextualization, validation and capacity building training through providing consultancy services and working as resource organization by mobilizing its committed and competent human resources (having excellent writing, editing, and oral communication skills in English and Nepali). In this period, LIFE contributed to the literate Nepal campaign of Nepal by developing curriculum and literacy books (Hamar Jataka, Ijot and Padha Chalu) in Maithili language.

Similarly, it contributed in the Maithili cultural promotion via developing cultural book (Mithila: Sanskriti Lok Geet Sangrah and Mithila Darshan) with Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation and developed 260 books (79 decodables and 181 levelled) in Maithili language in BLOOM software regarding early grade readers through the Enabling Writers’ Project. Based on its past experiences of working primarily in the Terai districts, LIFE Nepal is renowned for organizing campaign and advocacy on Child Protection, Save Daughter, Educate Daughter (*Beti Padhaun – Beti Bachau*), STOP Child Marriage, Child Labor, Mainstreaming Madarsa in Education System, Quality Education

and Gender Based Violence through mainstreaming of Gender and Equity Network in local governments and Complaint Response Mechanism at schools.

Likewise, LIFE Nepal is implementing Youth and Adolescent Engagement in Ending Child Marriage (YAECEM), an awareness campaign for COVID (CfC) in 136 Palikas of Dhanusha, Mahottari, Siraha, Saptari, Rautahat, Sarlahi, Bara and Parsa districts of Province - 2, Nepal. LIFE Nepal is facilitating the local governments to establish Child Protection Policy, Code of Conduct, local level planning and complains hearing procedure 2074 at local government as well as in schools. Similarly, it is implementing the Ending Child Marriage Program in Dhanusha, Emergency Response (like equipment assistance to local governments for disaster preparedness with engagement of local youths in simulation on flood) in Dhanusha, Rauatahat, Learning Materials Assistance to school students in Dhanusha and Mahottari, and Psychosocial Support Program in Mahottari.

1.2 Vision

Establish an educated, healthy, protected and socioeconomically empowered society

1.3 Mission

To construct a delicate society where every person can freely exercise their fundamental rights for a dignified life and be amalgamated for children's rights

1.4 Values

The core values of the organization are:

- **Children are the base of new Nepal. They should get first priority in the development** (Children are the pedestal of new Nepal therefore their voices and choices are respected by the people for their active and meaningful participation and development so that they can freely exercise their rights and entitlements in the society for their rights protection and survival)
- **All forms of violence and discrimination are intolerable and unacceptable** (All forms of violence and discrimination likewise caste and ethnicity based, gender based domestic against girls, women, Dalit and people with disability intolerable and unacceptable in the area where LIFE Nepal engaged.)
- **Information empowers people. Deprivation of the right to information is non-negotiable** (LIFE Nepal beliefs that Information Campaign empowers the people to claim their fundamental rights and entitlements through providing basic information regarding services of the government for people of the nation hence denial of right to information is non-negotiable in terms of marginalized people especially girls, women, youth, Dalit, Janjati, Muslims, and people with disability.)
- **Education is the solution of poverty** (LIFE Nepal realized that people are poor in the absence of their education rather than uneducated due to poverty, therefore LIFE assumed that Education is for the diminution of poverty.)

1.5 Objectives

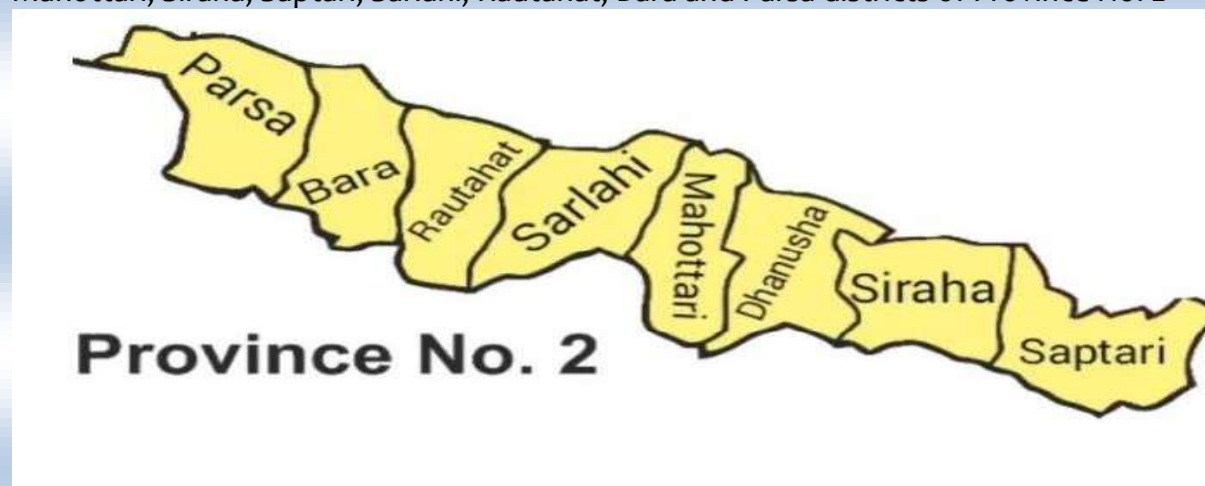
- Organize, empower and mobilize marginalized women and youth in the right's (especially girls, Dalit, Muslim, children with disabilities) protection and advocacy against child/early marriage, Child labor, violence against women/girls, and gender based violence
- Inform, aware and sensitize community and marginalized people (especially Dalit, Janajati, people with disability, elderly, single women, pregnant and lactating women and Muslim) about the rights, entitlements and services (health including WASH, HIV/AIDS, Malaria; education, social security, protection, livelihood, environment, culture) of the government of Nepal to claim their rights and accessed to services
- Build up capacity of community, local government, and district stakeholders, institutions through training, workshop, and conference for participatory planning, child rights, human rights protection, and good governance promotion
- Promote access to justice for people in need through conflict resolution and peace building and strengthening the capacity of the judicial committee
- Literacy, life skill, income generation and vocational training to women and youths for climate resilient livelihood, food and nutrition security and their social-economic empowerment
- Advocacy for school is the right place for girls, Dalits and Muslims to protect them from violence
- Establish emergency resilient communities, schools through disaster risk management, emergency response (earthquake, flood, fire, windstorm, cold wave, heat wave, and COVID pandemic), disaster risk management, and early warning system including emergency desk and information technology
- Conduct survey (baseline, endline), action research, and evaluation (midterm, final) to identify the issues related to education, health, agriculture, environment, culture and protection to influence at the policy
- Documentation and publication of bulletins, books, best practices, and journals

1.6 Target groups

- Girls
- Dalit
- Janajati
- Muslim
- Children
- Women (young, single, pregnant and lactating)
- Youth
- People with disability
- Elderly people

1.7 Target areas

LIFE Nepal will concentrate its programs and projects in 136 Palikas of Dhanusha, Mahottari, Siraha, Saptari, Sarlahi, Rautahat, Bara and Parsa districts of Province No. 2



1.8 Thematic Area of Engagement

- Promotion of Basic Education with Literacy (Reading, Writing) and Numeracy Skills
- Psycho-social Counselling
- Information Sharing, Awareness Raising Campaign, and Sensitization for Behaviour Change and Social Norms Establishment (Child Rights, Human Rights, and Woman Rights)
- Adult and Girls Champion Mobilization
- Technology Transfer (Vocational and Life Skills)
- Zero Discrimination (Tolerance)
- Women, Adolescent, and Youth Engagement for Child Protection
- Inclusive Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change
- Water Sanitation and Hygiene
- Socio-economic Empowerment of Women and Youth
- Strengthening Civil Society and Local Government for Good Governance
- Conflict Resolution and Peace Building
- Advocacy

1.9 Strategic approach

Community engagement

The uniqueness of LIFE Nepal is engaging the communities i.e. support groups in the project cycle management i.e. need assessment, issue prioritization, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. It believes that the interventions can only succeed when the key stakeholders are engaged in the program from the very beginning. The involvement of the community support groups likewise SMC (School Management Committee), PTA (Parent Teacher Association), child clubs at different levels and more

importantly local leaders meant that the project has become a community project. The involvement of the community has increased their vigilance in child protection.

