

Civil Society Organizations' Contribution in Development of Nepal

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Preface

Executive Summary

A. Introduction:

The study aims to highlight Civil Society Organizations' immense contribution in Nepali society. For the institutional values and democratic sustainability, CSOs roles needed to be addressed to have breakthrough from the mindset. Recognizing CSOs as a development actor of country, however this kind of mindset often has been neglected due to various factors. This might be current policies and law formation that is against of CSOs or other development actors. To mitigate and illustrate most forbidden consequences, study has widespread the primary information ascribing several meetings with multi experts from diverse field, this specific study tries to reflect its institutional values who have directly supported for the study come with this shape.

According to Social Welfare Council(*Source: SWC research paper on 50 CSOs*) there are more than 46,000 plus NGOs officially registered,3000 plus are active NGOs (renewed every year at SWC), 259 INGOs (21 INGOs based on reconstruction programmes)and many loose networks that are locally contributing for society. NGOs or INGOs invest NRs. 20 Billion every year in their project areas which is all most 15% of total government fund. Categorically, NGOs are blamed to be politicized (80% are financially supported by political party), donor driven, family based, elite access, religious and most often questioned about their sustainability so far. These are basically formed on service delivery sectors, geographical coverage, within country like NGOs or outside the country like INGOs and formal and informal groups.

However, it cannot be denied that CSOs have wisely contributed through their right based approach, expertise of long research and strong service delivery mechanism, have asserted their level of horizon. In this regard contextual drafting laws in new federal structure, the roles of civil society and their contribution should be acknowledged for the genuine cause as development actors. Considering democratic exercise which is required to address and emancipate their roles and bring their approach for the extensive recognition and reassessment so far. This report may be resource for those who can exercise and understand civic roles in development regime. The primary source of information is collected from desk review and interviews with key informants from various thematic experts to deliver its qualitative cause and the secondary source of information is collected with 5 focused group discussions from 7 provinces. Although this report may miss to include entire loose networks as well as other correspondences due to its budget and time limitation, at least 10 case studies have been collected to due understanding on 5 different thematic areas. To assess and document the role of CSOs there are i) Democracy, ii) Good Governance (8 indicators of world governance indicator), iii) Empowerment, iv) Livelihood and v) Service Delivery categories specifically designed to cite the most contribution in Nepali society.

B. Methodology

The study was largely based on the secondary data which were collected by reviewing different development related documents especially polices, plans and programs of the Government of Nepal and other reports of UNDP, NPC including academic reports and researches have been done. 13th and 14th plans of Nepal, MDGs final status report, SSRP evaluation report, HDI

reports, and other relevant researches carried out in the field of CSOs were reviewed. In order to collect the primary qualitative data, the research team met I/NGOs representatives working in five development regions. Focus group discussion, Key Informant's Interviews and case study tools were applied to collect the primary qualitative data. The study activities carried out were:

- 10 case studies of the beneficiary of the programs of NGOs
- 5 FGDs with subject experts for each theme (democracy, good governance, empowerment, service delivery and livelihood)
- FGDs with 10 prominent persons of civil society organizations, government organizations, INGOs, planning commission, journalists were selected for each thematic FGD.
- KII with 10 national experts of five themes (2-2 participants for each theme)

The key findings were generated based on the common themes that emerged from the qualitative data analysis. The final report will be prepared incorporating the feedbacks from the series of consultation meetings with various stakeholders.

C. Major Findings

Key Findings – Thematic

1. Democracy

• Human Rights:

- *Social awareness created to fight against Panchayat system*
- *Then King Gyanendra took over firstly disapproved*
- *In conflict period, took first concrete step to resolve the conflict in Nepal.*
- *During conflict period, exposed the misdeeds and violations cases of conflicting parties. Raised voice for civil protection.*
- *From human rights perspectives, what were happening mistakes and how could it be resolved during conflict were first raised and knocked the doors of United Nations and other countries.*
- *The documentation of human rights violations in different places*
- *Agenda 19 was submitted in UN*
- *Role in analyzing the government programs and regular awareness of such programs in the public spheres, and do the program with exemplarily way*
- *Creation of different groups - AMA Samuha, Forest Users groups; Water Users Groups; Anti Corruption Groups; Youth Groups; Child Clubs; Human Rights Education Groups etc. formed. These are critical mass to monitor supervise and aware on government programs and projects.*
- *Role in ensuring people's ownership and participation in the programs and projects.*
- *Ratification of international laws/conventions where Nepal is state party or where Nepal is not state party till now like convention on disappeared; international criminal court, optional protocols of economic, social and cultural rights, role to advocate first on such concerns.*
- *Working for grassroots people and leading the civil movements.*

- *Making the government agencies accountable to the people through massive mobilization of different groups*
- *Number of networks developed among these groups including SMC, PTA, and other government structures.*
- *Successful Campaigns:*
- *Kamaiya Liberation Campaigns, Haliya Liberation, Issue of minimum remuneration, Reservation for women (in 1996 and government compelled to provide 20% reservation; now at least 33% at all state mechanism).*
- *Genuine campaigns raised in Nepal these have been in the process of institutionalization.*
- *Most of the provisions ensured in fundamental rights of the Constitution of Nepal, 2015.*
- *Supported to the state's initiatives as Citizenship, joint ownership of land (Male and Female) and vital registration*
- *Played vital role and contributed to aware people with wider coverage on the concept of democracy.*
- *People's apathy into expectation possible*
- *Constitutionally, there was the provision of Human Rights Commission so CSOs advocated to establish the Commission for that they were detained but afterwards Human Rights Commission was Established in Nepal.*
- *Role in building democratic institutions, bringing conceptual clarity on human rights issues, creating a space for dialogue on human rights and child rights issues, providing training to political leaders and cadres on emerging issues of human rights and rights based approach, and bringing conceptual clarity on human rights to the bureaucratic system including police.*
- *In conflict resolution, CSOs played important role in inducement for serious negotiations and ultimately the beginning of the politics of consensus; helped break people's apathy and indifference and inspired them to come out and the facilitation role during negotiations between the various Nepali state actors and the rebels show their contribution in conflict resolution in Nepal.*
- *Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights in Nepal are one of the most progressive in Asia. The Nepalese Constitution recognizes LGBT rights as fundamental rights. Nepal's current LGBT laws are some of the most open in the world and expand upon a multitude of rights for LGBT Nepalese.*
- *The Constitution of Nepal, 2015 has the fundamental rights of senior citizen in Article 41 as "senior citizens will have special protection from the government". Similarly, senior citizens act 2006 came into existence where there is a provision of petition file by a senior citizen if a family member, relative or heir who has the duty to maintain and care a senior citizen fails to keep with him or her and maintain and care.*

Child Rights:

- *From child rights perspectives; our constitution is relatively more progressive in the world.*

- *Bringing child rights and human rights issues meaningfully in the fundamental rights of the constitution.*
 - *Contributed from South Asian level to bring Convention on Child Rights, 1989.*
 - *Concrete provisions in the sector of child rights came into existence.*
 - *In the interim period, Nepal signed and ratified 11 human rights conventions at once including child rights convention.*
 - *Brought comprehensive Children Act in 1992.*
 - *Brought child rights regulations in 1995.*
 - *Establishment of Center Child Welfare Board and District Child Welfare Committee in 75 districts.*
 - *Massive campaigns on child rights like Global Education Campaign; National Education Campaign (Right to education, quality education, access to education etc); awareness on child health issues; social security of children (government commitments on block grants to girl child, disabled child and others)*
 - *Brought Child Labour Act in 1998.*
 - *During conflict period, concept of School as Zone of Peace (SZOP) and Class as Zone of Peace (CZOP) campaigns initiated.*
 - *Networks like NCEA (National Education Campaign for Education); CZOP and SZOP during conflict period; National Child Protection Forum for social security; Consortium on Child Participation for the promotion of child participation came into existence.*
 - *Started to talk with government for child friendly governance and MoFALD brought child friendly local governance framework, working regularly to make child friendly governance at grassroots level.*
 - *First intervention then incorporation and now inbuilt system has been developed in child rights sector*
 - *Around 500,000 children organized in different child clubs over the country. State has also recognized and implementing Child Friendly Local Governance (CFLG) in all over the country*
- **Women Rights**
 - *Right based approach for women empowerment was recognized after 9th five yearly plan in Nepal.*
 - *Single women protection fund was initiated by CSOs and later government recognized its essence.*
 - *The term 'inclusive' is generally pointed out by political leaders in Nepal which is devised by active women in Nepal.*
 - *80 % women (a community leader) who have elected representing from different political parties are also the contribution of CSOs through policy and advocacy mechanism.*
 - *Chhaupadi, Baikalya (a system to be married girl before starting her menstruation) the marriage system is abolished by High Court.*
 - *Meaningful participation of women in Nepal. Those who are elected in Constituent Assembly were the marginalized women who were leading 11 drafting committee*

- which is only possible through CSOs support and also the revised Muluki Ain itself is envisioned.*
- *A lot of policy advocacy for ensuring women rights*

2. Good Governance

- *The social change was only possible in Nepal due to the major contribution of CSOs.*
- *“During conflict period from 1995-2005, contributed even to preserve democracy in the country.*
- *Due to which the country was saved from going to dictatorial system. There was chance of dictatorship from Monarchy and from the Maoist also.*
- *Fought for the rights of people and contributed to aware people massively.*
- *The alternative thought to 12-point agreement was possible through the contribution from which our country turned to republic country.*
- *Campaigned at national and international level to provide space for Maoists to come into the mainstream of politics through 12 points peace accord.*
- *Massive discussion in the first Constituent Assembly from national and international experiences*
- *Contributed to the outcome in our Constitution as inclusive and non-discriminatory.*
- *Supported to create enabling environment for the elections of first and second CA through electoral education to the citizens, and election monitoring and supervision to ensure the free and fair elections.*
- *Due to the intervening, regular pressure and critical role, the political parties came into agreement to promulgate constitution sidelining their disagreement and differences. Played the role to ensure the credibility of second CA elections and the promulgated Constitution at national and international level.*
- *From governance point of view, to sustain democracy and to provide unanimity in the country, played a critical role in the country.*
- *Our inclusive and progressive constitution is because of the role, demand and regular pressure of CSOs where 31 fundamental rights are ensured.*
- *Constitution has recorded all international covenants and treaties.*
- *All human rights articles major provisions are now provisioned in our constitution like Beyond Beijing, ACCRA Agenda, BUSHAN, Paris Principles etc. are already onboard in our constitution, due to the contribution.*
- *Act and legal frameworks: Local Self Governance Act, 2055 and Regulation, 2056, Good Governance Act, 2064; Good Governance Regulations 2065; Right to Information Act 2064; Right to Information Rules 2065; Establishment of National Information Commission; Three Acts promulgated one at a time to promote the rights of CIAA in 2059; Anti Corruption Policy, 2065; Ratification of United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), Strengthening of National Surveillance Center, Department of Money Laundering, Department of Revenue Collection.*
- *In law making process of LSGA, there was high level of engagement of CSOs. All of the provisions (about 60%) mentioned in LSGA, 2055, are there in Local Governance Act now.*

- *Constitutional commissions: Dalit Commission, Women’s Commission, Muslim Commission etc. are also because of the regular and effective contribution . All those class based sensitization has now been institutionalized and it is because of CSOs. Different commissions ensured by the constitution of Nepal.*
- *Social Accountability 21 tools were purely developed by CSOs.*
- *Big contribution to launch Right to information, transparency and participation agenda and also CSOs contribution to launch Anti corruption Act.*
- *Corruption is a big issue in Nepal, it’s like a cycle but different campaigns are being carried out against corruption.*
- *In mid 90s or until 2000 Good Governance agenda taking as a cross cutting issue but now government is taking Good Governance agenda as a mainstream agenda.*
- *Contribution on Public/Social awareness rising.*
- *Contribution on introducing public hearing, public audit, application of social accountability tools, social audit etc., these are established and owned by Nepal government.*
- *Government has changed their perception and they introduced transparency mechanisms (Citizen charter, service delivery details)*

3. Empowerment

- *Women Empowerment:*
 - *Contributed to aware vulnerable people on the issues of human rights and democracy. Through these efforts, people became aware on the rights one by one so that today’s republic country has been possible.*
 - *To bring women out from their homes and make them aware on their rights, CSOs spent more time. Even after coming out from homes, contributed a lot for their capacity building and sensitization.*
 - *Cooperatives and micro finance initiatives and its multi facets impacts and adoption of the program by government*
 - *Women’s organized groups through cooperatives, and women loose networks and their contribution to make aware on women rights issues at grassroots level.*
 - *Contribution to empower women to ensure their participation at decision making level.*
 - *In our first CA, 33% women’s participation*
 - *In second CA it was 29 %.*
 - *The political parties are now sensitized to ensure women’s participation in portfolios.*
 - *Around 42% women were elected from local elections.*
 - *At least 33% ensured participation of women at all state mechanisms has been written in our constitution.*
 - *Constitution has assured women’s participation and empowerment issues with specific provisions*
 - *Rights of women are ensured in Article 38 of the constitution of Nepal.*

- *Nepal's Constitution does not permit discrimination on the basis of sex and it advocates special legal provisions to protect and advance the interests of women.*
- *The Local Self Governance Act (LSGA), 1999 also introduced mandatory representation of women in local government.*
- *The Ministry of Women and Social Welfare, established in 1995, was renamed the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MWCSW) in 2000. Nepal set up the National Women's Commission (NWC) in 2002 which is for the support of women rights.*
- *Single women Campaign also established as single women rights*
- *Women's issues were brought in the national and international forums through CEDAW and CSW by CSOs, which supported to make national laws and provisions for women rights at national level.*
- *Marital rape was penalized.*
- *Just recently, the parliament of Nepal has criminalized an ancient Hindu practice called Chhaupadi that banishes women from the home during menstruation and after childbirth.*
- *The parliament of Nepal has passed a law where polygamy will be automatically cancelled.*
- *Total of 11,622 elected women in different portfolios to members in Local Elections*
- *Achievements in Single Women Sector:*
 - *Over 100,000 single women are organized in groups. These single women are organized and trained to act as agents of change in their respective communities.*
 - *Lobbied with the government to collect data on widows and now Nepal is the second country in the South Asian Region after India to have data on widowhood at National level*
 - *Incorporated the issues of single women in 10th and 11th five-year plan and also in 3 year interim plan of Nepal which has helped to promote the issues of single women at national and international levels.*
 - *Formed the National Network for Single Women which includes the Ministry of Women and other national & international organizations*
 - *Trained and mobilized thousands of single women as change agents which resulted in decreasing violence at local level*
 - *Raised issues concerning the need for social security schemes for single women at the national level which has been reflected in the Directive Principles and Policies of the Constitution of Nepal, 2015.*
 - *For the first time in history The Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MoWCSW) announced its decision to set up an Emergency Trust Fund solely for the single women (widows) in Nepal and declared its decision to develop a National Action Plan for Widows in Nepal in which WHR will be included in drafting, preparing and enforcing this plan.*
 - *Nepalese Government allocated budget for the social security allowance (widows Allowances) to all the single women regardless of age in the 2068/069 National Policy and Programs*
 - *Establishment of Single Women Emergency Fund has been approved by Women Children and Social Welfare Ministry 5th June 2013.*
- *Total of 439 Chepang women in ecision making level in different organizations, groups and networks in Chitwan district only.*

- *Dalits and other Deprived Section of People's Empowerment:*
 - *Dalit rights have been ensured in the fundamental rights of the constitution of Nepal that means Dalits identity has been ensured which is great achievement in South Asia.*
 - *Dalits participation issue has been ensured in our constitution.*
 - *Provisions against untouchability and discrimination and provisions for access and participation ensured in the constitution of Nepal.*
 - *Establishment of constitutional National Dalit Commission.*
 - *Dalit Development Committee under MoFALD.*
 - *Advisory committee in the leadership of Prime Minister where Dalit community representation has been ensured.*
 - *High Level Executive Board in the leadership of chief-secretary where Dalit representation has been ensured.*
 - *District Coordination Center in each DDC where Dalit representation has been ensured.*
 - *Dalit desk in police station and courts.*
 - *Dalit problems were initially understood as the issues of untouchability only but now it has been established as inclusion in political party issue, inclusion in administrative sector, inclusion in election constituency etc.*
 - *Now issue has been raised on landless people and among landless Dalits are majority groups.*
 - *Inclusion process has been started to solve the problems of unemployment and reserved 9-15% seats are available for Dalits.*
 - *Different bad-costumes were abolished from Nepal like Haliya, Kamaiya. These are now in rehabilitation process.*
 - *Large group of Dalits are gradually being educated.*
 - *Nepal Governments budget for Chepang has mobilized up to 90% budget in education and awareness due to the regular lobby of CSOs.*
 - *The country is declared as "Untouchability Free Country". Caste Based Discrimination and Untouchability (Offence and Punishment) Act, 2068 (2011) came into existence to regulate the declaration.*
 - *At least 6000 women dalits have been come from local election through dalit quota and 75 dalit members came in District Coordination Committee.*
 - *13% representation rights of Dalits has been ensured in the constitution of Nepal.*
 - *Political parties also realized and they applied mandatory representation in local level election.*
 - *The government recognizes 59 indigenous nationalities and a process is underway to reclassify other groups that are seeking this recognition.*
 - *In 2007, Nepal formally acknowledged that indigenous peoples have suffered historic exclusion, limiting them in exercising their right to identity, with all the associated impacts on their participation in the overall development process.*