Reached to unreached people

To reach the most marginalized community likewise Dalit, Janjati, Madhesi, Muslim, and children, including children with disability and girls, there will be no other choice rather than gender equity and social inclusion-GESI as experience by LIFE. Because people in the society due to social class, structures and culture always neglect these targeted groups. Therefore, LIFE first targets to ensure their participation in each aspect of the program likewise staff selection process, staffing, planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation. To mainstream them in the program policy and criteria of their participation and representation developed by the program and strictly implemented like at least 50% participation and representation of woman from a gender perspective and 35% participation, representation of marginalized community, i.e. Dalit (18%), Janjati (10%) and Muslim (4%) and people with disability (3%) from the social inclusion perspective. It's based on their population and representation in the community.

Networking and partnership

LIFE has taken networking and partnership as the key approach for the success of the program. LIFE believed that the partnership with different like-minded actors having diverse skills and competencies complements the program. More importantly, program interventions require a whole range of skills and competencies. Therefore, LIFE increased the partnership with other significant players, mainly the district line agencies likewise education, health, child protection, administration, women and child development offices, district development committees, NGOs, police and law enforcement officers, the probation and social welfare officers, the parent's/community members and a wide range of institutional partners at local and district levels.

Local resource mobilization

It is observed that there is a very less participation of targeted group people likewise women, Dalit, Janjati, Madheshi and Muslim both at RM./Municipality and district level planning and decision making processes. While the participation of children and people with disability seem negligible. They are sometimes participating for the formality only. Once they participated, their voices are not heard and plans are not prioritized and reflected in Rural Municipality and DCC (District Coordination Committee) level program plan and budget. 35% of the targeted group RM/Municipality budget in reference to local bodies' resource management and mobilization procedure is not even planned for them and utilized properly. Therefore, LIFE focuses on this area and ensures their active and meaningful participation in planning and decision-making process so that their voices and choices are reflected in RM and DCC level planning and targeted group's budget should be properly mobilized and utilized.

Human rights-based approach

LIFE will apply this approach in terms of empowering people to know and claim their rights and increasing the ability and accountability of individuals and institutions who are responsible for respecting, protecting and fulfilling rights. This approach will help LIFE to analyse inequalities which lie at the heart of development problems and redress discriminatory practices and unjust distributions of power that impede development progress and often result in groups of people being left behind. Furthermore, it will help to empower the most vulnerable people to participate in decision-making processes. Similarly, it will strengthen the capacity of duty-bearers who have the obligation to respect, protect, promote, and fulfil human rights. Rights-holders are individuals or social groups.

Do No Harm principle

LIFE has been practicing safeguarding policies for the protection and safeguarding of the project beneficiaries, staff and stakeholders. In addition to that, LIFE has an effective complaint response mechanism that enables beneficiaries and stakeholders to raise their voice, and that voice is heard at all levels. Through these tools, LIFE will inform all the components of the project interventions and related information to the beneficiaries. Similarly, LIFE will apply this approach in the targeted communities so that project causes no any complications, or harms to the beneficiaries and they should pay for anything from conflict sensitivity and confidentiality perspective.

2 Noteworthy Change with Tactical Associations

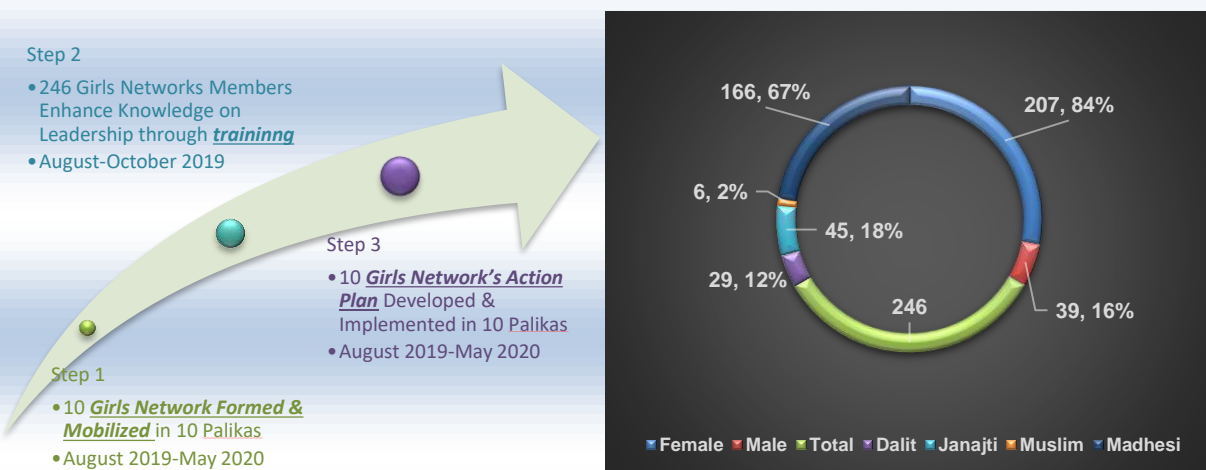
2.1 Ending Child Marriage

<https://lifefnepal.org.np/ending-child-marriage/>

2.1.1 Advancing Girls' Leadership by Working Directly with Girls

To advance the overall leadership of the girls, the "Ending Child Marriage" project facilitated forming 10 girls network in 10 Palikas (1. Janakpur Sub-Metropolitan City, 2. Chhreshwar Nath, 3. Mithila Bihari, 4. Shaid Nagar, 5. Dhanushadham, 6. Mithila, 7. Sahid Nagar Municipality, 8. Bateswar, 9. Janak Nandani, and 10. Laxminiya Rural Municipality) of Dhanusha district of Province No.2 Nepal first. After that, 246 members of girls' network (girls 207, boys 39, Dalit 29, Janajati 45, Muslim 6, and Madhesi 166) enhanced their knowledge of overall leadership development, laws and policies of the government of Nepal against child marriage and its consequence on health. Finally, all 10 girls' networks developed their plan of actions and implemented at the school level (10).

Based on the plan of action of girls' network, 207 girls mobilized and engaged in the school and community. They collected information of 73 potential cases of early or child



marriage, did home visit of those households and motivated and counselled to parents of 73 girls/boys. Finally, they convinced and stopped the marriage of 20 children. In this way, they were prevented from the incidence of early/child marriages. In addition to that, they conducted extracurricular activities like poem, storytelling, debate, quiz contest, street drama against child or early marriage, and rally with the facilitation, technical guidance and monitoring of 10 girls' champion and gender focal teacher of concerned schools. These activities helped in informing, sensitizing, and transferring knowledge of the ill effect of early marriage on the reproductive health, right to education, menstruation health, and their rights protected, especially abuse by friends and teachers to other students of the school and their parents. In this way, the project advanced leadership

capacity of 207 girls network members and 10 girls champion through organizing, empowering, ensuring their active participation, and rigorous engagement in the implementation of girls led activities to jointly fight against early or child marriage.

2.1.2 Mobilizing Families, Communities, and Influencers



The project mobilized girls champion as an individual, engaged mothers and parents at family level, broadcasted radio jingle and organized street drama for communities, disseminated behaviour change communication materials to local governments and schools at institutional level, and finally participated religious leaders-an influencer in a dialogue. In doing so, the project enhanced the facilitation capacity of 10 girls champion with their clearer roles and responsibilities for conducting awareness and advocacy campaign against child marriage and mobilized them in the community for facilitating 224 child protection sessions to mothers and parents' groups by applying Problem Analysis and Solving Approach (PASA) and Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials. "Say No to Marriage Before 20 years" campaign started by Girls Champions in the project area.

These sessions assisted mothers and parent's dedicated towards sending girls to school and committed for no marriage before 20 years. Finally, some parents and mothers started to send girls regularly to school contributed in improving retention of girls in schools. In addition to that, mother and parents who participated in the sessions shared their knowledge and convinced other community people and boycott the social ceremony of early marriages as well. The dissemination of four radio jingles through local

FM/radio, distribution of 7000 behaviour change Poster, Pamphlets, Flex Print, Stickers, and Bulletin to 10 schools and 10 Palikas, and demonstration of 10 street dramas in local language with the message of consequences of early marriage on reproductive health, and legal rights of girls and laws of the government of Nepal against child marriage, informed, aware, and sensitized about 13000 community people. Finally, a series of dialogues informed 498 Religious Leaders about laws and provisions of the government of Nepal, sensitized against child marriage, enabled for making their commitment to stop child marriage in their community and social boycott who got child marriage.

2.1.3 Providing Direct Services to at-risk, Married, and Formerly Married Girls



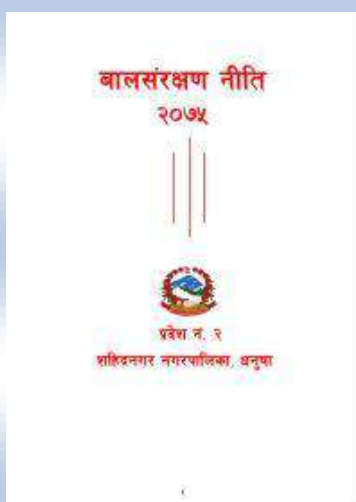
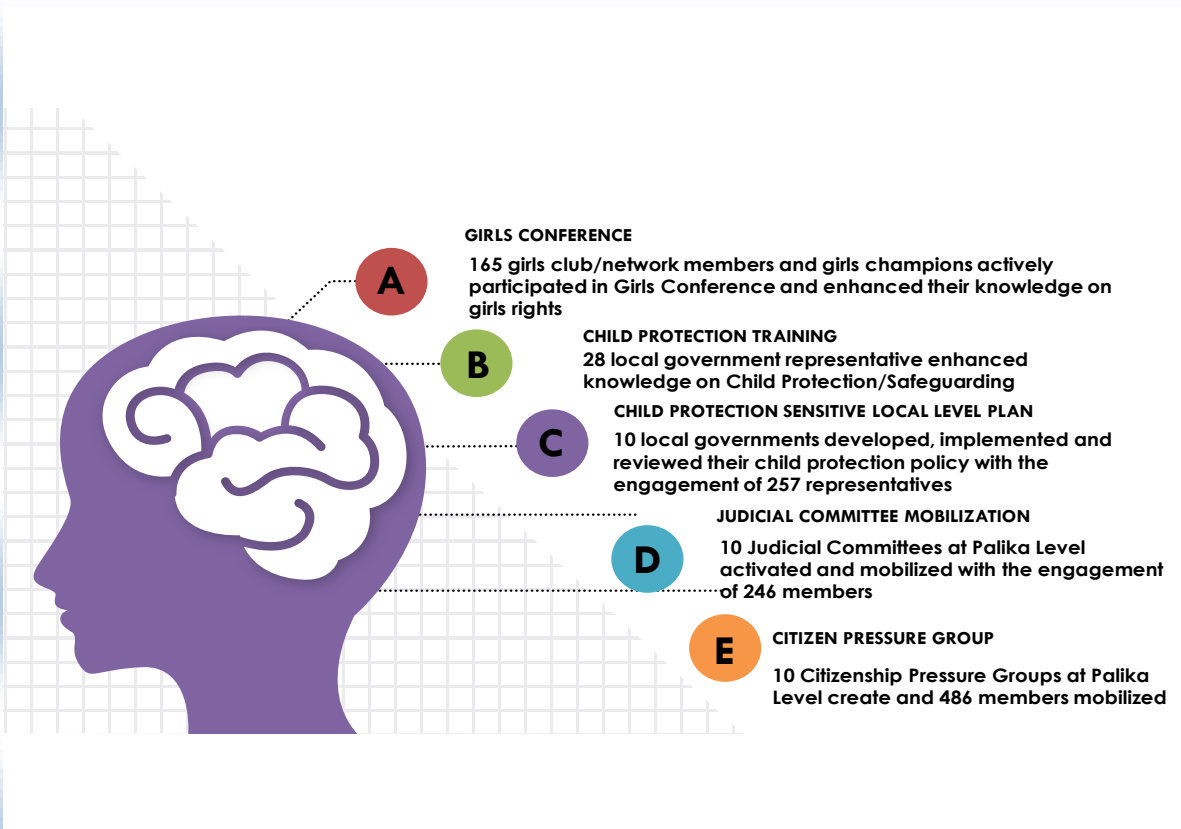
All 73 cases of child or early marriages recorded in 10 Palikas documented and reported to 10 Judicial Committees with copy to Women and Children Cell at district level. In addition to that, 10 married girls who are financially in need provided vocational skill (tailoring) and assisted with machine as seed money. Finally, they started their stitching shop a small business. It helped to increase their self-confidence and improve daily income.

2.1.4 Advocating for the Establishment and Implementation of Effective Laws and Policies

One of the major tools applied by this project in advocating for the establishment and implementation of provincial level laws and policies against child marriage was girls champion where 165 girls network members, girls champion, local and provincial stakeholders actively participated, reviewed the existing status of child marriage in Province no. 2, and completed 7-point declaration for child protection. In the same way,

project enhanced the technical capacity of 28 local government representative and executive officers to develop 10 local level child protection sensitive policy, implement, and monitor the policy/plan with the engagement of 257 local level key stakeholders.

In doing so, the project activated 10 judicial committees at Palika level and mobilized 246 members as well as created 10 citizen pressure groups with mobilization of 486



community key stakeholders. Finally, local governments aware about the federal level laws and policies against child marriage and realized the need of local level safeguarding and child protection policy with their roles and responsibilities. This helped to enable 10 Palikas to develop their child protection policy, endorse by concerned Paliaks, and make circulation to contact at Palika before marriage to reduce the incidence of early/child marriage. Similarly, 10 Judicial committee became able to stop the incidence of child marriage in their Palikas. Besides that, they involved in awareness raising, data updated and successfully delivering justice in the community. In addition, citizen pressure groups are working as a watchdog in the community against child

marriage.