- *Nepal decided to ratify International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples.*
- *Nepal also endorsed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), following its adoption on 13 September 2007 by the United Nations General Assembly.*

4. Livelihood

- *Worked adequately in technology transform and technology innovation. Mainly on agriculture extension and experimentation. 90% CSOs have taken livelihood as cross cutting issue.*
- *Contribution to test the variety of food grains, test the variety of vegetables, breed selection process of small scale animals, worked in collaboration with government in Nepal.*
- *Contribution can be figured in small scale enterprising and middle scale enterprising.*
- *In people's enterprising, the government fund has been allocated in poverty alleviation fund and fund board and the CSOs are delivering their performance in basically livelihood with the use of such funds.*
- *Supported to build small scale infrastructure, physical assets, capital assets, and human resources through which adequate formation of financial capital has been happened like saving and credit groups, small scale banks, and investment in income generating activities.*
- *From natural resource assets, positive discrimination approach has been established. It means that there is access of Dalits, women, and other vulnerable groups to local funds, access to community forests, low interest loans etc.*
- *In human resource, the availability of local resource persons (LRP) is the human resource generated in the field of livelihood. There is availability of ginger LRP, tea LRP, Amliso LRP etc.*
- *Successful cases in poultry, goat rearing, pig rearing, vegetable farming, ginger farming etc. in livelihood sectors through which the income level of farmers has been increased massively which has contributed to the consumption pattern thereafter eventually the national economy of the country and social sector either.*
- *In resilient part, contributed more on immediate relief and rescue and some reconstruction works. Dhurmus-Suntali Sample village initiative was one of the remarkable contribution from people's side*
- *Some of the synergy with government programs were also initiated like Community Support Program of DFID where complete program implementation modalities were developed in consultation with VDC. The VDC plans were developed and on that plans CSOs supported either.*
- *Needy people approach of CSO*
- *Initiation of PAF and Fund Board (Assets to the people)*
- *Initiation to provide subsidy to the small farmers also*

- Contributed to livestock support. The package program has been initiated through which people's lives have been changed.
- Livelihood promotion has supported to social capital, increase in productivity and production, value chain actors' engagement and market promotion of livestock's products.
- CSOs contributed to spell out the concept of community forestry in Nepal. Community forestry is one of the successful cases of Nepal which has set its exemplary role in the field of forest conservation and its reciprocal benefits to the community securing livelihood and living standard of people.
- More than 130,000 user groups are involved in community forestry, with more than two million households benefitting from their management of 1.7 million hectares of community forests.
- Community forests have also created natural capital in the form of new forests, and improved existing forest conditions and biodiversity. According to a 2013 report from the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, forest conditions have improved overall since the handover to CFUGs, with 86 per cent showing improvements in forest conditions. This effect has been particularly pronounced in the mountainous regions, where CFUGs have significantly increased the area of forested land, thus reducing landslides and soil erosion, protecting watersheds, and increasing the country's agricultural output.
- In 2011, Nepal's Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation conducted an in-depth national survey of households in 137 CFUGs across the country, which concluded that community forests have increased the participation and incomes of the rural poor, women and Dalits (lower-caste groups). Community forests have also enhanced the capacity of local people for planning and implementing forestry and other development work.
- The economic benefits have been particularly pronounced. Besides the income generated by agriculture and the collection of raw forest products, CFUGs have also been engaged in on-site added-value processing of raw materials, with positive results for local economic development.
- The same government report showed that an average of 640 days of employment are created for each CFUG, which at an average salary of US\$2 per day (for unskilled manual labour). The study claims that CFUGs make an average profit of US\$1144 per year, totalling US\$13.7 million for CFUGs across the country.
- Contribution in livestock shelter; small farmers agro cooperatives; embankment; flood monitoring; breed basket

5. Service Delivery

- **Education:**
 - Basically the school building construction, school toilets, educational materials support, library support, construction of walls etc. were initiated and supported. Child enrollment campaigns, education for all campaigns, child friendly learning campaigns, girl child education

etc. were successfully initiated through which the score of Nepal in MDGs educational goals were achieved remarkably.

- *Nepal's very good progress on achieving universal primary education (large increases of the net enrolment ratio (NER) to 96.6, the survival rate to 89.4 percent and the literacy rate (15-24 years) to 88.6 percent (all 2013 figures).*
- *The gender parity ratio in primary level gross enrolment stood at 1.09 and the NER at 0.99 in 2015.*

Health:

- *The construction of health posts, supply of medicine and meals to the affected and mal-nutrient children, distribution of vitamin A, nutrient food distribution to pregnant and maternal women to massive awareness on health and sanitation issues; vaccine and immunization campaigns of government and collaboration of CSOs, awareness on HIV/AIDS, WASH awareness campaigns, ODF campaigns of government and collaboration by CSOs etc. were greatly initiated by CSOs in Nepal.*
- *Support effectively in total school sanitation and household WASH*
- *We can take example of Vitamin A. Now, Vitamin A deficiency is no longer a public health problem in Nepal. Today, 95 percent of the 3.3 million targeted children are reached in every round.*
- *Achieved all the targets under MDG 4 — reducing the infant mortality rate (IMR), reducing the under-five mortality rate (U5MR) and increasing immunization against measles.*
- *The IMR of 108 per 1,000 live births in 1990 and 64 in the year 2000 reduced to 33 per 1,000 live births in 2014 thereby achieving the MDG target early.*
- *The U5MR of 162 per 1,000 live births in 1990 and 91 in 2000 reduced to 38 per 1,000 live births in 2014.*
- *The immunization programme against measles has been successful as 92.6 percent of one-year old children were immunized against measles in 2015.*
- *Infrastructure:*
 - *In infrastructure sector, constructions of taps, bridges, school building, toilets were built.*
 - *We can take the example of RADO and Plan Nepal, which alone contributed effectively in infrastructure sector in Makwanpur district, Some contributions like:*
 - *Different gravity taps: 2493*
 - *School/toilet building: 72*
 - *Total Sanitation through CLTS-ODF/PODF:9348 toilets*
 - *Cooperative building: 43*
 - *Small irrigation projects: 93 hectars*
 - *Market shed: 17 building*
 - *Birthing center: 5*
 - *Agriculture access road: 21 KM*

- *Trial Bridge support: 22*
- *Model house construction:38*

D. Recommendations

- *In Nepal CSOs definition and roles are very unclear, state should have clear definition.*
- *Need to work seriously to improve internal and institutional governance of CSOs*
- *Need to create synergy to the development policies, plans and programs to support development aspects of the country. Donor and CSOs must align with Development plan of Nepal.*
- *There is a need of government-CSO consultative council as in other country to increase mutual understanding and cooperation between GOs and the CSOs for the overall development of the country.*
- *CSOs now need to work collectively for the common cause. No unhealthy competition among them.*
- *There is availability of expertise in CSOs so to utilize the expertise of CSOs, government should form an alliance and coordination to retrieve grassroots needs and response accordingly. This will intrinsically solicit state role and recognition.*
- *CSOs should work for organizational development and self empowerment measures*
- *Promote more investment on research, advocacy and monitoring, political transformation and change on power structure rather simply service contracting work.*
- *Need to work for ensuring meaningful participation of deprived and backward community. They are still lagging behind despite different efforts.*
- *Need to review working pattern and try to reach to most needed people or community. Need to come into next phase of working juncture where collective efforts and people's participation from designing to implementation and monitoring and evaluation should be ensured.*
- *CSOs work should be focused to contribute to facilitate the functioning of local bodies in the new structures so that new structures could work properly and effectively. The collaboration and coordination of CSOs with DDC now to be changed and channelized to local structures as municipality and rural municipality.*
- *Need to work on civic responsibilities part also*
- *There should be transparent in each activities at local level done by CSOs.*
- *strict government laws or policies should be applied to concise the prominence of CSOs those are not working properly.*
- *Avoid duplication with government's activities. Development is not possible without CSOs contribution, so state should update its different Act believing CSOs.*
- *It is utmost necessary to declare Nepal as OGP partner and initiate our practices in line with the values and beliefs of OGP and for that CSOs role to lobby with the government to be a part of this forum.*
- *Local Governments will be the main responsible agencies for the effective implementation of the SDGs at the ground level in Nepal. The constitution has allocated responsibilities to local Government that is directly related to the SDG targets. It can be realized that local governments will need to play a crucial role to achieve the SDGs. Now it is the duty of CSOs to analyze first the financial capacity and gaps in the local government in order to implement the SDGs. Without support from central government*

and development partners including CSOs and CBOs, the local governments of Nepal will not be able to implement SDGs. So, here CSOs contribute from their side to enrich coordination between development partners and government.

- *Govt. must recognize CSOs' contributions in the process of SDGs. The localization of SDGs is urgent to create ownership over them, and the process should include the participation of poor, vulnerable, Indigenous Peoples, women, youth and local communities. A participatory and inclusive as well as gender-focused process is urgently needed in order to involve them fully to achieve the goals of SDGs.*

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ART	Antiviral Therapy
BAN	Broadcasting Association of Nepal
CA	Constituent Assembly
CBO	Community Based Organization
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of the Discrimination Against Women
CFLG	Child Friendly Local Governance
CPN UML	Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist Lenin)
CRC	Convention on the Rights of a Child
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CSW	Commission of the Status of Women
CWIN	Children Working in Nepal
DAO	District Administration Office
DCC	District Coordination Committee
DDC	District Development Committee
DFID	Department of International Development
DWO	Dalit Welfare Organization
FAO	Food Agriculture Organization
FCHV	Female Community Health Volunteers
FEDO	Feminist Dalit Organization
FGD	Focused Group Discussion
FWLD	Forum for Women Law and Development
FY	Fiscal Year
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GPI	Gender Parity Index
GON	Government of Nepal
HDI	Human Development Index
HIV	Human Immune Deficiency Virus
HRTMCC	Human Rights Treaty Monitoring Center
IGA	Income Generating Activities
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
INGO	International Non-Government Organization
KII	Key Informant Interview
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
LRP	Local Resource Person
LSGA	Local Self Governance Act
MCHW	Mental Child Health Workers
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MMR	Measles Mumps and Rubella
MoFALD	Ministry of Federal and Local Development
MoWCSW	Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare
NER	Net Enrollment Ratio
NGO	Non Government Organization
NVAP	National Vitamin A Programme
NPC	National Planning Commission

ODF	Open Defecation Free
PTA	Parent Teacher Association
RADO	Rural Awareness and Development Organization
RDN	Rural Development Nepal
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SEW	Social Entrepreneur Cooperatives
SLVC	Smallholder Enterprises of Livestock Value Chain
SMC	School Management Committee
SRA	Social Registration Act
SWC	Social Welfare Council
SWNCC	Social Welfare National Coordination Council
TB	Tuberculosis
TFR	Total Fertility Rate
TLC	Temporary Learning Center
U5MR	Under Five Mortality Rate
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UPR	Universal Periodic Report
USAID	The United States Agency for International Development
VAW	Violence Against Women
VDC	Village Development Committee
VHW	Village Health Workers
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization

Section 1: Background

1.1 Civil Society Organizations

Nepal has promulgated the new constitution through the Constituent Assembly (CA) on September 20, 2015. The new constitution has guaranteed right to freedom of association as fundamental right which is the foundation or basis for formation and operation of different CSOs. It has also stated that NGOs and INGOs will be focused only in the areas of national needs and priority adopting a one-door policy for the establishment, endorsement, engagement, regulation and management of such organizations. It has also emphasized to make investment and role of such organizations accountable and transparent. It clearly indicates that there should be proper interpretation of these terminologies to ensure more liberating environment for Civil Society Organizations to play dynamic role in sustainable development of the country. In this context, it is essential to analyze previous contribution of CSOs to inform future way forward for its esteemed role in strengthening social and human development in sustained manner.

Generally, formally or informally established organizations are CSOs. These organizations are independent from the government mechanisms and structures and they do not share profits/benefits within themselves. These organizations are self-disciplined and organized with their specific objectives to cater the needs and address the issues of people and place. These CSOs include non-governmental associations/organizations, different class groups and professional organizations including federations, professional business organizations, community groups and organizations (consumer groups, *AMA Samuha*, target groups) , religious and cultural organizations etc. (USAID CSO Sustainability Methodology).

Basically, CSOs are taken as common structure of nongovernmental organizations. These organizations are considered as an united form of civil interests and civil willpower. Similarly, These CSOs include NGOs, trade unions, faith-based organizations, indigenous people's movements, foundations and many other (World Bank).

“[CSOs] can be defined to include all non-market and non-state organizations outside of the family in which people organize themselves to pursue shared interests in the public domain. Examples include community-based organizations and village associations, environmental groups, women's rights groups, farmers' associations, faith-based organizations, labour unions, co-operatives, professional associations, chambers of commerce, independent research institutes and the not-for-profit media (UNDP).

“Civil Society” is an active and eminent group of people, which is self-organized and independent in nature. The persons who lead civil society are termed as the ‘Think Tanks’ of the society. In democracy, civil society will be active in preserving, promoting and practicing human rights; respecting diversity and pluralism by transforming social justice principle in practical way, are the major aspects of civil society.

In ancient Greece, there was the practice of democracy. Citizens were aware and informed people were organized to practice rights of people. In 400 BC, Cicero realized the need of civil society. In Japan during Shotoku period (592-622), there was established principle that before coming to the conclusions, different people advices and suggestions should be taken. The following expressions will figure out the need and rationality of civil society:

“Civil society as an agency to protect the individual rights and property against the state and its arbitrary interventions”, John Locke (1632-1704)

“The nations’ dedication to a new freedom, based on government of the people, by the people, and for the people”, Abraham Lincoln (1833)

“ The ability to organize civil society as a particular need of the marginalized groups to articulate their interests”, Jurgen Habermass (1992)

Working area of civil society:

Among the ingredients of democracy, civil society is necessarily important. In the modern democracy, the role and area of civil society have been increasing day by day. Especially, the role and area of civil society in the modern society have been spread as mentioned below:

1. For being active to limit and control the power of agencies and members who misuse the authority and state power.
2. For being active to play as a role of watchdog, maintain good governance and instigate anti-corruption movements for making agencies and members responsible to the constitution and laws.
3. For being operator to promote people’s participation in elections and other important activities of the country.
4. For being active to build the culture of accommodation and democratic norms and values.
5. For being active to execute the campaigns of civic education to make internalized citizens’ rights and responsibilities.
6. To accommodate different interests of the society according to the norms and values of human rights and to ensure continuous dialogue between different agencies of the state.
7. For being active to create harmony among different classes, communities, languages, cultures and religions and to make democracy lively for solidarity.
8. For being active to provide needed trainings to the political parties for making them committed to democratic norms and values on the cause towards people.
9. To create environment to inform the public about public issues.
10. To play as a role of mediator to resolve conflict.

11. To monitor and supervise elections for the fairness of elections and to create environment by making concerned authority and members responsible to maintain its fairness, impartiality and disciplined.
12. Civil society is not an opposition of the state. Thus, it acts will be complementary to make each layers and members of state responsible, accountable, effective and legitimate for delivering effective service for good governance.

In modern society, CSOs are supportive good friends in establishing and strengthening relationship between citizens and state. In modern world, CSOs have been playing role in incorporating human rights' subject matters in state's policies and laws and its effective practice.

Nepal and Civil Society:

We have to differently on the development, roles, activities and efforts of CSOs in different time periods. We can study the period of CSOs before 2007 BS, during 2007-46 BS, and post 2047 BS. CSOs were in different structures before 2007 BS. Arya society, Paropakar sasnthan, Nepali Gandhi Memorial Charkha Pracharak Guthi, Nepal Nagarik Adhikar Samiti, Jayatu Sankritum Andolan were some of the forms of CSOs before 2007 BS.

After the changed context of post 2007 BS, different CSOs were emerged. In different sectors, class based and professional organizations, social organizations, NGOs were emerged and for giving legitimacy to such organizations, law was also formulated. Association and organization registration act was issued for the registration process of NGOs and different social organizations.

From Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-1990), CSOs roles and activities were already linked to development. In the act of local agency, CSOs role and activities were considered and it adopted the concept of collaborative works of CSOs with the local agencies. Thus, Nepal's economic plans and laws have considered CSOs as mobilizers of national development. This has been continued in local level regulation act. In Nepal, the relationship between CSOs and state has been analyzed as ups and downs in different time periods.