2.1.5 Induction, Monitoring, Learning, and Communication



The Significant Changes

Success Story 1: Campaign of Say to No Marriage Before 20 Years Started from Girls Champion



This case study is based on interviewing Rina Kumari Das, a resident of Dhabauli village of Dhanusha district. Rina Kumari Das is a 19 years old girl and belongs to a dalit community from Dhabauli village of Shahid Nagar Municipality of Dhanusha district. A village is characterized by low literacy, poverty and limited income opportunities. These limited opportunities made parents to marry her daughters off early to reduce financial burden - and in the hope their daughter will be looked after by their husband.

She used to look after household & farming things, which every girl must do as far as other girls in her community does according to her parent. Despite busy in doing household work, she manages to go to nearby government school to pursue her education. Later, she came in contact with a boy named Raju (name changed) from the same village with whom she started communicating using social media, phone conversation, texting. Raju and Rina started to spend time together and in this way they became very close to each other. Rina felt in love with him and wanted to marry as they belong to same caste.

The problem arises when she posted some of her private photograph with her boyfriend on the social media. Now the entire village gets to know their love affair and started whispering about their relationship. Rina's parents wanted to marry her in any condition as their reputation was at high risk and started to search for a suitable boy from their caste. But Rina only wanted to marry with Raju, so she couldn't figure out what to do.

One day, Rina came in contact with LIFE Nepal where she was counselled not to marry at her age as she was just 19 and her health will be badly affected and this is also against the law to marry before 20. Finally, Rina realized and promised not to marry before 20 and also convinced her parents.

Now, she is working as a Girls Champion under **Ending Child Marriage and Promoting Girls Education** program implemented by LIFE Nepal and actively organizing a campaign against child marriage in her community. She is thankful to LIFE Nepal who brought such a nice project to stop child marriage to her community where girls are easily married before 20. She shared that there is a huge need of creating awareness among community people.

Success Story: Child Marriage Survivor gets free from Social Stigma with Improved Income

<https://lifenepal.org.np/child-marriage-survivor-gets-free-from-social-stigma/>

This case study is based on the in **depth interview** with and **observation** of Asha Kumari Raut (changed name) 9, a resident of Sohani, ward no. 14, Janakpurdham Sub-Metropolitan City.

She grew up in a **lower-middle class family** and right now living with parents after the **death of her husband in motorbike accident**. Her father is working in a factory and mother is a housewife.

Due to the **traditional culture and believes** she gets **married early** at the age of just 12 years for managing the pride of family and society. Finally, she became a **drop out from the school** when she was studying at grade 7.



After the death of her husband, she became alone with her two sons (four and two years). Her financial condition is also very weak as breadwinner of her family is no one. Her economic status rapidly went downhill (**economic crisis**). She became in a trouble in raising her children.

The project **selected Asha and participated in the vocational training in relation to response the child marriage survivor**. In addition, project **supported sewing machine as a seed money**. After the training, she **started sewing clothes of her neighbours** that **contributed in her daily earning and saving**. After that, she **added a small business of general stores** along with a small tailoring shop at her own house as well.

However, she **faced a pain of social stigma** that she would not be offered

for stitching the clothes by customers because they had the belief that if they wear then something unexpected might be happen for them as she is a single woman.

The project staffs **counsel her and the neighbours** as well. Now, the situation is improving gradually and people are coming to her for the stitching. In addition, she was **encouraged to continue her education**.

However, she expressed that she is interested but it is not possible for her right now having the responsibly of two children and financial burden. Hence the project is **facilitating to her that at least enrol her child at early childhood development centre** and has planned to support (stationaries and education materials) educating her child.

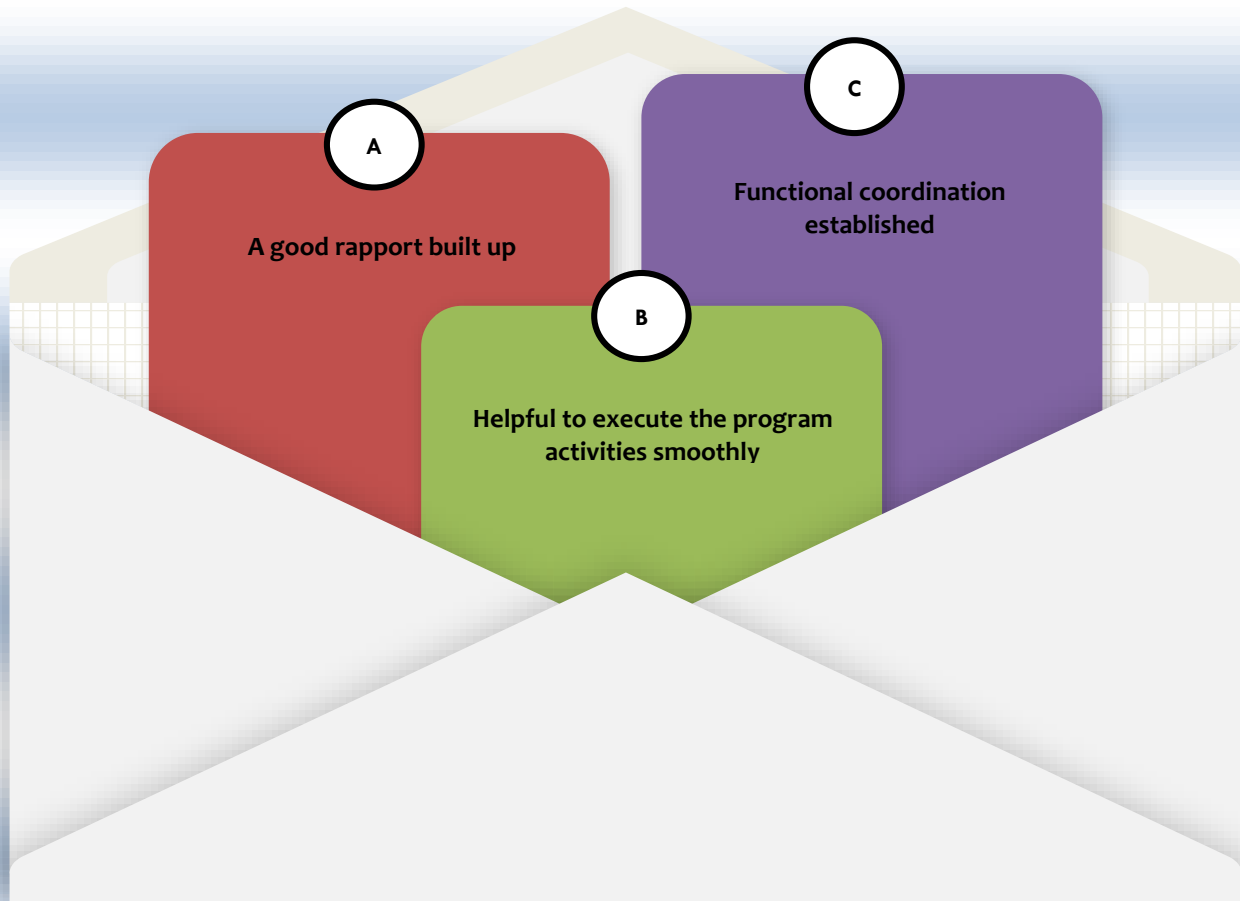
Now she is very **happy**. She **feels relief from the social stigma and financial burden**. She expressed that this is a good initiative of LIFE Nepal/GFF which is providing a platform for those girls who became a victim of child marriage (like me) and doesn't have any skill to generate income for her family. She feels very lucky to be a part of this training. She added that no one should suffer like me. Child marriage is a course especially for girls living in a conservative society and must be eliminated from our society so that every girl can live long and healthy life. She suggested every parents not to marry their daughter before 20 or against their will.