CSOs have played different roles in different time periods. In Rana regime, CSOs struggled against Rana's autocracy. In Panchayat system they initiated different activities and campaigns against unitary system. For the preservation of 2046 BS multiparty democracy and human rights, CSOs contributed effectively. After democracy and republic state, CSOs were active in constitution making process, utilization of human rights, development, consumer rights protection,, women empowerment and institutionalizing good governance. CSOs' goals will only be possible when CSOs work voluntarily and collectively. If CSOs work by depending upon others then its ideology will be weak. There is a need of feeling that CSOs means a group of spontaneously active for cause.

Constitution/Law and Civil Society:

The constitution of Nepal, 2072 has adopted the principle of people's inclusive democracy. In the Article 51 (J, 14), mentions that to adopt a single door system for the establishment, approval, operation, regulation and management of community-based and national or international non-governmental organizations and to involve such organizations only in the sectors of national need and priority, while making investment and role of such organizations transparent and accountable.

CSOs are committed to preserve democracy and to implement human rights provisions in the country. Different social organizations and NGOs are active in the stage of disaster in the country. CSOs are active to eliminate the discrimination of the society, to eradicate the social taboos and superstitions through social awareness, to empower women, to end caste based discrimination and touchability and to provide knowledge in different issues. In Nepal, CSOs are being active to internalize the human rights issues, to initiate social audit of public agencies, to active in the implementation of laws and provisions, to mainstream at national level of public interest issue and to file cases on public interest issues in the court. In today's world, CSOs should be active to make country strong by maintaining good relationship and respect with citizens. CSOs' role is to make alert, to play a role as watchdog, to build partnership and to maintain generosity.

The Constitution of Nepal has the objective of providing good governance in the country by maintaining amicable relationship between state and citizens. For achieving this objective, if we can develop a practice where state consults with different sectors' experts and experienced persons in making policies and formulating legislatures, that would contribute to facilitate in preserving civic rights and to mitigate conflicts. The policy and law should be made with the motto of preserving citizens' rights to strengthen the relationship between state and citizens. The financial part can play a vital role in the activities of state. Thus, to raise the voice of voiceless and to provide socio-economic justice to the mass, CSOs can remarkably contribute.

Alert and active citizen is the prerequisite for democracy thus the vibrant constitution can only be possible when there is ownership and confidence of citizens towards constitution. To assure ownership and confidence towards the constitution, the state power should be decentralized at grassroots level rigorously where there should be the environment of people's participation. On this belief, Switzerland settles major decisions of country through referendum. However, such practice can only be suitable and effective where people are educated and alert. CSOs should play active role during the time of referendum and people's mandate for making policies and laws in the welfare of people. There is a need of active role and regular monitoring role of media, CSOs groups, rights activists to transform state mechanism into democratic culture when the country is still in transition in institutionalizing democracy.

Role of Civil Society in the Process of Formulating Laws:

According to the principle of separation of power, legislature uses legislative power, executive uses execution power and judiciary uses judicial power. Formulation of policies and plans is the duty of executive and law making is the duty of legislature. Defining laws for establishing precedence is the role of judiciary.

In the democratic countries like England, two-third of the time of legislature will be spent in making laws. And, remaining time will be spent for working on the tasks set by the constitution and laws. The legislature provides legitimacy to the government policies. The legislature passes the bills processed by the government. Generally, the submitted bills in the legislature can be termed as public bill, private bill, hybrid bill and money bill. The nature of public bill is to influence the general public. For example, environment protection, health service etc. Private bill influences to the special persons and organizations. Hybrid bill influences to both general and private persons. Economy or money bill is related with the certified bill by Speaker and managed in financial management of the legislature.

All public or private bills are presented in the legislature on the basis of the needs of public. Different political parties will declare to formulate different laws and policies in the manifestoes before legislature elections and to fulfill the commitments; CSOs can play a meaningful role and give pressure to the political parties, government and parliament to formulate such laws and policies for the welfare of people. We can take an example of Brazil where CSOs have played remarkable and meaningful roles in making different acts and laws.

According to the provision of Legislature Parliament Regulation, 2073 (Rules 121), the processed bills of parliament can be brought in the public spheres for promotion and discussion. Certain time can be given for public responses for the bills and the bills will be published in Nepal Gazette for its dissemination. After collecting responses and comments, the bill has to submit in the parliament. During the response collecting process, NGOs, CSOs and subject experts can provide their advice and suggestion in the time of law making. There is a provision in rule 203 of legislature parliament that each of the laws, bylaws and issued instructions or notices is to be published in Nepal Gazette. Before issuing any laws, bylaws by the parliament, concerned stakeholders and general people will have a right to give comments and responses as of the principle of procedural control. If Nepal government or legislature parliament could develop a system where concerned sectors' subject experts, CSOs, concerned NGOs can discuss and provide their feedback during law making process, would contribute to build ownership towards laws that eventually supportive for the implementation of any laws made by the parliament.

In different aspects of democracy, CSO is the pre-condition for democracy. In democracy, people are decisive factors. Thus, in the process of policy and law formulation if we can ensure maximum mass participation then these laws and policies will be implemented easily. Civil society is a group

representing people, which is active to ensure the basic elements of human rights. Thus, their participation in policy and law making will always be supportive for people's welfare. If we analyze holistically, there is a practice of up to down policy and law making process rather down to up in Nepal. In making policies and laws, there is a practice of involving organizations and subject experts. However, this principle could not be developed systematically and institutionally. Thus, on the one hand there is a need of developing such practice systematically and on the other hand concerned subject experts and organizations should also provide suggestions, responses, advices and pressures considering the supremacy of constitution, national interests, people's interests, and human rights basic principles. CSOs' role is there to functionalize constitution by institutionalizing democracy. If CSOs can focus its work for the welfare and interests of people by not being encouraged to work on vested interests, then the image of CSOs will be enhanced and increased.

In Nepal's context, CSOs are those organizations which are established under National Directive Act 2018, Organization Registration Act 2034, Cooperative Act 2048, Forest Act 2049, Company Act 2063, Poverty Alleviation Fund Act 2063 including Local Self Governance Act 2055. These acts include NGOs, Cooperatives, Forest Consumers Groups, Non-profit making company, target groups and consumer groups are termed as civil society in Nepal.

Many civil society groups registered with Social Welfare Council (SWC), however, are given the mandate to work on relief, charity, environment protection, economic project and social development rather than on political education and conflict resolution. The citizenry needs to gain basic political knowledge of them modalities of participation in democratic politics and find a satisfying role in the political system. This is conducive to party building from below, and democratization from above. The roots of civic competence lie in learning the experience of participatory politics and building one's own present and future. Unlike NGOs which defined themselves in non-political terms, civil society is overtly public and political because it influences state actions and political processes, acts as a buffer between itself and the state, mediates the general and particular interests of society, functions within the bounds of state-defined public sphere, holds the political leadership accountable to rule of law and seeks the rationalization of power relationship in society. Civil society groups and their networks strengthen the freedom of expression, association and assembly in ways that open up the political space for citizens.

Civil Society Organizations including NGOs have effectively made their presence as an complementary mechanism for development. Instead of dealing with a cumbersome bureaucratic machinery of the state and pecuniary motives of the private sector, even donors have found NGOs to be a convenient vehicle. In the case of Nepal, one can find a mushrooming growth of NGOs particularly after the reinstatement of multiparty democracy in 1990. Presently, all social organizations or NGOs in Nepal operate under one or more of the following Acts or their Regulations: i) Association Registration Act 2034 and Regulations ii) Social Welfare Act 2049 and Regulations iii) Company Act 2063 and Regulations iv) National Directive Act 2018

The contribution of civil society organizations in development of Nepal has not been adequately discussed in both academic writings and policy analysis in Nepal. The scant attention is partly due

to “confusion” associated with the nature and functions of civil society, partly due to overexcited expectations attached to them by political leaders, NGOs and rights-based activists considering that they alone are capable of resolving the entire problems of society and partly due to more aspirations and less payoffs that civil society discourses have yielded. This study cautiously illustrates various activities these CSOs have performed and aims to analyze their roles in a number of thematic areas including promoting, strengthening and institutionalizing democracy; ensuring good governance in the country; empowerment of women, dalits, marginalized and deprived section of people; providing supports on infrastructures, health/sanitation and education; and promoting livelihood and maintaining resilience.

1.2 History of CSO/NGO Involvement:

Non-government organizations (NGOs) in Nepal have a relatively short history, especially when compared with other South Asian countries, such as Bangladesh and India. Until 1990, the Panchayat regime (1961–1990) exercised tight control over society. The Social Services National Coordination Council regulated and supervised the NGOs, while the Social Welfare National Coordination Council (SWNCC) handled majority of the funding agencies. The Queen was the chairperson, and the presence of international NGOs (INGOs) in Nepal was regulated from the Royal Palace. During this period, it was illegal for anyone to engage in development activities in Nepal without the Government’s permission. Under the Panchayat regime, the number of NGOs grew slowly from 10 in 1960 to 37 in 1987.

Two significant changes in regulating on NGOs and funding agencies occurred after the overthrow of the Panchayat regime and the establishment of parliamentary democracy in 1990. First, the SWNCC was reorganized into the Social Welfare Council (SWC), which became a government agency under the Ministry for the Social Sector, chaired by its minister. The SWC is composed of representatives from ministries and other government agencies.

Second, funding regulations were changed. For 40 years before the 1991 Constitution, foreign assistance to Nepal had to flow through the Government’s consolidated fund. This provided the Government with information on foreign assistance and a large measure of control over such assistance. Since 1991, foreign funds flowed directly to NGOs. As a result of these changes, the number of NGOs operating in Nepal has increased dramatically to about 60,000 today.

Some strict regulations remain. Any organization wishing to engage in development activities must first obtain official approval from the local government. NGOs are required to register at the District Administration Office (DAO) and their registration must be renewed yearly. In addition to registering with the DAO, NGOs receiving funds directly from donors must register with the SWC and renew their registration every year by submitting accounts audited by a government-approved auditor. If these requirements are not fulfilled, registration will be revoked. The SWC, however, lacks district offices and is consequently unable to discipline NGOs.

The Government must approve each project or program before foreign funding can be received. Generally, the objectives of NGOs in Nepal are social reform and citizens’ awareness building.

Their main activities include ,, conducting literacy, post-literacy, and out-of-school education programs; ,, publishing learning materials; ,, organizing savings and credit groups; ,, promoting financial intermediation; ,, developing income-generating programs for poor people through skills training; ,, building capacity of local organizations; ,, running seminars for awareness-building among communities; ,, monitoring grassroots organizations and service organizations; ,, providing services; ,, promoting advocacy; ,, mobilizing communities; ,, holding training workshops; and ,, conducting research and evaluation of development programs.

NGOs are also working increasingly in the following areas: forestry, poverty reduction; agriculture; irrigation; water; sanitation; population and family planning; heritage preservation, protection, and promotion; gender mainstreaming; human rights; peace initiatives; conflict management; and infrastructure and development.

Legislation on NGO Activities:

After parliamentary democracy was restored in Nepal, the newly elected Government relaxed some restrictive rules previously imposed on INGOs during the Panchayat era. However, since 1991, many new rules have been introduced and some former privileges have been removed by government agencies that regulate the presence of INGOs in the country. For example, INGO representatives no longer receive a visa free of charge, and some international staff members of INGOs have only been issued temporary tourist visas, which require the holders to leave the country every 150 days. INGO representatives previously received a permit to visit any part of Nepal, but this is no longer the case.

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The Local Government and Funding Agencies

Under current rules, funding agencies wishing to engage in development activities in Nepal must present to the SWC a proposed plan of operations and a minimum expected annual budget for intended development activities. The SWC provides guidelines outlining conditions for an agency's presence in Nepal. Such agreements cover an initial 2-year period. Agencies may subsequently apply for renewal of their agreements that are valid for 5 years.

Societies Registration Act (SRA) (1977)

This act defines an NGO as an institution with the following attributes: ,, a legal established entity; ,, organized sector; ,, corporate in structure; ,, nonprofit in nature; ,, social-service oriented; ,, voluntary based; ,, autonomous and independent; ,, democratic structure (with open membership); and ,, community-based organization (CBO).

Registration of Associations Act—Sangh Samstha Ain (amended in 1991)

Any seven or more citizens may apply to register an NGO, specifying the name of the institution, its objectives, names and addresses of the management committee members, sources of funding, and office address at all 75 chief district offices. NGOs are required to present audited accounts each year for registration renewal. Registration with the SWC is not mandatory for NGOs, but allows tax deductions and facilitates access to local and international funding. INGOs must obtain permission from the SWC to work in Nepal. Most NGOs are registered under this act, although many are registered under the Company Act as not-for-profit organizations.

Social Welfare Act (1992)

This act restructured the SWNCC into the SWC, and assigned the SWC the following functions: „ promote, facilitate, coordinate, monitor, supervise, and evaluate NGO activities; „ create the possibility of assistance for establishing, promoting, extending, and strengthening NGO activities; „ function as the coordinating body between the Government of Nepal and NGOs; „ advise and provide recommendations to the Government in formulating plans, policies, and programs related to social welfare and the service sector; „ establish trust funds for social welfare activities and encourage others to do the same; „ conduct training and undertake studies and research on social welfare issues; „ carry out physical supervision of the property of NGOs in Nepal; and „ use national and international NGO assistance effectively.

Under the act, the member secretary of the SWC indicates the appropriate ministry for the registration of any new NGO. As the SWC initially was established as an umbrella organization for NGOs involved in welfare activities, some NGOs have suggested dealing directly with the appropriate line ministry rather than registering through the SWC (see box). The Government introduced a Social Welfare (first amendment) Ordinance in July 2005. The Ordinance gives the Ministry of Women, Children, and Social Welfare authority to issue directives on NGO activities. Kathmandu is also developing a code of conduct for NGOs. Both NGOs and INGOs are concerned that these developments will undermine their independence and effectiveness.

1.3 Scope of Work:

The study has attempted to assess and document the roles of CSOs in the development of Nepal. The focus of the study was to figure out how the Nepali CSOs have contributed and been contributing in promoting, strengthening and institutionalizing democracy; ensuring good governance; empowering women, dalits, minorities and deprived section of people; promoting livelihood and maintaining resilience of the people; and providing supports on infrastructure, health/sanitation, and education. Thus, the scope of the study was to document the contribution made by Nepali CSOs in these mentioned thematic areas. So, the CSOs (NGOs, INGOs, Loose Networks, and Clubs) and their remarkable works/contribution in the thematic areas are the study scope.

Section 2: Review of Documents

It contains review of development related documents especially policies, plans and programs of the Government of Nepal and other reports of UNDP, NPC including academic reports and researches have been done. 13th and 14th plans of Nepal, MDGs final status report, HDI reports, and other relevant researches carried out in the field of CSOs

Review of MDG Final Status Report, 2015:

Nepal's large development achievements amidst the ten years of armed conflict and the chronic political instability can be credited to the open, liberal and participatory macroeconomic policies and the space given to civil society and community groups to lead local development and resource management. The triangular relationship between state, civil society and the private sector has worked well. The momentum for social and economic development slowed after the year 2000 due to political conflict, but social sector achievements were sustained as the safety net at the grassroots level demonstrated resilience when the State's outreach dwindled.

Nepal's performance on reducing poverty and hunger, maternal mortality, child mortality and increasing literacy, enrolment in primary schools, parity between girls and boys in access to education have been achieved. These aggregate achievements however mask the underlying challenges. The achievements are unevenly distributed among caste and ethnic groups, geographic regions and economic status. Disadvantaged Janajatis, Dalits and people in remote areas lag behind the national averages. Disparities persist and need to be the focus of the SDG period (2016–2030).

Nepal's MDG implementation experiences provide valuable lessons for the planning and implementation of the SDGs and to achieve the country's target to graduate from LDC to developing country status by 2022. A key lesson is that understanding and addressing the country's diversity has been key to achieving the MDG targets. More decentralized planning, targeted programmes, implementation and close monitoring is needed to close gaps. The new federal system will facilitate more decentralized and appropriate development. Achievements on poverty, education and health will have a multiplier effect for achieving other development targets. Therefore, for example, providing and sustaining the quality of education will be key for achieving the SDGs.

The participation of multiple actors has helped achieve the MDG targets, and this diverse engagement needs to continue in the SDG period. Partnerships need to be cultivated between national governments, international and national NGOs and the private sector. More local resources need to be generated and mobilized to fund local programmes. Nepal's experiences with community forest user groups, saving groups and cooperatives have shown how this can be done.

The incorporation of local knowledge, new technologies like biogas production, increasing the local ownership of resources, the participation of local stakeholders in raising awareness and eradicating diseases have contributed to the MDG achievements. Competitive and constituency-oriented politics

have also helped communities gain control of local resources. As the success of political representatives is mostly measured by how much resources they manage to bring to their constituents, this trend is likely to grow.