Finally, **it is learned that a small support (seed money) and minor initiations (skill training, counselling, encouragement and facilitation) could bring the change in the life of the people and make them happy**.

2.2 Psychosocial Support to Girls and Boys Vulnerable to Child Marriage and Violent Discipline extended MHPSS response to COVID-19

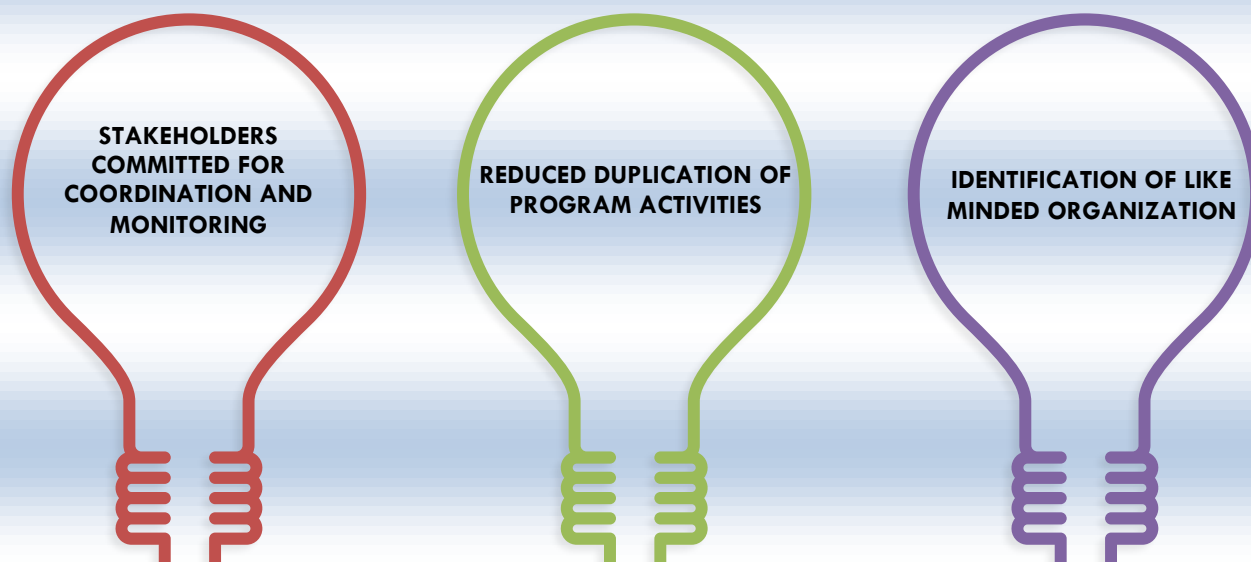
<https://lifeneal.org.np/psycho-social-support-program/>

2.2.1 Coordination with Government Agencies and Key Stakeholders



LIFE visited, coordinated and consulted with concerned institutions Ministry of Social Development, Province No. 2, Women and Children Development Unit, District Police Office, Women and Children Service, GBV (Gender Based Violence) Control Network, Janakpurdham Sub-Metropolitan City, Mithila Municipality, Dhanusha and Jaleshwar Municipality, Mahottari several times. Where the team member of LIFE had shared program objectives and its features with them. The main objective of the coordination was to inform them about the program, collect their commitment of coordination at provincial and municipality level. Finally, a good rapport built up and functional coordination established both at municipality and provincial level. It helped to execute the program activities smoothly at municipality level where they assisted the team of LIFE in terms of coordination and informing key stakeholders for the participation in the program activities and valuable support from their sides.

2.2.2 Meeting with Provincial Stakeholders



LIFE organized an inception meeting on with the province level stakeholders for sharing the programme details of Psychosocial Support to Girls and Boys Vulnerable to Child Marriage and Violent Discipline supported by **TPO Nepal** and **UNICEF**. There were altogether 38 key persons (Male 20, Female 18) participated from Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Education Officers, Health Officer, Psychosocial Counsellors, representatives of 3 Palikas (Janakpurdham Sub-Metropolitan city, Mithila Municipality and Jaleshwar Municipality), representatives of Development Agencies, District Police Office (Women and Child Service Centre), GBV control network in-charge and representatives from NGOs directly and indirectly involve in programs related to mental health and psychosocial well-being. In the meeting LIFE shared the objective of program and its key features along with their coordination and monitoring role. Finally, they exposed their commitment of coordination and monitoring support. The meeting was helpful in terms of identifying the like-minded organizations working in the similar area. It was found that only WOREC is working in the area of psychosocial counselling. Finally, LIFE coordinated with WOREC in relation to reduce the duplication of the program activities and develop a synergy of program and targeted more beneficiaries.

2.2.3 Meetings and Workshops at School and Community Level

Total five meetings with CPSW's were organized by LIFE in this reporting period. In addition to that, 3 community and 5 school level orientations were accomplished. The details of meetings/workshops with participation are given below:

Monthly meeting with CPSWs

Date	Meetings/Workshops	# of Participants		
		Male	Female	Total
27 Jan to 3 Feb 2020	Workshop on community & school level orientation to CPSW's	2	7	9
9 Feb 2020	Review of activities and plan for next orientations	2	7	9
16 Feb 2020	Progress sharing meeting	3	7	10
28 Feb 2020	Sharing and planning meeting	2	7	9
15 March 2020	Monthly sharing meeting	3	6	9
	Total	12	34	46

Through monthly meeting total 46 persons reached. The main objective of the meeting was to review the progress of the program and plan for the next period. Finally, they enhanced their knowledge on the essential of psychosocial counseling to the victim of child marriage and violent discipline.

Community level orientations

Date	Location	# of Participants		
		Male	Female	Total
5 Feb 2020	Mithila Municipality, Ward no.7	9	23	32
6 Feb 2020	Janakpur Sub-Metropolitan, Ward no. 14	7	10	17
7 Feb 2020	Jaleshwar Municipality, Ward no. 8	7	25	32
	Total	23	58	81

Similarly, 81 key community stakeholders reached through community level program orientations. They enhance their knowledge on the key components and requirements of psychosocial for their communities in relation to counsel the victims of child marriage and violent discipline for their normalization. In the same way, 82 school students were reached through school level orientation programs. They also enhance their knowledge on the need of psychosocial program and their roles and responsibilities for that.