The post-2015 development agenda must pick up where the MDGs left off. The remaining gaps must be filled in order to eradicate poverty and hunger and promote sustained economic growth, allowing people to prosper inclusively. The unequal outcomes between regions, gender and social groups in all the MDG indicators demands more disaggregated target setting, and a more comprehensive understanding of poverty.

Review of NGOs' Mobility in Community Based Activities, SWC

The Social Welfare Council (SWC) has categorized CSOs in different ways. The categorizations are based on objectives; based on service sectors (health, education, advocacy, governance); based on geographical coverage (central, regional and local); based on within country and out of country (NGO and INGO) and formal and informal (NGO, CBO). Thus, the categorizations includes community and rural development services; child welfare; aids and abuse control; educational development; environment protection; disabled service; moral services; health services; women services and youth services.

According to the information of SWC, there are altogether 4600s0 plus CSOs in Nepal among them 3000 plus are active. The budget mobilization by the CSOs per year is around 20 billion (20 arab). The source of budget is bilateral (75%) and multilateral (25%). The problems in CSOs found by SWC are donor driven; politicized (80% resource used by political party supporting NGO); family based, elite access to fund; religious; anti-neighboring countries; problem in legal source verification of private funding etc.

SWC has categorized I/NGOs' contributions in terms of geographical coverage, sectoral coverage. Geographical coverage of CSOs is 75 districts where the sectoral coverage includes multiple sectors like earthquake response, WASH, livelihood, disability, environment, forest, disaster, right, justice, anti-traffic, technology, poverty reduction, nature conservation, agriculture, health, HIV/AIDS, heritage conservation, alternative energy, youth, women empowerment and development, child development, education, media and communication. There are altogether 259 INGOs registered in Nepal out of them 21 INGOs are involved in reconstruction activities. The budget for reconstruction is NPR 9,073,519,116.67. The total budget of current year is NPR 30 billion.

There are 26 districts which are most prioritized by SWC under E and D categories are:

E category districts: Bajura, Bajhang, Kalikot, Humla, Achham, Rautahat, Mahottari, Jajarkot, Rolpa, Mugu

D category districts: Dolpa, Sarlahi, Doti, Siraha, Jumla, Pyuthan, Baitadi, Dailekh, Rukum, Dhanusha, Kapilbastu, Darchula, Saptari, Sindhuli, Salyan, Dadeldhura.

There are 30 prioritized districts under C category are Sindhupalchowk, Bara, Dolakha, Kailali, Rasuwa, Dhading, Parsa, Gulmi, Nuwakot, Bardiya, Okhaldhunga, Ramechhap, Kanchanpur, Udaypur, Baanke, Surkhet, Baglung, Bhojpur, Gorkha, Arghakhanchi, Dang, Sankhuwasabha, Myagdi, Nawalparasi, Khotang, Taplejung, Sunsari, Makwanpur, Rupandehi, Paanchthar.

There are 20 least prioritized districts under B and A categories are:

B category districts: Palpa, Solukhumbu, Tanahu, Lamjung, Mustang, Parbat, Morang, Dhankuta, Jhapa, Kavrepalanchowk, Ilam, Terhathum, Syangja

A category districts: Chitwan, Manang, Bhaktapur, Kaski, Lalitpur and Kathmandu

In running year there are 276 projects approved by SWC on which the presence of CSOs in A and B categories districts is 30%; C category districts 40%; D category 18% and E category districts 12%. The priority beneficiaries of the projects are Dalit, Janajatis/Indigenous community, Madhesis, Muslims and community in minorities, Women, vulnerable children, person with disabilities and others - socially and economically deprived.

An evaluation was carried out by SWC taking samples of 50 projects on the basis of Relevancy (Linkage with policy and plan of GON, Location, Partner); Effectiveness (Outputs, Outcomes, Impact); Efficiency (Budget Line, Time Line, Activity targets vs achievements, Strategy, Staffing Policy and Practice); Multiple Stakeholders Coordination and Compliance (Project designing phase (consultation with DCC, VMC/Municipality, SWC, concerned ministries), Implementation Phase (Progress Report submission to defined stakeholders, incorporation of Project in DDC/VDC Plan, organization of review meeting, legal update and tax compliance); Sustainability (Exit Plan on Technical Sustainability, Financial Sustainability, Institutional Sustainability); People's Participation (Meaningful Participation in Need Identification, Preparation and Analysis, and Implementation Phase); Rule of Law (Government, Donor, Staffing and Financial Policies of I/NGOs); Accountability (More Accountable to GON) and Transparency (Financial and Programmatic).

In terms of relevancy, 45% projects were fully and 55% were found partially relevant. In terms of effectiveness, none of the projects were found fully satisfied, 40% were partially and 55% were found not satisfied.

In terms of efficiency, 45% were fully and 55% were found partially efficient. In terms of coordination and compliance, 45% were fully and 55% were found partially satisfied. In terms of sustainability, 40% were partially sustainable whereas 60% were found not satisfied with sustainability. In terms of meaningful participation, 40% were partially satisfied and 60% were

found not satisfied at all. In terms of transparency, 45% were fully and 55% were found partially transparent. And, in terms of accountability, 45% were fully and 55% partially found accountable.

Review of Social Development Report, 2015

The report is published by NGO Federation of Nepal in 2015 with the authorship of Gauri Pradhan. The report has highlighted major roles of CSOs/NGOs in the thematic issues as right to education, right to health, right to employment, right to food and right to social security. The report's objective was to document the contributions made by CSOs/NGOs as the change agents for social development focusing on empowering marginalized populations and pro-poor development in the country.

The major findings on thematic issues of the report are:

Right to Education:

- NGOs/CSOs initiated policy dialogues and campaigns on right to education and conducted classes on non-formal education especially for adults and girls. They have also advocated for encompassing different social issues in the school curriculum. Achieving national objectives of education, EFA goals and MDG's goal 2 have been possible for Nepal because of the active contributions made by NGOs/CSOs and CBOs.
- Some successful set by NGOs/CSOs are: School as Zone of Peace, Literacy and Non-Formal Education, Environment Education, Informal Education and Madarsa Education.
- NGOs' contribution to education on life skill, peace and human rights have been remarkable.
- NGOs are actively engaged in the promotion of child friendly learning and child protection in schools and educational sectors.

Right to Health:

- NGOs/CSOs have played the roles of one of the key stakeholders in a number of policy dialogues and in campaign on health rights, including in the National Health Policy 2015.
- NGOs provide free health service, and run treatment and rehabilitation centers for marginalized populations, including women, differently able children and persons living with HIV and AIDS.
- NGOs' role in promoting WASH campaign is noteworthy.
- NGOs have actively cooperated in the government immunization program which brought down the IMR, UMR and MMR rapidly.
- NGOs' contribution to the health and psychological recovery of children at risk has also been substantial.

Right to Employment:

- NGOs/CSOs have actively engaged in policy dialogue, campaign and social awareness programs, including labor and employment policy, foreign employment policy, child labor policy, youth employment policy etc.
- NGOs/CSOs provide vocational training, skill training and entrepreneurial training for youth, women, returned migrant workers, and marginalized groups, and help them to pursue jobs.
- NGOs/CSOs programs and projects also contribute in reducing poverty and increasing employment opportunities.
- The support of NGOs/CSOs to small farmers and small or cottage industries also creates employment opportunities to the poor and marginalized communities.
- NGOs/CSOs and CBOs also create opportunity of employment for tens of thousands of people and offer training on various issues for hundreds of thousands people.

Right to Social Security:

- NGOs/CSOs have advocated for ensuring social security and protection of the marginalized populations and workers in informal sectors.
- NGOs/CSOs have facilitated the people to get their citizenship cards, and to help people to claim their right to social security as provided by the government.
- NGOs/CSOs are also offering services for the social protection of marginalized women, children and persons with disability, senior citizens and other marginalized populations. NGOs/CSOs have also promoted the concept of the social security and protection in the field of national development.
- NGOs/CSOs also offer social service, employment, skills and knowledge sharing opportunity to the people through thousands of community groups organized and facilitated by them.

Right to Food:

- NGOs/CSOs have responded to right to food issues by taking increasingly rights-based and participatory approaches.
- NGOs/CSOs teach and train farmers about new methods of cultivation and production.
- NGOs/CSOs distribute food to people in need, and run nutrition program to children in need and also for people living with HIV and AIDS.
- NGOs/CSOs are engaged in community mobilization, saving and credit group management, networking, and agro-based activities to facilitate people's involvement in agriculture.
- NGOs/CSOs coordinate with NHRC to monitor the situation of right to food and distribution of food by GoN, UN World Food Program (WFP) and other agencies.

Review of HDI Report, 2016:

Nepal's HDI value for 2015 is 0.558— which put the country in the medium human development category— positioning it at 144 out of 188 countries and territories. Between 1990 and 2015, Nepal's HDI value increased from 0.378 to 0.558, an increase of 47.7 percent. Table A reviews Nepal's progress in each of the HDI indicators. Between 1990 and 2015, Nepal's life expectancy at birth increased by 15.7 years, mean years of schooling increased by 2.1 years and expected years of schooling increased by 4.7 years. Nepal's GNI per capita increased by about 100.1 percent between 1990 and 2015.

Table A: Nepal's HDI trends based on consistent time series data

	Life expectancy	Expected years	Mean years of	GNI per capita	HDI value
1990	54.3	7.5	2.0	1,168	0.378
1995	58.5	8.1	2.2	1,322	0.410
2000	62.4	9.0	2.4	1,526	0.446
2005	65.5	9.6	2.8	1,698	0.476
2010	68.0	12.0	3.3	2,012	0.529
2011	68.4	12.3	3.5	2,053	0.538
2012	68.8	12.3	3.7	2,132	0.545
2013	69.2	12.4	3.9	2,189	0.551
2014	69.6	12.2	4.1	2,288	0.555
2015	70.0	12.2	4.1	2,337	0.558

Nepal's 2015 HDI of 0.558 is below the average of 0.631 for countries in the medium human development group and below the average of 0.621 for countries in South Asia. From South Asia, countries which are close to Nepal in 2015 HDI rank and to some extent in population size are Afghanistan and Sri Lanka, which have HDIs ranked 169 and 73 respectively (see table B).

Table B: Nepal's HDI and component indicators for 2015 relative to selected countries and groups

	HDI value	HDI rank	Life expectancy	Expected years of	Mean years of schooling	GNI per capita
Nepal	0.558	144	70.0	12.2	4.1	2,337
Afghanistan	0.479	169	60.7	10.1	3.6	1,871
Sri Lanka	0.766	73	75.0	14.0	10.9	10,789
South Asia	0.621	—	68.7	11.3	6.2	5,799
Medium HDI	0.631	—	68.6	11.5	6.6	6,281

Nepal's HDI for 2015 is 0.558. However, when the value is discounted for inequality, the HDI falls to 0.407, a loss of 27.0 percent due to inequality in the distribution of the HDI dimension indices. Afghanistan and Sri Lanka show losses due to inequality of 31.8 percent and 11.6 percent respectively. The average loss due

to inequality for medium HDI countries is 25.7 percent and for South Asia it is 27.7 percent. The Human inequality coefficient for Nepal is equal to 25.8 percent.

Table C: Nepal's IHDI for 2015 relative to selected countries and groups

	IHDI	Overall loss (%)	Human inequality	Inequality in life expectancy at	Inequality in education (%)	Inequality in income
Nepal	0.407	27.0	25.8	19.6	43.9	13.9
Afghanistan	0.327	31.8	30.4	35.7	44.8	10.8
Sri Lanka	0.678	11.6	11.5	8.1	12.8	13.7
South Asia	0.449	27.7	27.1	23.9	39.5	17.8
Medium HDI	0.469	25.7	25.5	22.6	33.7	20.1

The GDI is calculated for 160 countries in the 2015 HDR. The female HDI value for Nepal is 0.538 in contrast with 0.582 for males, resulting in a GDI value of 0.925, which places the country into Group 4. In comparison, GDI values for Afghanistan and Sri Lanka are 0.609 and 0.934 respectively (see Table D).

Table D: Nepal's GDI for 2015 relative to selected countries and groups

	Life expectancy at birth		Expected years of schooling		Mean years of schooling		GNI per capita		HDI values		F-M
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	GDI
Nepal	71.5	68.6	12.7	12.2	3.2	5.0	1,979	2,718	0.538	0.582	0.925
Afghanistan	62.0	59.5	8.3	13.1	1.6	5.8	511	3,148	0.348	0.572	0.609
Sri Lanka	78.4	71.7	14.3	13.6	10.3	11.4	6,067	15,869	0.734	0.785	0.934
South Asia	70.2	67.4	11.3	11.1	4.9	7.8	2,278	9,114	0.549	0.667	0.822
Medium HDI	70.4	66.8	11.5	11.3	5.6	7.8	3,314	9,131	0.582	0.668	0.871

Nepal has a GII value of 0.497, ranking it 115 out of 159 countries in the 2015 index. In Nepal, 29.5 percent of parliamentary seats are held by women, and 24.1 percent of adult women have reached at least a secondary level of education compared to 41.2 percent of their male counterparts. For every 100,000 live births, 258 women die from pregnancy related causes; and the adolescent birth rate is 71.9 births per 1,000 women of ages 15-19. Female participation in the labour market is 79.7 percent compared to 86.8 for men. In comparison, Afghanistan and Sri Lanka are ranked at 154 and 87 respectively on this index.

Table E: Nepal's GII for 2015 relative to selected countries and groups

	GII	GII Rank	Maternal mortality ratio	Adolescent birth rate	Female seats in parliament (%)	Population with at least some secondary education (%)		Labour force participation rate (%)	
						Female	Male	Female	Male
Nepal	0.497	115	258	71.9	29.5	24.1	41.2	79.7	86.8
Afghanistan	0.667	154	396	74.0	27.4	8.8	35.4	19.1	83.6
Sri Lanka	0.386	87	30	14.8	4.9	80.2	80.6	30.2	75.6
South Asia	0.520	—	175	33.7	17.4	36.9	58.6	28.3	79.4

Medium HDI	0.491	—	164	40.8	19.9	40.4	57.6	37.2	79.4
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Maternal mortality ratio is expressed in number of deaths per 100,000 live births and adolescent birth rate is expressed in number of births per 1,000 women ages 15-19.

The 2010 HDR introduced the MPI, which identifies multiple overlapping deprivations suffered by households in 3 dimensions: education, health and living standards. The education and health dimensions are each based on two indicators, while standard of living is based on six indicators. All of the indicators needed to construct the MPI for a country are taken from the same household survey. The indicators are weighted to create a deprivation score, and the deprivation scores are computed for each household in the survey. A deprivation score of 33.3 percent (one-third of the weighted indicators) is used to distinguish between the poor and nonpoor. If the household deprivation score is 33.3 percent or greater, the household (and everyone in it) is classified as multidimensionally poor. Households with a deprivation score greater than or equal to 20 percent but less than 33.3 percent live *near multidimensional poverty*. Finally, households with a deprivation score greater than or equal to 50 percent live in severe multidimensional poverty. The MPI is calculated for 102 developing countries in the 2015 HDR.

The most recent survey data that were publically available for Nepal's MPI estimation refer to 2014. In Nepal, 26.6 percent of the population (7,493 thousand people) are multidimensionally poor while an additional 14.4 percent live near multidimensional poverty (4,048 thousand people). The breadth of deprivation (intensity) in Nepal, which is the average deprivation score experienced by people in multidimensional poverty, is 43.7 percent. The MPI, which is the share of the population that is multi- dimensionally poor, adjusted by the intensity of the deprivations, is 0.116. Afghanistan has an MPI of 0.293.

Table F compares multidimensional poverty with income poverty, measured by the percentage of the population living below PPP US\$1.90 per day. It shows that income poverty only tells part of the story. The multidimensional poverty headcount is 11.6 percentage points higher than income poverty. This implies that individuals living above the income poverty line may still suffer deprivations in education, health and other living conditions. Table F also shows the percentage of Nepal's population that lives near multidimensional poverty and that lives in severe multidimensional poverty. The contributions of deprivations in each dimension to overall poverty complete a comprehensive picture of people living in multidimensional poverty in Nepal. Figures for Afghanistan are also shown in the table for comparison.

Table F: The most recent MPI for Nepal relative to selected countries

	Survey year	MPI value	Head-count (%)	Intensity of deprivations (%)	Population share (%)			Contribution to overall poverty of deprivations in (%)		
					Near poverty	In severe poverty	Below income poverty line	Health	Education	Living Standards
Nepal	2014	0.116	26.6	43.7	14.4	9.3	15.0	25.6	32.2	42.2
Afghanistan	2010/2011	0.293	58.8	49.9	16.0	29.8		19.2	45.6	35.2

Review of 13th and 14th Plans of Nepal:

Major Progress Status of 13th Plan in Thematic Areas:

Education: In 13th plan, there was the target to increase net enrollment rate of primary level (1-5) up to 95.3%, by the end of fiscal year 2072 it has reached to 96.6%. Gross literacy rate was targeted to 85% from 65.9%, it has reached to 78%. The literacy rate of (15-24) years group was targeted to 95% from 87.5%, it has reached to 88.6%.

Health: The 13th plan had objective to create environment of productive and standard lifestyles by increasing the accessibility of free basic health services and availing quality health services. There was a target to decrease MMR up to 134 (per 100,000) from 281, it has reduced to 258. The target of child mortality rate has been reduced to 38 from 54 (per 1,000). Here the target has been achieved. The average age of Nepalis has been reached to 69 from 68.8 as the target assumption was 71. Gross reproduction rate has been assumed to decrease to 2.3 as the target was 2.4 from 2.6 (per woman of 15-49 age groups).

Drinking water and sanitation: There is a national level target that by 2017 a total percentage of people will have access to drinking water and sanitation. In 13th plan, the target was set to achieve 96.3% and it has assumed that 83.6% people have accessed to the structure of drinking water. Similarly, there was the target of achieving 90.5% basic sanitation facility, it has achieved at 81%.

Social Security and Inclusion: The 13th plan had attempted to create an environment of equal justice and respectful lives by uplifting and empowering the poor, discriminated, marginalized and socially and economically prone people. For this, awareness, empowerment, self-employment related programs including social security funds, old aged and disable allowances, construction of old-aged homes, health and agriculture insurance, skill based training etc. are being conducted by different agencies under social security regional programs. Some of the programs are targeted for creating employment through capacity building programs and some are related to provide allowances and grants to sustain lives. Now, more that 149,819 senior citizens have already got social security allowances. Five sample villages have been constructed for senior citizens. There is a

provision of special area for senior citizens in public hospitals and reserved seats in public vehicles are provisioned for women, disabled and senior citizens. Health insurance has been started from three districts. Similarly, according to the provision of inclusive representation at state mechanisms, 29.9% in legislature, 17.5% in civic administration, and 3% in judiciary, have been secured. According to the provision of reservation, in other public service sectors also, certain percent reservations are being implemented.

Environment and Climate Change:

In 13th plan, to reduce the impact of climate change and environmental impact, green development concept has been introduced. This concept is being implemented as the forest greenery parts are also enlarging. Similarly, review of Environmental Act and Regulation, Risk Material Regulation, Act on Chemical Measurement etc. types of policy management has been happened. Around 150,000 citizens are benefited from Local Appropriateness Plan of Action. In Brick Kline improved technology, environmental sample laboratory, EIA and dust and pollution experiment were being continued.

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment: There have been the formulation of Sexual Abuse (Prevention) Act, Witchcraft (Punishment) Act for the objective of ending VAW, discrimination and exclusion by ensuring economic, social and political empowerment of all social groups, classes and sectors' women. Single Women's Defense Fund Regulations and Operating Criteria have come into existence. Women's participation in state organs has been remarkably increased due to the attempt of making state organs inclusive. In the fiscal year 2072/73, Direct Gender Responsive Budget has been reached to 22.3%. In Women Development Program, target group member has been reached to 1,043,000.

Good Governance:

In 13th plan, to institutionalize rule of law's norms and values for the objective of creating environment of participation, transparency, accountability and zero tolerance on corruption at all state mechanisms, there has been the initiation and management of citizen charter with compensation, electrical governance in service delivery and offices, automation, networking, dissemination of government expenses through website, indicators based work accomplished contact etc. Civil service Act and Regulation has been amended as per current needs. Different study and researches are being carried out to maintain free and capable legal system as a obligatory compulsion of rule of law. Civil and criminal law related bill has been submitted in the parliament. For the equal and easy access to the legal system and justice, legal and procedural improvements are happening. There has been improvement in child justice system and fast-track system is being tried for serious case related with women. Complaint management process and information technology have been developed at CIAA for the investigation of corruption cases. For the institutional development of CIAA, regional and contact offices have been opened.

Review of 14th Plan :

14th plan is the first plan which is based on the implementation of economic-social principles provisioned for federal structure set by the constitution of Nepal. This plan is driven towards the development of independent and self-sustained economy by reconstructing the damage affected by the devastating earthquake of 2015 and by learning the chaos situation caused by the southern part of Nepal in different aspects of economy including national supply system for the upliftment of Nepal. Besides, this is the first opportunity to determine annual plans

and programs according to the SDGs declaration of UN by graduating Nepal as developing country by 2022 and set our country's income status in the line of middle income-class countries. In the context of new constitution, people's expectations have been raised highly. Thus, this plan has obligation in addressing such expectations and such considerations are maintained. This plan is focused towards making our country sustainably prosperous by implementing self-sustained, independent and prosperous ideology of national economy towards socialism as expected by the constitution of Nepal.

This plan is formulated to graduate Nepal at the level of middle income class country by the year 2087 BS by achieving the goals of sustainable development goals. Similarly, to achieve economic growth with employment-based and just distribution, there is a need to mobilize government including private and cooperatives in a complementary way. From these three sectors, investment and from the increment means of investment productivity, achieving high economic growth, graduating per capita income of individual at the level of middle income countries and achieving sustainable economic prosperity, are the focus areas of this plan.

Section 3: Rationale, Objectives, Methodology and Delimitations of the Study

3.1 Rationale of the Study:

The rationale of the study is there to figure out the role of CSOs in development of Nepal through categorical thematic areas as democracy, good governance, empowerment, and livelihood and service delivery. On the one hand, the study intends to document the roles of CSOs in development of Nepal through thematic analysis and on the other hand, the study identifies the major challenges of CSOs to execute the activities for the benefit of people thereby overall development of the country. Further, the study recommends for effective contribution in the changed context of Nepal and development approach as sustainable development goals. Thus, the study rationale is there hitherto identify the core practices that CSOs applied to support development of Nepal and figure out the challenges in implementing their ideas for effective contribution in the development of Nepal with the entire linkage on set thematic assessments.

It is expected that this study will contribute genuinely to showcase CSOs' roles in development of Nepal so that this study will be a landmark to provide evidence based justification on the contributions done by CSOs in overall development of Nepal. This documented CSOs' roles will be supposedly used and advocated by the CSOs activists, education academics, development practitioners, development experts and social awareness implementers for their research, awareness, lobby and advocacy purposes.

3.2 Objectives:

The objectives of study were:

- To document and analyze endeavors of CSOs in Nepal in the areas of social and human development
- To provide recommendations for strengthening significant role of CSOs in promoting sustainable social and human development in the changing context

3.3 Methodology:

The study consists of qualitative assessment. The qualitative assessment was carried out through desk review, focus group discussion, key informant interview, and compilation of cases.

The following qualitative tools were used to collect the information accordingly:

Tools	Particulars	Purpose
Desk Review	Review of existing information, policy documents, and reference materials on contribution of CSOs in Nepal's development.	To figure out the role of CSOs in Nepal in the areas of social and human development
FGD	FGDs with subject experts	To collect key information

		focusing more on global and national scenario, policies and institutional practices.
KII	Interview with selected national experts	To collect and validate information on ground realities.
Case studies	10-12 cases compilation	To know the best practices and initiatives taken by CSOs in the development of Nepal

The study was rounded up with the following arrangements:

I) Desk Review- Review of development related documents especially polices, plans and programs of the Government of Nepal and other reports of UNDP, NPC including academic reports and researches have been done. 13th and 14th plans of Nepal, MDGs final status report, HDI reports and other relevant researches carried out in the field of CSOs were reviewed. (*Desk review indicators in annex I*)

II) Focus group discussions – Subject experts were identified for focus group discussions. Subject experts were the experts who have been working in the thematic areas (Democracy, Good Governance, Empowerment, Livelihood and Service Delivery) for last 20 years. FGDs were conducted with the mentioned groups. A total of Five FGDs were conducted. Ten thematic subject experts for each theme (Democracy, good governance, empowerment, service delivery and livelihood) were the participants for FGDs. It was planned that at least 10 prominent persons of civil society organizations, government organizations, INGOs and planning commission, journalists were selected in each FGD randomly keeping in mind GESI for intensive interview and discussion. Each theme FGD checklist was developed to conduct FGDs. (*FGD checklists in annex II*)

The qualification of themes was done accordingly by identifying the possible participants:

Qualified Themes	Subject Experts
Democracy (Human Rights, Child Rights, Women Rights, Democratic movements and campaigns, Constitution making process etc.)	CSOs members working in democracy promotion and strengthening (5 participants representing from all five development regions, 2 members from INGO, 1 from NPC, and 2 from Media)
Good Governance (Major 8 pillars/elements of good governance)	CSOs members working in good governance (5 participants representing from all five development regions, 2 members from INGO, 1 from NPC, and 2 from Media)
Empowerment (Empowerment of vulnerable groups/communities)	CSOs members working in empowerment especially women, dalits and marginalized groups (5 participants representing from all five development regions, 2 members from INGO, 1 from NPC, 1 from Ministry of women, children and social welfare and 1 from Media)
Service delivery (Infrastructure, health/sanitation, education)	CSOs members working in service delivery (5 participants representing from all five development regions, 2 members from INGO, 1 from NPC, 1 from MoFALD and 1 from Media)
Livelihood (Agriculture, Community Forestry, Disaster preparedness for maintaining resilience etc.)	CSOs members working in livelihood promotion and support (5 participants representing from all five development regions, 2 members from INGO, 1 from NPC, 1 from MoFALD and 1 from Media)

(Participants of FGD in annex VI)

III) KII – key informants were selected among the national experts of Nepal. At least five sectors namely democracy, good governance, empowerment, service delivery and livelihood were selected and the experts of these sectors (at least 2 from each sector) were interviewed. Each theme KII guideline was prepared before conducting KII. *(KII Guidelines including national expert lists in annex VII)*

IV) Compilation of case studies– 10-12 cases on best practices have been compiled as case study. The cases were picked during the FGD conducted with the thematic experts’ team in different themes. The cases were collected from different reports of NGOs and INGOs either. Case writing guideline was developed to maintain consistency in each case. *(Case collection guideline in annex IV)*

Study Team: There was a team to work for the study. The team consists of one lead consultant and two field researchers. The field researchers conducted the FGDs with the guidance of lead consultant. The lead consultant conducted the KII with national experts. One-day training was provided to the field researchers by the lead consultant to instill the depth understanding of the study.

3.4 Delimitation of the Study:

The study is delimited as follows:

- Five FGDs with thematic five subject experts incorporation around 50 participants from NGOs, INGOs, Media, Ministries, National Planning Commission, Social Welfare Council etc.
- Incorporation of five themes' 10 national experts to get their inputs on the role of CSOs in development of Nepal.
- Review of the available policies, HDI reports, MDG reports, other researched reports, and resources as secondary data.
- Due to representative respondents and key informants, the findings of the study are the representative ones in the national context.

Further, on the realm of development of Nepal, multiple development approaches and dimensions may come across. However, to figure out the roles of CSOs in development of Nepal, five categorical representative themes as democracy, good governance, empowerment, livelihood and service delivery are only the study realm. More or less, the study has tried its best to include most of the areas of development within these themes which is itself the delimitation of the study. CSOs' contribution in development of Nepal has been tried to look from five dimensions in the study that seems delimitation of the study.

Section 4: Significant Contributions of CSOs in National Development (with case studies and evidences)

4.1 Democracy:

Human Rights:

Each society is built by its history. Our Nepali culture has been built with the concept of democratic culture and social dialogue. Initially, some western philosophers misunderstood and tried to distort Nepal as nomadic and autocratic, which is totally blunder. We just have to remember our Buddha era and *Lichivi* era where there were a lot of interactions happened among people. In one area, there was the culture of residing every castes and creeds. They were in the same group and village where so called low caste shoemaker made the shoes and other performed their duty as per their division of works. We had such culture of solidarity and unity among each caste, and creeds. So, we had the culture of being interactive with each other. As we know that citizen dialogue is the heart or root of democracy. So, we Nepali were brought up from the culture of dialogue. Due to this culture, we have always tried our best to live and enjoy on democratic culture and when there were some obstructions happened in different period we citizens became hurry to fight against such happenings. Panchayat system tried to take the names of tradition and culture but it avoided citizen's dialogue. Due to the restriction in citizen's dialogue or politics of restriction by the Panchayat system, citizens were against the system. Because of direct attack by Panchayat system to the root of citizen's dialogue, we fought against the system. To fight against, citizens were united which resulted obvious presence of political parties. This is one aspect of democracy and civil engagement.

Secondly, in each of the total democratic movements of our country, civil societies' movements have always major contribution. Civil societies were in core of each movement. Due to the core value of civil society in each movement, the slogans of each movement were in the forms of citizen's freedom and their liberty etc. Thus, the dignity of citizens was the core in each movement. To fight against Panchayat system, social awareness was the motivating factor which was undoubtedly created by civil society. And, in the same way when then King Gyanendra took over, such social awareness and motivation worked. Gyanendra took over was firstly disapproved by the social movement carried out by civil society. Social movement first checked the steps and found not appropriate then only the political parties came across against the move of Gyanendra. Due to which we can see that political and social movements went parallel in Nepal. Those who were in political movements were actually the social activists. And, after 1990, all these activists went for one or the other forms of social movements. According to the expertise of such activists, civil society groomed accordingly in different fields. That was supported by the changed context of restoration of democracy in 1990 through the democratic movement where total freedom to open associations and organizations and press freedom were

ensured as communication or media and civil society are like the wheel of a cart. At that time media needed analytical spheres and through the intellectuality of civil society media were supported and due to the presence of media, civil society messages became public. Due to which both media and civil society went hand in hand. That's why in conflict period also civil society took first concrete step to resolve the conflict in Nepal. During conflict period, civil society exposed the misdeeds and violations cases of conflicting parties. Civil society raised voice for civil protection during conflict period. From human rights perspectives, what was happening mistakes and how could it be resolved during conflict were first raised by civil society and they knocked the doors of United Nations and other countries. The documentation of human rights violations in different places was exposed through publications which contributed to sensitize national and international stakeholders. Agenda 19 was submitted by civil society in UN thus UN came here in Nepal through which people's morale boosted up. Due to the boosted-morale of citizens we became able to bring republic in the country through the people's movement of 2006.

Now, what civil society actually wants, that must be looked upon. The real expectation of civil society is social justice. How to get such social justice is the main target of civil society. If you go to theorize it, this is the treaty and convention of UN. Like the convention on civil and political rights. Civil and political right is the vehicle and the destination is economic and social rights. So, civil society's aim has always been social justice. In the direction of getting social justice, process-wise civil society utilized democracy. Democracy is rule of law and there are certain norms and values in rules. In democratic rule, there must the principle that the sovereign people's representatives will make laws and these laws should not be against internal laws. On that process of making law, concerned parties meaningful participation must be ensured. If concerned parties interests not addressed in the laws then the laws cannot be functional. To implement the laws, state develops programs and projects. Thus, law should address the people's aspirations. In democratic process, our target is law and whether that law develops programs/projects or not. The analysis of the government programs and regular awareness of such programs in the public spheres, and do the program with exemplarily way, there is the role of civil society. For example, women rights are ensured in the particular places through the united groups of AMA Samuha. Other groups are formed like Forest Users groups; Water Users Groups; Anti-Corruption Groups; Youth Groups; Child Clubs; Human Rights Education Groups etc. These groups are the creation of civil society which are critical mass to monitor supervise and aware on government programs and projects. Thus, to ensure people's ownership and participation in the programs and projects, there is a role of civil society organizations.

Whatever changed happened in Nepal in democratic perspective, there has always been the role of civil society. If we talk about the ratification of international laws/conventions where Nepal is state party or where Nepal is not state party till now like convention on disappeared; international criminal court, optional protocols of economic, social and cultural rights, there has always been the role of civil society to advocate first on such concerns. Thus, the total process in

ensuring democracy, human rights, women rights, child rights and other minorities' rights were advocated and lobbied by civil society organizations in Nepal. We can see the reflections of these contributions in development plans, programs, and international commitments done by Nepal. Due to this fact, one of the beauties of civil society is that they are always united and are in singular voice and when there is critical issue in the country like Universal Periodic Report (UPR) which must be submitted in 4 years and different treaties bodies' reports that will always be submitted jointly by civil society organizations. We have more than 300 coalitions in UPR where federations and different organizations are there. For treaty bodies, Human Rights Treaty Monitoring Center (HRTMCC) is there where more than 150 organizations are the members. There is child rights coalition named CZOP, there is anti-women trafficking alliance (ATWIN), and there are different networks are formed. The civil society organizations are in the grassroots working for the people and leading the civil movements.

Civil society organizations have brought funding from foreign countries through which they have become professionally sound. They are making the government agencies accountable to the people through massive mobilization of different groups like AMA Samuha, Forest Consumer Groups, and Child Clubs etc. There are number of networks developed among these groups including SMC, PTA, and other government structures. These all are undoubtedly the contribution of CSOs.