School level orientations

Date	Location	# of Participants		
		Male	Female	Total
18 Feb 2020	Shree Saraswati SS, Kanakpatti	6	22	28
19 Feb 2020	Shree SS, Kemplipur, Mithila Municipality	14	18	32
25 Feb 2020	Shree SS, Kuwarampur, Janakpur	5	17	22
	Total	25	57	82

2.2.4 Capacity Building of CPSW's

With the technical and financial support from **TPO Nepal** and **UNICEF**, LIFE Nepal conducted 7 days' residential capacity building training to Community Based Psychosocial Workers (CPSWs) at Hotel Sitasharan, Janakpur. Total **13 CPSWs (Female 7, Male 6)** were participated in the training from Dhanusha and Parsa districts. The key objectives of the training were:

- To provide basic knowledge on psychosocial support and its need in the community.
- To equip CPSWs with facilitation skills (use of tools and message delivery techniques) on conducting assessment, meetings/workshops, case identification in the community.
- To develop common understanding on the role and responsibilities of CPSWs in local structures (coordination, facilitation and lobby with respective ward, local government, Head Teachers).

Finally, 13 CPSW were enhanced their knowledge of facilitation skills, tools and techniques of psychosocial counselling. They are now mobilized in the targeted communities and counselling to the victims of child marriage and violent discipline in close coordination with concerned schools and municipalities.

2.2.5 Psychosocial Counselling

After the psychosocial counselling training, 13 CPSWs were mobilized at municipality level in coordination with concerned municipalities. In total, 182 cases related to psychosocial problems were reported by them. The cases were identified and further referred by CPSW. The details of case are as follows:

Total No. of Cases	Identified Symptoms	Psychosocial support given	Tension Management Session
182 (Girls above 12 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Angriiness ▪ Fear ▪ Worried ▪ Weakness in study ▪ Lots of appetite ▪ Sleeping disturbance ▪ Ear problem ▪ Difficult in concentration ▪ Difficult in regular work and home work 	86	96
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Informed about TPO Nepal and its work in the area of psychosocial in Nepal ▪ Information about anger management ▪ Counting exercise for sleeping disturbance ▪ Deep breathing exercise 	

Reached



2.3 Humanitarian Program: Risk Communication and Community Engagement on COVID

<https://lifeneal.org.np/awareness-campaign-about-covid-19-pandemic/>

2.3.1 Campaign for Corona-Virus (CfC)

LIFE aware 1121764 community people on COVID including 95328 children and adolescents in 29 Palikas of Province 2 through megaphone announcement by mobilizing local volunteers' (<https://lifeneal.org.np/category/events/>), 12 radio PSA (public service announcement) broadcasting in local languages, Maithali, Bhojpuri, and Bajjika through 32 local FMs of eight districts, i.e. Dhanusha, Mahottari, Sarlahi, Rautahat, Siraha, Saptari, Bara, and Parsa, IEC materials like two types of 10000 posters and 25000 flyers translation in local languages, printing, and dissemination, and 29 (education-6, health-5, psychosocial health 3, nutrition 2, protection 3, COVID prevention 5, and others 3) video talk program on COVID through local TV channel (<https://lifeneal.org.np/videos/>). For that UNICEF and MRGE technically and financially assisted LIFE.

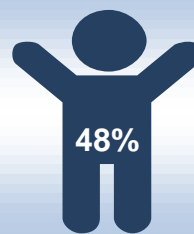


2.3.2 Learning Package Distribution to School Children



LIFE Nepal distributed 3602 sets of learning package to students (1746 boys, 1856 girls) of 19 schools in Dhanusha (8), Rautahat (4), Parsa (3), and Siraha (4) districts of Province No.2 in close coordination with Mayor of Mithila Bihari Municipality and

Director of Education Development Directorate, Province 2 with the financial assistance of UNICEF.



2.3.3 Disaster Risk Management



LIFE technically assisted four local governments, i.e. Sahidnagar and Sabaila of Dhanusha, Ishnath and Rajpur of Rautahat district of Province No.2 for the preparation of local disaster and climate resilience plan (LDCRP) including COVID response and preparation of flood. In doing so, LIFE

organized a simulation on flood in Sahidnagar Municipality of Dhanusha with the technical and financial assistance of UNICEF (<https://lifenepl.org.np/simulation-on-flood/>). In addition to that, LIFE assisted Flood Rescue Materials like Life Jacket, Swimming Tube, Siren, Throw Bag, Rope, Hand Mike, and Helmets to those Municipalities (<https://lifenepl.org.np/flood-rescue-materials-hand-over-to-local-governments/>).



2.4 Volunteer Mobilization Program

<https://lifenepl.org.np/volunteer-mobilization-program/>



LIFE Nepal implemented Volunteer Mobilization Program where it established Sports Hub, Children Park and Life Skill Training Centre in Saraswati School, Janakpur with the assistance from MY CORPS MALAYSIA which is inaugurated by Honorable Minister Mr. Gyanendra Kumar Yadav.

2.5 Youth and Adolescent Engagement on Child Marriage Program



LIFE has been implementing youth and adolescent engagement on child marriage program in all 136 Palikas of Province No.2 Nepal with the technical and financial assistance of UNICEF. Under this program LIFE organized a Provincial Level Workshop on Engagement of Youth and Adolescent for Inter-

Generational Dialogue on Child Marriage and U-Report at Hotel Sitasharan, Janakpur (<https://lifeneal.org.np/provincial-level-workshop-on-engagement-of-youth-and-adolescent/>).

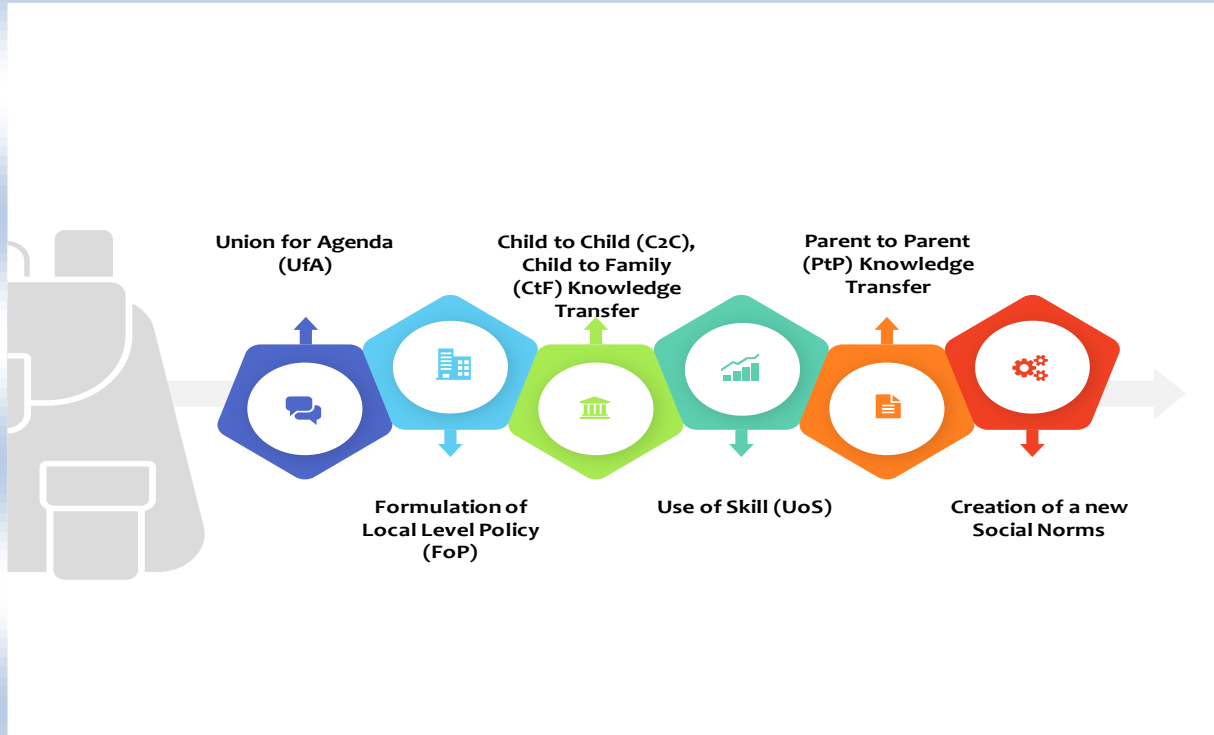
3 Advocacy

Seven-point declaration through Girls Champion for Advocacy on Ending Child Marriage

1. We all stakeholders will assist to the “Save Daughter, Educate Daughter” Campaign of Provincial Government of Province 2
2. We will support to declare child marriage free society, municipality, district and province
3. We will socially disregard child marriage
4. We will support the campaign of bringing all the out of school girls into school
5. We will ensure there should be no any kind of violence, abuse and discrimination against girls
6. We will assist to violence free school
7. We all stakeholders, organizations, local and provincial governments will develop child protection policy, code of conduct, plan and implement it in favour of girls



4 Good Practices with Innovation



Union for Agenda (UfA): All key actors and institutions like girls’ network, girls’ champion, beneficiary, parent, local leaders, judicial committees, local government representatives united for the agenda of “child marriage” and acted (Coordinated, Communicated, collaborated “3C”) jointly “to stop child marriage”.

Child to Child (C2C), Child to Family (CtF) Knowledge Transfer: Girls network members are informed, sensitizing, and transferring knowledge of the ill effect of early marriage on the reproductive health, right to education, menstruation health, and their rights protection especially abuse by friends and teachers to other students of school and their parents.

Parent to Parent (PtP) Knowledge Transfer: mother and parents who participated in the child protection sessions shared their knowledge and convinced other community people.

Creation of a new Social Norms: Mother, parents, and religious leaders boycott the social ceremony of early marriages.

Use of Skill (UoS): After the vocational training young woman started own small business that helped to increase their self-confidence and improve daily income to cope with the economic crisis during COVID-19 pandemic days.

Formulation of Local Level Policy (FoP): Mayor of Mithila Bihari Municipality circulated a decision on registration of marital records before marriage was a powerful local level policy for the communities' people to stop the practices of child marriage.



5 Peoples Voices

Testimonial 1



"The "Ending Child Marriage" program is very good initiative by LIFE Nepal in Province No. 2. It is contributing to our "Beti Padhau, Beti Bachau" campaign. There will be our full support to make success this campaign and program. My wish is for the entire team of LIFE Nepal for successful of this programme."

-Mr. Lal Babu Raut, Chief Minister, Province No. 2

Testimonial 2



Life Nepal always starts an innovative program. Ending child marriage is also one of the appreciative program. It is playing a vital role in empowering the parent as well as Girls child. She told that mothers could play a very important role for making the life of their child. Therefore, giving a message to mother group's like "Be kind and loving in your regular interactions with your children specially girl's child." is crucial. We will support this program from our municipality.

-Mrs. Indrakala Devi Yadav, Deputy Chairperson, Laxminiya Rural Municipality

Testimonial 3



Ending child marriage program is very good and supportive for us. It is supporting to promote girl's education. We also support to this campaign from our Rural municipality. We are going to announce that to record the information of child marriage in our municipality. If any child marriage happens the judicial committee of the Palika will take an action.

-Mr. Bijaya Shankar Sah, Mayor, Sabaila Municipality

Testimonial 4



We appreciate the ending child marriage campaign. Child marriage is the social crime especially in province no.2. This programme helps to eradicate the child marriage. We also support from our ministry. This project is also supporting aware the community people.

-Mrs. Dev Kumari Khattri, Chief of Social Development, Ministry of Social Development, Province-2

Testimonial 5

A community can be free of issues like child marriage, if the community's major stakeholder like ward chairperson allows marriage of any girls or boys only after recording the marriage acceptance application, checking and verifying all the details of



the participants. He added that these kinds of programs really raise awareness in the communities by educating young and future generation of the nation about the child marriage and its consequences. Also in a learning place, both young girls and boys should be motivated and aware about consequences of child marriage, life-carrier, health and education.

-Mr. Anil Kumar Yadav, Mayor, Mithila Bihari Municipality

Testimonial 6

In Terai, child marriage is still on practice, many youths, community members are still unaware about the side effects of child marriage. To end this issue, education can be played in mainstream with good consultation starting from home. She added that the program like safeguarding girl's interest and ending child marriage program in different levels, plays big roles to eradicate the issue of child marriage in Terai.



-Mrs Tara Basnet, Deputy Mayor, Mithila Municipality

Testimonial 7



Communities should be free of gender violence and empower girls in every way. Girls\ women should be given opportunities from her school days, she should be allowed to study up to the level she wants to, should be allowed to participate in any field she wants to, and coming to the point, girls should be married at any age she wants to: child marriage should not be practiced.

-Subhadra Aale, Treasure, Gender Violence Control Committee, Dhanusha

Testimonial 8

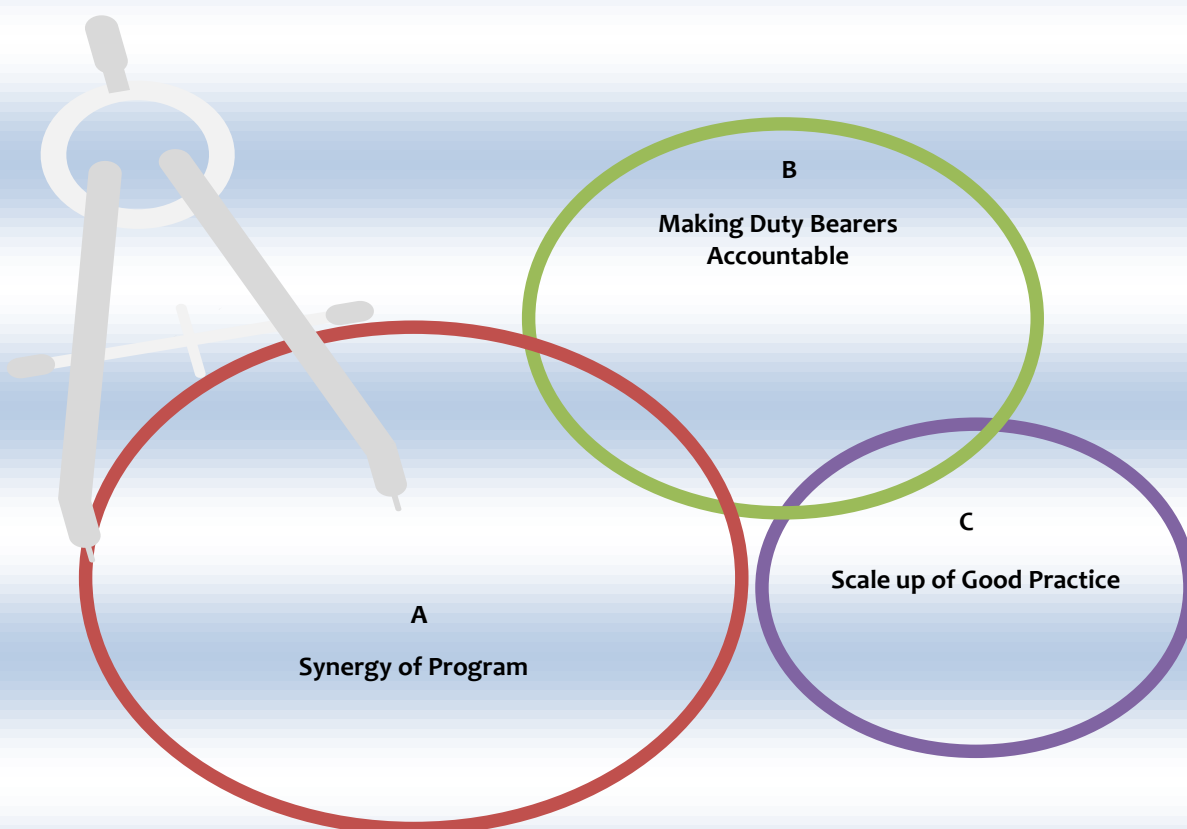
Before aware people about child marriage, first the youths should be given a proper knowledge about child marriage and its consequences. A society can be changed only through education and government strict laws against it. Government should make a definite law for child marriage in every community of the Terai like recording at the Ward Office before any marriage so that the religious priest can go with the procedure without any fear of child marriage as religious priests make people marry in the communities.