Some of the campaigns like Kamaiya Liberation Campaigns, Agriculture Labour raised the issue of minimum remuneration, Women activists raised the reservation for women in 1996 and government compelled to provide 20% reservation. It means to say that there are a lot of new and genuine campaigns raised in Nepal only because of the presence of CSOs and these have been institutionalized.

Finally, most of the provisions ensured in fundamental rights of the Constitution of Nepal, 2015 are because of the contribution of CSOs and that can be claimed by CSOs. In fundamental rights, there are certain rights like right to freedom, right to equality, right to communication, rights relating to justice, right against untouchability and discrimination, right against exploitation, right to clean environment, right to labour, right relating to food, rights of women, rights of child, rights of Dalit, rights of senior citizen, right to social justice, rights of the consumer etc. which are the major contribution of CSOs undoubtedly. CSOs regular advocacy, lobby and strategic pressure and demands these rights are ensured in fundamental rights. There is a challenge to implement all these challenge effectively.

The goal of democracy is social justice and to achieve the goal there are still challenges. There are certain transitional justice issues and the issues relating to rule of law. The settlement of transitional issue is not meant to reconcile everything and the civil society are advocating against. Thus, today's challenge of civil society from social justice perspective is to cross the

mindset of impunity. To cover up impunity, the state can go for authoritarian practice through its mechanized structure.

From social justice point of view, the MDG status report, 2016 reveals,

- ▶ Extreme poverty dropped from 33.5 percent of the population in 1990 to 16.4 percent in 2013 thereby achieving the target of halving the poverty rate by 2015. Noteworthy achievement is the reduction of hunger.

(Nepal Living Standards Surveys (NLSSs) 2 and 3 found the incidence of poverty to have declined by one percentage point per year between 2005 and 2013)

(The employment to population ratio decreased from 84.3 percent in 2000 to 81.7 percent in 2008 (as reported in 2010) with 2.3 million people (above 15 years of age) employed in 2008, substantially more than in 1998).

- ▶ The country almost met the target of reducing by half the proportion of underweight children (aged 6 to 59 months) two years early in 2013.
- ▶ The country achieved the target of halving the proportion of the population who consume less than the minimum level of dietary energy consumption in 2012 (22.5 percent achieved against the 25 percent target).

These achievements are also possible due to the regular engagement of CSOs to reduce poverty and hunger.

Role of CSOs in Conflict Resolution

Discussing CSOs role in conflict resolution in Nepal, some important issues need careful attention. Shambhu Ram Simkhada (PhD) illustrated the role of CSOs in conflict resolution in his paper “Nepal: State-Civil Society Role in Conflict Resolution” presented on November 18, 2010 accordingly,

· Civil society evolved in the West to counter balance the growing coercive power of the highly institutionalized state. They also played instrumental roles in peace advocacy and human rights agendas and instruments. Today organizations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, Organization Against Torture, International Commission of Jurists, and the International Crisis Group (ICG), International Alert, Safer World, Common Ground, Democratic Control of the Armed Forces among many others are major players in conflict situations. Global networks, access, resources, expertise, flexible non-governmental character give them high visibility. The role they play in identifying victims, reporting them through their global networks, mass campaign of urgent appeals and warnings that they will not hesitate to “*name and shame*” serious violators are notable sources of discomfort to states. In recognition of this role, giving them important recognition without

compromising their independent role will be important in building a better culture of peace and global conflict prevention and resolution strategy.

- Amongst the national CSOs the Social Welfare Council (SWC), the central NGOs coordinating authority of the state has nationally registered NGOs and INGOs which have signed agreement with the SWC. Reliable information on what role these NGOs and INGOs play in the peace building work is not available. But the SWC officials argue that they play an important role in service delivery in the rural areas both at times of conflict and even today.

- Large sums of foreign aid are channeled through these NGOs. Many of them, especially local ones, however are underfunded. Some argue that foreign aid in the name of democracy strengthening, advocacy, capacity building, seminars and workshops in and around the urban centers could otherwise go for development work in the neediest rural areas. The huge expenditure in the constitution drafting and the CA is another case. Resources necessary to support the cantonments until the rehabilitation and integration process is done is another case of the costs of transition.

- Besides those registered with the SWC, many CSOs active in conflict resolution and peace building work such as Campaign Against Violence, Citizens for Peace, INSEC, Human Rights Organization of Nepal, Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industries, Nepal Chambers of Commerce, Nepal Bar Association, Nepal Institute for Policy Studies, Nepal Centre for Contemporary Studies, National Peace Campaign, Peace Society etc are either informal groups that are not registered with any national registry, operate independently or affiliated directly with certain line ministries or agencies of the state.

- The above is not an exhaustive and conclusive discourse on the role of the state and civil society in conflict resolution in Nepal. But one can suggest that CSOs have played an important role in Nepal's peace process in three aspects and stages: First, the intellectual audacity of some members of the Nepali civil society that "negotiations there must be, the only question is after how long, how many more deaths and how much more destruction and despair and amongst whom?" provided important inducement for serious negotiations and ultimately the beginning of the politics of consensus. Second, conflicts become protracted and acquire their own life cycles due to the apathy and indifference of the people most affected by the violence and vested interests which benefit from it and as a result want to escalate and perpetuate the violence. When the SPA launched their PM II, it was primarily the Nepali CSOs and some of their leaders who helped break people's apathy and indifference and inspired them to come out. Third, the facilitation role of some Nepali CSOs during negotiations between the various Nepali state actors and the rebels show their contribution in conflict resolution in Nepal.

LGBTI Issues and Role of CSOs: Due to the effective role played by CSOs working in LGBTI issues in Nepal, drastic changes happened in Nepal. We can now claim that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights in Nepal are one of the most progressive in Asia. The Nepalese Constitution recognizes LGBT rights as fundamental rights. Nepal's current LGBT

laws are some of the most open in the world and expand upon a multitude of rights for LGBT Nepalese.

The Nepalese Government, following the monarchy that ended in 2007, legalized homosexuality across the country in 2007 along with the introduction of several new laws. These new laws explicitly include protections on the basis of sexual orientation.

Based on a ruling of the Supreme Court of Nepal in late 2007, the Government was also looking into legalized same-sex marriage.

In September 2015, several articles mentioning LGBTI rights in the country's Constitution of Nepal were approved by Parliament after lengthy deliberation. These include, but are not limited to:

- Article 12 of the new Constitution states that people have the right to have citizenship ID that reflects their preferred gender.
- Article 18 covers rights to equality and states that the State will not "discriminate [against] any citizens based on origin, religion, race, caste, tribe, gender, language or ideological conviction or any other status."
- Article 18 also lists LGBTI people among disadvantaged groups that are recognized by the Constitution.

The Constitution of Nepal states: 'Nothing shall be deemed to prevent the making of special provisions by law for the protection, empowerment or advancement of the interests of socially and culturally disadvantaged women, Dalits, indigenous peoples, tribes, Madhesi, Tharu, Muslim, ethnic minorities, backward classes, minorities, marginalized, farmers, workers, youth, children, senior citizens, gender and sexual minorities, handicapped persons, pregnant persons, disabled or helpless, people of backward regions and economically disadvantaged citizens.'

- Article 18 also replaces language in the old Constitution that references "male and female" and "son or daughter" with gender-neutral terminology.
- Article 42 of the new Constitution lists "gender and sexual minorities", among groups that will have right to participate in state mechanisms and public services based on the "principle of inclusion".

Case: Sunil Babu Pant and Others v. Nepal Government

One of the first cases to determine the shift in legislation regarding LGBTI rights in Nepal was the 2007 Supreme Court Case, Sunil Babu Pant and Others v. Nepal Government. After their participation in demonstrations that brought down the monarchy, LGBT rights groups, found themselves largely ignored by then current political establishment, and turned to the judiciary as a more effective way to secure their rights. On April 2007, a coalition of organizations representing LGBTI identified Nepalis filed a writ petition under Article 107 (2) of the Interim Constitution of Nepal.

The petition, filed by the several CSOs namely Blue Diamond Society, MITINI Nepal, Cruse AIDS Nepal, and Parichaya Nepal expressed "dissenting view with the prevalent societal structures or norms as well as legal provisions adopted by the state based on the interest of majority people".The petition asked that the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal officially recognize "transgender individuals as a third gender, prohibit any

discriminatory laws on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, and invest due finances for reparations by the State to victims of State violence and discrimination".

On December 21, 2007, the Supreme Court ruled that the new democratic Government must create laws to protect LGBTI rights and change existing laws that are tantamount to discrimination. Based on the Yogyakarta Principles and the Special Procedures of the UN Human Rights Council, the court concluded that sexual orientation is to be defined by one's self-identification and a natural process rather than a result of "mental, emotional or psychological disorder". While not explicitly legalizing same-sex marriage, the ruling instructed the Government to form a committee to look into "decriminalizing and de-stigmatizing same-sex marriage".

A bill to legalize same-sex marriage was being drafted and was supposed to be introduced by 2010. In the drafting of the new Nepalese Constitution, same-sex marriage and protection for sexual minorities were supposed to be established. However, negotiations on the new Constitution failed and the Prime Minister dissolved the Constituent Assembly on May 28, 2012 in preparation for new elections. As a result, the future of explicitly addressing the legality of same-sex marriage is uncertain.

However, in 2012, Nepal's Supreme Court recognized a live-in relationship between a lesbian couple in Rajani Shahi v. National Women's Commission. The Court allowed Rajani Shahi to live with her partner Prem Kumari Nepali as she wished, rather than with her husband.

(Source: Blue Diamond Society Nepal)

Role of CSOs in Senior Citizens' Rights:

Records and evidence suggest that the origin and development of old age homes of a kind in Nepal started since 1938 B.S. However its actual establishment was made in 2030 B.S. Nepal has not been influenced by the first conference on elderly people in Vienna but once the UN declared 1999 A.D. as the international year of elders, Nepal has shown interest in this sector from the part of NGOs and civil society. MOWCSW has listed 52 organizations established to work for senior citizen in one or another form from the part of both government and non-government sector. Besides it has a list of three international organization working directly or/and for the sake of senior citizens.

Indeed the special needs of senior citizens, which deserve serious consideration, were highlighted once the then government led by late Man Mohan Adhikary took an initiative of supporting their lives with an allowance of few hundred rupees on a monthly basis. This was the first example of governmental assistance provided to help senior citizens maintain their livelihood though the amount was small considering the price inflation prevailing at that point of time.

Over the time since Adhikary-led government, which could not last even for one year in 2051 BS, senior citizens' allowance has gone up.

It must be admitted that some of the demands of senior citizens have been fulfilled due to persistent efforts made by the Senior Citizens Samaj and other organization working for CSOs. A few of these demands are related to health benefits like 50 per cent discount to lab tests and even in transport sector senior citizens are provided discounted fares in public conveyances like buses. One of the praiseworthy steps taken by the government with the continued advocacy of CSOs in the field of providing services to the senior citizens is the issuance of Senior Citizen

Identity Card by the Ministry of Children, Women, and Social Welfare. This card has helped the senior citizens claim their facilities in the hospitals and public buses.

The Constitution of Nepal, 2015 has the fundamental rights of senior citizen in Article 41 as “senior citizens will have special protection from the government”. Similarly, senior citizens act 2006 came into existence where there is a provision of petition file by a senior citizen if a family member, relative or heir who has the duty to maintain and care a senior citizen fails to keep with him or her and maintain and care such senior citizen or fails to make provision of maintenance and care, such senior citizen may file a complaint to the Ward Chairperson of the concerned Village Development Committee or Municipality for maintenance and care (Senior Citizens Act, 2063 (2006)). For getting these achievements, CSOs has contributed from their part.

Child Rights:

Before democracy of 1990, there was no as such environment to execute the activities of CSOs. There was not environment for political parties and social sectors. Some initiatives were however taken only on charity based. In Nepal there were two phases before 1990 and after 1950 and 60. After 1950, there was the conception that social sector is all about charity. These were not related to human rights and child rights. The relief measure or welfare approach was there at that time. After 1970, the approach was shifted to development which might be the international phenomena. At that time most of the government office names had “development” in the middle of their names like Education Development, Agriculture Development and others. That had impacted mostly the issue of women as 1975 was the international year of women. The Women in Development (WID) approach was introduced through which a lot of study happened to figure out status of women. The child rights concerns were raised before 1990 in Nepal as there was the organization CWIN established even before the Convention on Child Rights, 1989. Before 1990 social sector was not at citizen’s sphere as there was the presence of Her Majesty as patron and other royal family members.

After democracy in 1990, the interim government formed in Nepal. At that time there was an act named “Association Registration and Control Act” and that basically acted to control rather than registration. And, the civil society lobbied with the Ministry of Law to amend the existing law. The Minister was positive but still this act is existed in the name of “Association Registration Act”. Our current constitution is highly broad but the act seems not that much changed to be compatible with the current constitution of Nepal.

From human rights perspectives, besides civil and political rights, our constitution has ensured broad aspects of economic, social and cultural rights and from child rights perspectives; our constitution is relatively more progressive in the world. It is undoubtedly the major contribution of CSOs to bring child rights and human rights issues meaningfully in the fundamental rights of the constitution. It might be because that we have built our constitution lately and we became successful to incorporate each of the aspects of child rights in our constitution.

The major achievements gained in child rights sector are:

- ✓ Contributed from South Asian level to bring Convention on Child Rights, 1989
- ✓ There were not defined rights of child in human rights. So, defined child rights came into existence.
- ✓ There was not children act in Nepal. However, there were some provisions for children like if we talk about child labour there were some provisions in Factory and Factory Workers Act; if we talk about welfare some provisions were mentioned in Muluki Ain; if we talk about child trafficking, some provisions were mentioned in Jui Masne Bachne Ain (Muluki Ain). So, concrete provisions were not there for children, women and disabled children. However, after the restoration of democracy in 1990, in the sector of children, massive changes happened which is because of the meaningful role and continuous efforts of CSOs.
- ✓ In the interim period, Nepal signed and ratified 11 human rights conventions at once including child rights convention. For its realization, CSOs role was crucial.
- ✓ Brought comprehensive Children Act in 1992.
- ✓ Brought child rights regulations in 1995.
- ✓ Establishment of Center Child Welfare Board and District Child Welfare Committee in 75 districts.
- ✓ Massive campaigns on child rights like Global Education Campaign; National Education Campaign (Right to education, quality education, access to education etc); awareness on child health issues; social security of children (government commitments on block grants to girl child, disabled child and others)
- ✓ Brought Child Labour Act in 1998. For which global campaign for child labour was initiated and Nepal played active role.
- ✓ During conflict period, talked with Maoist to regularize education of children. School as Zone of Peace (SZOP) and Class as Zone of Peace (CZOP) campaigns initiated.
- ✓ Derived the concept of networking for ensuring the rights of children. Networks like NCEA (National Campaign for Education); CZOP and SZOP during conflict period; National Child Protection Forum for social security; Consortium on Child Participation for the promotion of child participation.
- ✓ Started to talk with government for child friendly governance and MoFALD brought child friendly local governance framework and we are regularly working to make child friendly governance at grassroots level.
- ✓ In child rights sector, first intervention then incorporation and now inbuilt system has been developed due to the contribution of CSOs.
- ✓ Initially, CSOs contributed to the government international reports meaningfully where government had to submit the reports in treaties bodies.

“Especially in child rights sector, there was high collaboration with the government sector”, believes Gauri Pradhan. In CZOP Ministry of Education involved; in Child Friendly Governance MoFALD involved; in Child Labour, Ministry of Labour involved; and in child abuse, child protection and child social security, Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare involved.

“Besides in democratic movements of 2006, there was apathetic interest of people towards political parties and their leaders. When then King Gyandra took over, civil society members like Devendra Raj Pandey, Daman Nath Dhungana, Padma Ratnan Tuladhar led to organize the campaigns on the request of senior most leaders (Girija Prasad Koirala, Madhav Nepal, Baburam Bhattarai etc.) and day to day such programs/campaigns turned to the massive campaigns in Nepal, which resulted overthrown of King Gyandra and brought the republic country”, shared Gauri Pradhan.

In Nepal, Human Rights Commission establishment is also because of the engagement of CSOs claimed by Gauri Pradhan, Activist. Constitutionally, there was the provision of Human Rights Commission so CSOs advocated establishing the Commission for that they were detained but afterwards Human Rights Commission Established in Nepal.

Our major challenges in human rights and child rights are how to transfer the commitment into implementation. We have ratified and signed different conventions and the domestication process of such conventions have been started. Some of the national plan of actions were made but not became successful completely in Nepal like Master Plan of Child Labour (2004-14) and after 2014 other master plan has come into existence. It is effective in formal sector to some extent but child labour is more in informal sector. Now the local government has to monitor such informal sector child labour and for that CSOs can also play role to facilitate local government. So, the constitution of Nepal, CFLG, local governments are some of the opportunities for CSOs to contribute in coming days.

The major contribution of CSOs in Nepal is awareness rising in each and every sector. It has always contributed in the development of Nepal because CSOs are older than state as believed by Gauri Pradhan. In building democratic institutions, bringing conceptual clarity on human rights issues, creating a space for dialogue on human rights and child rights issues, to train political leaders and cadres on emerging issues of human rights and rights based approach, and bringing conceptual clarity on human rights to the bureaucratic system including police, these COSs role (soft role) has contributed a lot. We CSOs have opportunity now in the changed context of federal structure that how to lead civil campaigns in restructured model of country; how to lead the human rights campaigns in changed structure; how to cope with the structural problems; how to make the built system systematic etc.

In ensuring educational rights of children, a lot of initiatives have been happened. To figure out the outcomes of such initiatives we can refer the cases below:

Case: Promoting Rights in Schools

As a result of mass conscientization of different CSOs working in education sector on promoting rights in school to the children, parents and school authorities and formation of watch groups and networks for school monitoring, a

lot of changes can be seen. 'The school Improvement Plans' are prepared in line with charter of 10 rights and are implemented in most of the schools.

Likewise, the schools have also started to conduct participatory social audit, developed school code of conduct, established the school assessment board and are conducting regular School Management Committee meeting. Due to the formation of Child Clubs and with their engagement has helped to decrease corporal punishment, untouchability and discrimination issues within the school premises.

Case: Promoting Girls' Education and School Enrollment Campaign

CSOs are being involved in different enrollment campaigns with the slogan like: 'Let us make schools free from violence, sexual abuse and disparity: Let us send all children to schools', have helped to bring the dropped out children back to schools and increased the new enrollment as well. In 2016, more than 12,000 school going aged children got their enrollments in Nepal.

Significant improvement in girls' school enrollments and reduction of their absenteeism at times of menstruation has been noticed after gender friendly toilets in most of the schools were constructed with the provision of clean drinking water, first aid and sanitary pads were provided by different CSOs which has directly benefited to girls' education.

Case: Policy advocacy for education rights

The Eighth amendment of Education Act was endorsed by the legislative parliament on June 4, 2016. CSOs were remarkably engaged with different education networks during the process of tabling the bill in the parliament. The lobbying process included discussion with like-minded political leaders and policy makers to put adequate efforts for amplifying the demands and/or recommendations for the bill.

The significant provisions of the act are the long waited agenda of restructuring present educational system was addressed in the amended act. It has accredited Early Child Education till grade 8 as the basic education. It further bans companies and cooperatives to run school and directs schools to be registered under the education trust. The amendment is progressive in terms of teacher's management as well and it does not allow them to hold a position in political party. Another highlight of the new act is that the chairperson of the SMC will be selected from the committee members.

Similarly, the seven year's School Sector Development Plan (SSDP) has also been developed for its execution till 2022. The SSDP has been expected to improve access, quality, efficiency, internal governance and school resiliency of education system in Nepal.

Further, CSOs' advocacy to include DRR component in school curriculum was done by providing recommendations to Curriculum Development Center during the time of its curriculum revision for grade 1-5. Additionally, several policy discourses on public education and SDGs are ongoing with a major objective that education must be considered as a foundation to meet SDGs.

Case: Complementing Quality Education

To implement minimum benchmarks in public schools and ensure quality education, an initiative of model community school building was undertaken in coordination with DEO and local stakeholders in Palpa by ActionAid Nepal. The minimum benchmarks include the availability of necessary school infrastructures and educational equipments as well as the implementation of child-friendly teaching learning process.

Promotion of Child Centered Learning has supported to create better learning environment within the school along with an improved quality of education and creativity of the children. Further, small scale support for school infrastructural development, playing materials and learning aids like computers, books and stationeries has helped to complement for quality education.

(Source: ActionAid Nepal)

Women Rights

In South Asian countries Nepal has lately endorsed some achievable women right acts with CSOs and government agencies. President of Sankalpa Ms. Lily Thapa elaborated the background of CSOs' role in Nepal. She said, Beijing conference of 1995 AD (the platform for CSOs contribution) highlighted especially Women rights issues related with the context of Nepal. In 6th five yearly planning Nepal government was not able to define women rights more but just included in human rights; this was directed through welfare approach but right based approach was recognized only after 9th five yearly plan of Nepal. Since after lobby and advocacy, single women protection fund was initiated by CSOs and later government recognized its essence. If we see the history of Nepal, Women's human right was observed and analyzed by NGOs or CSOs in Nepal. The term 'inclusive' is generally pointed out by political leaders in Nepal which is devised actually by active women in Nepal.

Women group as a pressure group that has confirmed their meaningful participation in wide sectors. Chhaupadi, Baikalya (a system to be married girl before starting her menstruation) the marriage system was abolished by High Court itself. Likewise, these hidden issues are acknowledged and advocated by CSOs for the meaningful participation of women in Nepal. Those who were elected in Constitutional assembly were the marginalized women who were leading 11 drafting committee which was only possible through CSOs support and also the revised Muluki Ain itself has been envisioned similarly. Further other women rights issues related to health was also lobbied and advocated by CSOs. We can look to a case below:

Case: Policy advocacy for women's right

Carvical Cancer is the most frequent cancer affecting women in Nepal. At present, approximately 3.2 million Nepali women aged 30-60 years require screening for it, yet only an estimated 2% of women have received such screening due to its excessive cost and /or limited testing facilities. ActionAid Nepal along with other NGOs including Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) regularly engaged to advocate on its free check-up; and finally, the Government circulated the directives to all health centers for providing free pap smear test.

Further, the Government has announced to provide NRs 100,000 for the treatment of cancer patients and has also made special provision for the earthquake survivor single women to provide extra NRs 50,000 for building a house. Recent Government Plan and budget 2016/17 doubled the social security fund for single women i.e NRs 1,000/month.

For ensuring rights of rural women in development agenda, 'Rural Women Policy' was drafted after series of district and national level consultative workshops with the government stakeholders by the CSOs. Currently, the policy is awaiting for final approval from the government.

(Source: ActionAid Nepal)

Some Gaps in the Theme Democracy:

There is no doubt that due to the contribution of CSOs, different international conventions and treaties were lobbied for ratifications and some optional protocols are still being lobbied for ratification. Due to their effective lobby and advocacy, it was possible to pressurize government to ratify more than 11 international treaties but after its ratification CSOs supported government only to make periodic reports without properly advocating and lobbied to the government for its effective implementation.

In democratic front, our country is still in transition phase. The phase is gradually completing its period but some transitional justice issues are yet to overcome. The government was compelled to firm the commissions to deal with the cases of conflicts but the commissions' work seems not effective. Here, the state can for the authoritarian practice on dealing the cases of transitional justice but even CSOs' role seems not effective to support and monitor government actions on transitional justice. It seems that neither the government is willing properly to support the set commissions to work properly on transactional justice issues and nor the CSOs role seems effective to support the set commissions on their working procedures. This issue must be settled to furnished good democratic practice in the country.

Different achievements are achieved in democracy and democratic practices in Nepal. However, there are still challenges to institutionalize the gained achievements. CSOs seem pretty happy on counting the achievements in democratic practices but their roles are not being pinpointed to institutionalize democracy so that gained achievements can be nurtured properly. Without nurturing and ensuring the achieved achievements, there will always be chances of its depletion. CSOs seem not that much serious on that part which must be looked upon by CSOs to perpetuate democratic culture in the country.

4.2 Good Governance:

After the movement of 1990 or restoration of democracy in 1990, the openness among the civil society organizations situated due to the democratic environment. The Constitution of 1990 accepts civil society organizations as active organizations of the country. Constitution provides freedom to form political parties and associations including ensures press freedom. Due to this fact, grow of civil society organizations possible in Nepal. During 27 years' (1990 to 2017) period, there has been drastic positive and effective change in level of awareness among people, level of confidence among different vulnerable groups, capacity enhanced in putting their demands and seeking the particular rights of their communities and groups, built capacity in seeking equal participation rights in constitutional process including sensitization of class and creeds. These are the major achievements after 1990 in Nepal. The political change happened in 1990 with the contribution of political parties supported by CSOs but the social change was entirely happened due to the contribution of CSOs in Nepal. Thus, the social change was only possible in Nepal due to the major contribution of CSOs undoubtedly.

“During conflict period from 1995-2005, the CSOs contributed even to preserve democracy in the country”, believes Kedar Khadka, Governance Activist. He further clarifies that it was possible due to the initiatives of CSOs at national and international level by creating environment of brotherhood from human rights perspectives, transparency and accountability and overall good governance perspectives. Due to which the country was saved from going to dictatorial system even in conflict period. There was chance of dictatorship from Monarchy and from the Maoist also. During people’s movement, the role of CSOs was utmost efficient. CSOs fought for the rights of people and they contributed to aware people massively. The alternative thought to 12-point agreement was possible through the contribution of CSOs from which our country turned to republic country. Actually, CSOs campaigned at national and international level to provide space for Maoists to come into the mainstream of politics through 12 points peace accord.

In the first Constitution, we can see most of the leaders were there in Constituent Assembly who were previously there in CSOs. Thus, in the first Constituent Assembly, the massive discussion was possible in building constitution where the discussion and sharing were happened from national and international experiences and for such environment CSOs had created campaigns to facilitate such dialogues and discussion. Even though first CA was failed, but in terms of rigorous discussion, dialogues and sensitization, it was successful to cultivate major issues and ideas to incorporate in the constitution of Nepal and for that CSOs played a major role as they worked even to sensitize and facilitate particularly women, Dalit and marginalized group representing CA members. That is what the outcome in our Constitution as inclusive and non-discriminatory.

For governance point of view, to create enabling environment for the elections of first and second CA, there was major role played by CSOs. The CSOs played the role through electoral education to the citizens, and election monitoring and supervision which supported to ensure the free and fair elections. Due to the intervening, regular pressure and critical role played by CSOs, the political parties came into agreement to promulgate constitution sidelining their disagreement and differences. CSOs played the role to ensure the credibility of second CA elections and the promulgated Constitution at national and international level. Through that approach of CSOs now the country is gradually crossing the border of transition, sidelining differences with the acceptance of Constitution through the election of local, provincial and federal structures. There has always role played by CSOs in putting pressure to political parties to come into consensus on national issues. So from governance point of view, to sustain democracy and to provide unanimity in the country, CSOs have always played a critical role in the country. CSOs members have contributed being there in the political parties and outside of political parties. They are raising their voice from outside and incorporating the raised voice inside. CSOs are the campaigners of change and they are the change agents. The ideological change can be done by political parties but to come into that ideologies, CSOs can play the role. Thus, the instrumental role can be played by CSOs and they have been doing so.

From governance perspective, we have gained inclusive and progressive constitution. Our constitution is the best constitution among the best and around 92% geographical population has accepted it. Due to the contribution and demands of CSOs, the constitution of 1990 had also ensured 11-12 fundamental rights. If there were no demands from CSOs, whatever came in the fundamental rights like freedom to form association, right to property, right to privacy, press freedom etc. would not be possible. There were a lot of amendments happened in the interim constitution on which there was role of CSOs. Now, we have most progressive constitution on which there are 31 fundamental rights. To ensure all these fundamental rights in the constitution, CSOs have played meaningful roles. Now, we don't necessarily have to record all international covenants and treaties, our constitution has recorded and ensured provisions of international covenants and treaties itself. All human rights articles major provisions are now provisioned in our constitution like Beyond Beijing, ACCRA Agenda, BUSHAN, Paris Principles etc. are already onboard in our constitution, which is undoubtedly the principal contribution of CSOs.

Similarly, CSOs played monitoring, scrutinizing and intervening roles. They played a role as watchdog to monitor the activities of government. From the year 2063, CSOs role has been shifted to policy intervention. They have been largely involved in facilitating to make policies. Now, they are acting as stakeholders of policy formulation and its awareness. Even in different acts, their recognition as stakeholders has been ensured now.

Through CSOs' contribution, Good Governance Act, 2064; Good Governance Regulations 2065; Right to Information Act 2064; Right to Information Rules 2065; Establishment of National Information Commission; Three Acts promulgated one at a time to promote the rights of CIAA

in 2059; Anti-Corruption Policy, 2065; Ratification of United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), Whistle Blower law, Strengthening of National Surveillance Center, Department of Money Laundering, Department of Revenue Collection. Thus, to make act, legal framework and to facilitate oversight agencies, we cannot undermine the role of CSOs. Further, Local Self Governance Act, 2055 and Regulation, 2056 came into existence. In law making process of LSGA, there was high level of engagement of CSOs. All of the provisions (about 60%) mentioned in LSGA, 2055, are there in Local Governance Act now. Besides, the constitutional commissions like Dalit Commission, Women's Commission, Muslim Commission etc. are also because of the regular and effective contribution of CSOs. All those class based sensitization has now been institutionalized and it is because of CSOs. There are now different commissions which are ensured by the constitution of Nepal and it was not possible without the contribution of CSOs. Due to this fact, our constitution has recognized the role of CSOs in our constitution which means that CSOs role has been recognized in the development of Nepal.

Case: Interim Constitution Drafting Committee Formation and Participation of Women

Despite women's multiple forms of engagement of women, women's representation scarcely improved in the interim government process that followed the signing of the peace accord. "After considerable pressure from female politicians and women's organizations (CSOs), however, the six-member all-male Interim Constitution Drafting Committee was eventually expanded to include four women and one representative from the Dalit community. During the drafting of the Interim Constitution, women in political parties and civil society continued to lobby for guaranteed women's representation in the new political institutions that were to be established. Their voices were finally heard and, at the last minute, a clause calling for affirmative action for women's political representation was incorporated into the new Interim Constitution, which was adopted in January 2007.

(Source: UNDP, 2014)

Some Gaps in the Theme Good Governance:

Even though CSOs contributed effectively for the promotion and institutionalization of good governance in the country, they are always targeted and questioned on internal and institutional governance. There are some cases revealed out challenging good governance of the CSOs which eventually hampered to all the CSOs and make them alert to ensure good governance system within their organization. Questioning to the problems of internal governance of the CSOs, they accept the fact that some rigorous steps must be taken by themselves to improve their own governance system, which means, they have realized the facts that there are some problems in their institutional governance which must be improved through concrete efforts.

There is blame to the CSOs of Nepal that they do not have their own ideologies and beliefs. They are being driven and diluted by foreign ideas and ideologies due to lack of resources and sustainable measures to function the activities of CSOs. To some extent, this fact cannot be ignored due to which CSOs governance can be challenged. Actually, CSOs major concept is volunteerism which is in these days gradually diluting due to flooding of funds from funding

agencies on establishing their interests without considering the context of the project areas. Some of the CSOs are project driven only cultivating to the ideas and beliefs of funding agencies that must be looked seriously by the CSOs who are working and those are not in this category should advocate against such misdeeds of CSOs to correct themselves.

It has been found to some extent and blame to the CSOs that some of the CSOs are divided in different groups and perspectives, inclined to one or the other political parties. Thus, they are only centered on the ideologies and beliefs of such groups and political parties. Even government is blaming that CSOs are not interested to go where government assigned. It is a factual scenario that most of the CSOs are working with the concept of cluster and accessibility justifying to get better results in the working areas, which has automatically ignored the remotest areas where there is a need of intervention. These gaps need to be reviewed by the CSOs by identifying the needy areas so that each nook and corner shall be benefited.

It has been found that there is high completion among CSOs working in similar objectives and themes. There is minimum culture of working together in the same theme with the collaborative efforts of the CSOs that has resulted revelry attitude among them. The CSOs must understand the fact that collaboration is the best solution for achieving common goal and common goal cannot be achieved without concrete efforts of all.

In terms of accountability, CSOs ensures upward accountability meaningfully but most of the CSOs are weak to maintain linier and downward accountability. The three plight of accountability must be equally prioritized and dealt by the CSOs so that target beneficiaries and concerned stakeholders feel ownership towards the intervention of CSOs. Similarly, most of the CSOs do not practice to ensure transparency of their deeds. It is a blame to the CSOs that they work at local level but they do not submit any progress reports at local level.

The government structures and mechanisms seem not positive towards the activities and deeds of CSOs. So, the government is trying to mainstream the activities of CSOs on their channels only and the CSOs are not willing to work under the instructions of government. Thus, the scenario seems unhealthy. From governance point of view, CSOs' role here seems crucial to maintain the relationship for the development of country.