-Man Bahadur Lama, Religious Leader

6 Lesson Learned

The lessons learned by LIFE Nepal in this reporting period are:



Synergy of Program: Through this program, people are aware, unite for the agenda of child marriage, stopping child marriage disregarding child marriage through setting a new social norm of boycott child marriage ceremony, developing local level policy for ending child marriage, declaring child marriage free society, sending girls to school. However, still have to work for no any form of violence, abuse and discrimination against girls to establish a violence free school in line with the 7-point declaration of provincial government. Therefore, the program activities should be tied up with the activities like an insurance policy for girls, cycle distribution for girls' access to education (information dissemination to community people) of the Campaign of Provincial Government of Province 2, i.e. "Save Daughter, Educate Daughter".

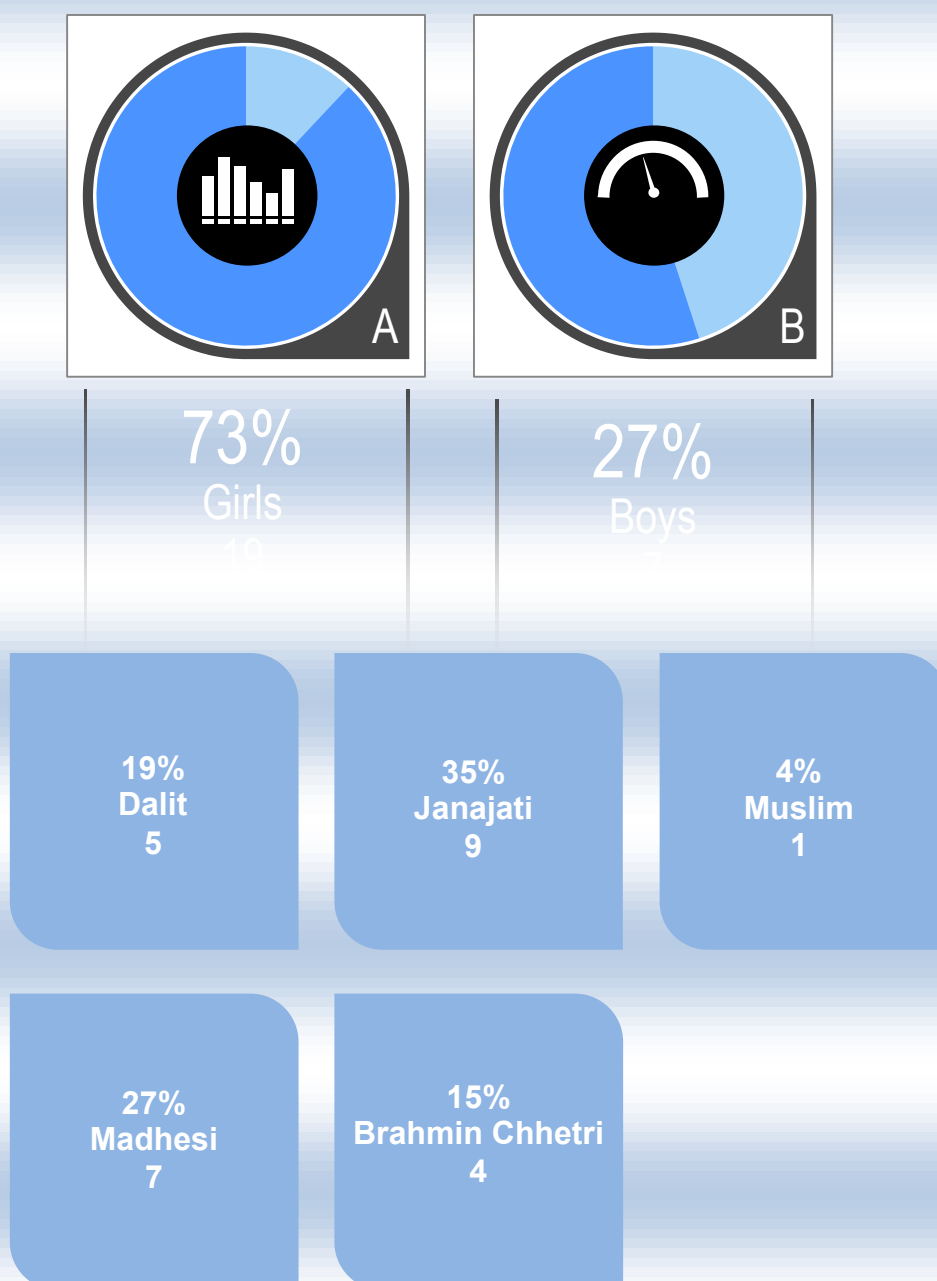
Making Duty Bearers Accountable: As we all are familiar that, in the context of Nepal commitments are generally made, policies and plans are developed, however, the implementation and monitoring part are weak. Hence, keeping this scenario in mind, LIFE should frequently follow, coordinate with the local and provincial governments

to influence and make them accountable for the implementation of their commitments for child protection like ensuring no any kind of violence, abuse and discrimination against girls, establishing violence free school and proper implementation of local and provincial level child protection policy, code of conduct, plan and monitoring in favour of girls.

Scale up of Good Practice: During this tenure project stakeholders and beneficiaries show unique characteristics like union for child marriage agenda, peer-to-peer knowledge transfer, creation of new social norms for ending child marriage, use of vocational skills for improving economy, formation of local level policy against child marriage, and knowledge management and communication. Those practices will be continued in the second phase of the program.

7 Human Resources Mobilized

LIFE Nepal is committed for guaranteeing gender equality and social inclusion through ensuring the participation of Dalit, religious minority and Janajati in the decision making position of the organization. Hence like the officer level positions is engaged by of Dalit and Janajati community people. There is 56.25% presentation of female and 81.25% staffs from minority in the organization.



Supporting Hands

unicef 
for every child

TPO  Nepal
PEACE OF MIND


Girls First Fund



LIFE Nepal

For Child Rights Protection

“Information is the means of empowering people”

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