4.3 Empowerment:

Women's Empowerment:

CSOs came in Nepal in that particular time period which was truly important. CSOs have played the role in ensuring the rights of people, raised the voice of people and revealed out the issues which were previously under carpet (needed to be advocated but not advocated). In the monarch regime Nepal, there was high discrimination in caste, class and ethnicity. The distribution of resources was not just based. When there is no equitable and just distribution of resources, even the rights gainers could not go ahead. In certain periphery people did not have access to come ahead and show the potentiality. They did not have any exposure on their rights and access to the resources. Such resources were captured by the royal family members and other interest groups. Even political parties could not work drastically to change such situation. Thus, there was a need of people's own organized groups and efforts to bring changes. To advocate the issues there was a need of organized voice and to raise the voice people had to come out from the home. Hence, there CSOs role flourished bringing people out from their homes and aware them on their particular and specific rights. For this, NGOs, CBOs, groups, clubs and CSOs contributed at their levels. So, vulnerable, marginalized, deprived section of people sensitization and awareness was only possible due to the crucial role of CSOs. Through this efforts democracy also restored in Nepal. CSOs contributed to aware vulnerable people on the issues of human rights and democracy. Through these efforts, people became aware on the rights one by one so that today's republic country has been possible.

Among the vulnerable most vulnerable groups were women. They were discriminated severely due to several factors. Due to double and triple roles and basically reproductive roles of women, they have always been discriminated. Due to patriarchal mindset, women are compelled to be discriminated and they were even more discriminated beforehand. And, due to religion and cultural aspects, women were left behind. Even women did not feel themselves that they should come out from the homes. So, to cope with that patriarchal mindset and to fight against such discriminatory behaviors, women had to come out and somebody had to bring women out from their homes. So, to bring women out from their homes and make them aware n their rights, CSOs spent more time and they have become successful to some extent. Even after coming out from homes, CSOs contributed a lot for their capacity building and sensitization. We can take the example of property rights campaign of women, where women were aware on their claim on property but women themselves were saying negatively at that time that "*Maita Masna Paidaina Sampati Pani Chaidaina*". So, for such women members CSOs invested a lot to make them completely aware on their rights.

When women came outside of the homes and came in the community, they became able to organize and to have some exposure. They did not have economic strength so the concept of cooperative and micro finance came across to make women economically empowered. Cooperatives and even micro finance is one of the successful initiatives taken in Nepal through

which number of women's economic burdens have been settled and it has impacted positively to the education, health and sanitation measures of the households including supportive to reduce number of violence and abuses against women cases. Initially, these all cooperatives and micro finance initiatives were taken by the CSOs and that was later on adopted by the government of Nepal.

Now, altogether there are hundreds of cooperatives in Nepal where thousands of women are organized. Women are now organized in all 75 districts with the name of Women Rights Forum and other loose networks. The women rights forum has the grassroots level networks up to ward level. Through cooperatives and other formed women networks and groups, now women members are aware and empowered on women rights issues, VAW issues and other emerging issues. They might not know more about national and international instruments on women rights but they are aware what are the rights of women, what are the rights of Dalit, marginalized and deprived sections of people. To make them organized, socially and economically empowered CSOs' role is undoubtedly crucial.

“Besides that there was great contribution from CSOs to empower women to ensure their participation at decision making level. We can see the women's participation has gradually been increasing in each and every sector including political parties. In our first CA, 33% women's participation was ensured and in second CA it was 29 %. The political parties are now sensitized to ensure women's participation in portfolios. Around 42% women were elected from local elections. At least 33% ensured participation of women at all state mechanisms has been written in our constitution. For all this happening, CSOs can claim its contribution as they advocated, lobbied and campaigned from the year 1990. Without regular efforts, such achievements could not be possible”, shares Sharmila Karki, Rights Activist. The constitution has assured women's participation and empowerment issues with specific provisions and to make it happen, we cannot undermine CSOs role. Rights of women are ensured in Article 38 of the constitution of Nepal.

Nepal's Constitution does not permit discrimination on the basis of sex and advocates special legal provisions to protect and advance the interests of women. The Local Self Governance Act (LSGA), 1999 also introduced mandatory representation of women in local government. These are written only because of the regular advocacy of CSOs.

Nepal has ratified the Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). However, the government has not signed the Optional Protocol to CEDAW, which would give women the right to challenge the discriminatory laws internationally, that must be advocated by the CSOs now.

The Ministry of Women and Social Welfare, established in 1995, was renamed the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MWCSW) in 2000. Nepal set up the National Women's Commission (NWC) in 2002 which is for the support of women rights.

Until the recent 2008 Constituent Assembly election, women's political participation in Nepal's national legislature was negligible. Women's representation in the parliamentary elections held in 1991, 1994 and 1999 stood at less than 6 percent in the parliament in all of these elections - a dismal result and far too low. The situation of women's representation in state organs and political parties are dismal. In the last local election in 1997 women's representation increased as members of VDC and Municipality due to a legal provision for 20 percent reservation (1997, a royal decentralization ordinance) for women. This gradual increase and sensitization in women's participation is because of the contribution of CSOs.

Due to the empowerment of women, women have participated actively in the people's movement supporting democracy; women participated in a large number during the 1990 democratic movement as well as in the 2006 people's movement.

Women's issues were brought in the national and international forums through CEDAW and CSW by CSOs. Issues of women were brought in UN and different forums and through which supported to make national laws and provisions for women rights at national level. These all initiatives were taken by CSOs in Nepal.

So, whatever investment has been done by CSOs for women empowerment in Nepal that is indeed a great contribution to the nation. What political parties are getting empowered-women now is all because of the regular investment of CSOs. CSOs empowered women and now they are prioritized by political parties in providing tickets to contest elections and in coming days they will be the means and vehicles in the development of Nepal. Thus, CSOs are one or the other way contributing to the nation.

According to FWLD, through regular litigation and advocacy, several laws were made in favor of women, even the marital rape was penalized. Just recently, the parliament of Nepal has criminalized an ancient Hindu practice called *Chhaupadi* that banishes women from the home during menstruation and after childbirth. Similarly, the parliament of Nepal has passed a law where polygamy will be automatically cancelled. These all achievements are because of the continuous role of CSOs in Nepal which has brought Nepal in the position of a democratic country now.

According to the status report of MDG published by National Planning Commission, 2016, our country gender equality has been remarkably improved,

- ▶ Gender parity has been achieved at primary and secondary education levels with gender parity index (GPI) scores of 1.09 in primary and 1.0 in secondary education in 2015.
- ▶ The literacy gap between 15–24 year old males and females has reduced but significant differences remain between males and females, geographic regions and income quintiles.

- ▶ The share of women engaged in wage employment in the non-agriculture sector has increased to 44.8 percent, but gender inequality in employment and incomes persists, mostly due to women's lower skill levels and their unpaid care responsibilities.
- ▶ The head of state, speaker and the judiciary are currently women and close to one-third of Nepal's members of parliament are women.
- ▶ In the civil service, the representation of women has doubled in the last decade due to affirmative action; although the presence of women in positions of high authority is still limited.
- ▶ And women are increasingly opting for non-traditional sectors such as overseas employment and jobs in the police and army.
- ▶ Although a large number of women join the teaching profession at the primary level, their representation decreases at secondary and tertiary levels.

These all achievements are because of the crucial role played by CSOs in Nepal. However, there are still challenges that many women and girls suffer from gender based violence (GBV), which constrains their access to economic opportunities, their ability to exercise their legal rights to services, and their education, health and well-being. The 2015 earthquakes compounded the risks and vulnerabilities of women and girls. These challenges should be addressed by CSOs in Nepal in coming days.

Some Achievements in Women's Empowerment:

Elected Women in Local Elections:

<i>Mayor</i>	<i>Deputy Mayor</i>	<i>Chairperson</i>	<i>Vice-Chairperson</i>	<i>Ward Chairperson</i>	<i>Women Member (Dalit)</i>	<i>Women Member</i>	<i>Openly Elected</i>	<i>Total</i>
5	199	11	367	53	5301	5469	217	11,622

(Source: Jagaran Nepal)

Achievements in Single Women Sector:

- *Over 100,000 single women are organized in groups. These single women are organized and trained to act as agents of change in their respective communities.*
- *Lobbied with the government to collect data on widows and now Nepal is the second country in the South Asian Region after India to have data on widowhood at National level*
- *Incorporated the issues of single women in 10th and 11th five-year plan and also in 3 year interim plan of Nepal which has helped to promote the issues of single women at national and international levels.*
- *Formed the National Network for Single Women which includes the Ministry of Women and other national & international organizations*
- *Trained and mobilized thousands of single women as change agents which resulted in decreasing violence at local level*
- *Raised issues concerning the need for social security schemes for single women at the national level which has been reflected in the Directive Principles and Policies of the Constitution of Nepal, 2015.*

- For the first time in history The Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MoWCSW) announced its decision to set up an Emergency Trust Fund solely for the single women (widows) in Nepal and declared its decision to develop a National Action Plan for Widows in Nepal in which WHR will be included in drafting, preparing and enforcing this plan.
- Nepalese Government allocated budget for the social security allowance (widows Allowances) to all the single women regardless of age in the 2068/069 National Policy and Programs
- Establishment of Single Women Emergency Fund has been approved by Women Children and Social Welfare Ministry 5th June 2013.

Through constant lobbying and raising awareness, Single women campaign has successfully changed many discriminatory laws against single women, such as:

1. The deceased husband's property no longer needs to be returned after remarriage.
2. Selling or changing property ownership don't require the consent of adult sons and unmarried daughters.
3. Single women no longer need to wait till the age of 35 years to inherit deceased husband's property.
4. Single women do not have to remain in the chastity of their deceased husband to inherit property.
5. Protest against the Government Budgetary policy on providing NRs. 50000 to couple who marries widow and amended the policy.
6. Single women no longer need to take consent of male family member to obtain a passport.
7. Government has announced the practice of Vaikalya (child widows) as ill-practice that should not be continued.

(Source: Women for Human Rights, single women group (WHR))

Case: Empowerment in Chepang Women

Chepang is the second highly marginalized community out of 59 indigenous communities in Nepal. According to Central Bureau of Statistics, 2011, Chepang population exceeds 68,000 and they mostly reside in six districts- Dhading, Gorkha, Chitwan, Makwanpur, Tanahun, and Lamjung. The population of Chepang in Chitwan is 28,963 out of which 49% is of male. With the funding support of UNDEF, DEC-Nepal implemented a program to empower Chapang women in Chitwan.

When the program was initiated in 2015, it was reported that no any Chepang women was significantly involved in political parties or decision making positions of any user groups. In the period of two years, there are evidences that demonstrate increasing leadership role of Chepang women. In Chitwan, 25 Chepang leaders including 6 Chapang women won the local elections held in May, 2017. The number of Chepang women who contested elections was more than 15. The number of winning does not matter as their confidence to contest the local elections itself is a big win for creating relicable effects in promoting leadership role modes for other women in the communities.

In the process of empowering Chepang women, seris of sensitization events were organized for increasing engagement of influential male leaders. In the process of project interventions, even these Chapang men felt encouraged to sharpen their leadership skills.

It is not only n political process, but there are also increased representation of Chepang women in different organizations, groups and networks in working 7VDCs of the program in Chitwan.

Local governance	Total
Forest Users Committee	79
Water and Sand Users Committee	46

<i>Ward Citizen Forum</i>	5
<i>School Management Committee</i>	54
<i>Citizen Awareness Center</i>	15
<i>Cooperatives</i>	23
<i>Political Parties</i>	13
<i>Village Councils</i>	9
<i>Women's Groups</i>	150
<i>Total</i>	439

(Source: DEC-Nepal)

Empowerment of Dalits and Deprived Section of People:

1990 year was the changed context in Nepal. Before 1990, Dalits, Adhibasi, Marginalized, deprived section of people were in the grasp of autocratic system. At that time, these communities were not in position to oppose the system and provide the alternatives. Some communities might be with political parties but major part of these communities were compelled to support the system. Some of the organizations were already there before 1990 like *Nepal Rastriya Dalit Samaj Kalyan Sangh* and some political based dalits organizations were already there with or without in touch with some political parties. There was active dalit organization namely Nepal Dalit Mukti Samaj. This organization had branches in 75 districts of Nepal. They would do rally and mass meeting in villages and municipalities. So, there was an organized force of Dalits before 1990 also.

After 1990, Dalit liberation campaign started at NGO, political levels (Janabargiya sangathan) and independent level with political agenda. In the democratic spare after 1990, there was a need of a national level organization for dalit's unity. So, Dalit Mukti Samaj formed where there were the involvement of political parties' (Jana Morcha, CPN-ML, Congress,). Dalit Mukti Samaj was not a NGO but it worked in partnership with progressive force in the country and advocated the issues of Dalits. Through Dalit Mukti Samaj and in coordination with progressive force like INSEC and others including civil society members like Daman Nath Dhungana, Padma Ratna Tuladhar, they campaigned for their rights to enter into temple, water fetch campaign from tap and pond, political engagement of dalits related discussions etc. Such activities were conducted by Dalit Mukti Samaj for a decade through which the supported to unified political sector.

During the period, some Dalits issue advocating NGOs were groomed in the country. Some project based Dalit organizations also came into existence. Besides, ActionAid, Luthern, and Care Nepal supported the issues of Dalits in Nepal. Other organizations also formed like Dalit Welfare Organization (DWO), FEDO, Janauthhan Pratisthanetc. Then Dalit NGO Federation Formed in 2051 BS to advocate dalit issues jointly. Dalit NGO Federation contributed a lot to internationalize dalits issues. It raised the issue of Dalit participation in development of Nepal. Besides, different dalit empowerment initiatives were taken by forming dalit groups and

cooperatives at community level. DWO initiated radio and TV program for the issue of Dalit rights. *Dalit Kalyan Sangh* initiated programs for the political engagement and empowerment of dalits community. Janautthan contributed to do research on dalits issues and Jagaran Media Center worked to mainstream dalit issues in media. Similarly at regional level RDN Nepal established and it worked for Dalit in Politics. Dalit parliament concept was started by RDN during the take over of then King Gyandra and at that time it demanded for the restoration of democracy and raised the issues of dalits. Dalit Mukti Samaj worked for political leadership. It took part in World Conference against Racism, Durban, 2001. So, it contributed to boost up the issues of dalits at international level.

In 2056 BS, Dead Animal Body Refuse Movement (Sino Bahiskar Andolan) started in Terai belt. The issue became national issue. All movements were centered on this movement. Before that Temple Enter Movement was carried out at national level which contributed to break the silence of Dalit community. This breaking of cultural barrier contributed Dalit to take part in the elections of 2054 BS. Such political awareness was increased among Dalit community and “Dalit” word was translated into the form of political identity in Nepal.

In 2056 BS, Nepal Government established National Dalit Commission which was established through nationwide Dalit movement on the rights of Dalits. Then after, Dalit Development Committee was formed. In these committee and commission Dalit rights activists were the members. In 2048 only one Dalit member was elected for the house of representative and only 2-3 members were there in National Assembly. Dalit community inclusive issues raised massively. So, in police force and in civil servant sector there was reserved seat for Dalits. Due to which Dalits community members got opportunity to be empowered.

The *Janabargiya* Committees were formed after 2055 BS by different political parties including Nepali Congress, UML and Maoists. Besides, Terai based Dalit organization was also established to raised the issue of Terai based dalits.

Dalit based CSOs started working through three-pillar approach. First, they raised the issue of Dalit's identity (whom to say Dalits, what are their main issues and problems of dalits, dalits participation, segregation, research etc). Second, they organized Dalits (in political parties and NGOs). Third, service to the dalits (employment rights, land rights, access to natural resources rights, claim in decision making process etc.). Then the community was organized in cooperatives through which their economic empowerment enriched.

Dalit community also got a lot of skill based and right based trainings from CSOs. Right based training made them confidence to claim their needs from the local agencies and service providers. Due to the contribution of CSOs, now Dalit community's bargaining power with political parties has also been increased as political parties these days trying to give tickets and to make members of political parties rather influence through kinds and goods. CSOs provided

information about the provisions and facilities to the community members and they became aware and demanding to get the provided facilities.

Haliya and Kamaiya movements including Badi women liberation movements happened in Nepal and to make it happen there was a great role of CSOs. Equal fare and wages movements happened in Nepal and it became successful due to the intervention of CSOs. Constitutionally, there are a lot of provisions ensured for Dalits, marginalized, deprived and vulnerable section of people. The constitutional provision of at least one Dalit member in ward level is the great achievements achieved by Dalit due to the pressure and lobby of CSOs.

Dalits have now access to credit due to cooperative initiatives and they are economically independent. The livelihood education to Dalits supported to the livelihood of Dalits community.

So, in nutshell these are major achievements happened due to the empowerment of Dalits:

- Dalit rights have been ensured in the fundamental rights of the constitution of Nepal that means Dalits identity has been ensured which is great achievement in South Asia. For that CSOs contributed a lot in terms of advocacy and lobby.
- Dalits participation issue has been ensured in our constitution. Like at least one Dalit women from each ward in local level election; at least 2-3 Dalit members in the executive of all village municipality and municipality; 40% PR inclusive members in central and provincial elections; compulsory provision of one dalit member in National Assembly from each province etc.
- Provisions against untouchability and discrimination and provisions for access and participation ensured in the constitution of Nepal.
- Establishment of constitutional National Dalit Commission.
- Dalit Development Committee under MoFALD.
- Advisory committee in the leadership of Prime Minister where Dalit community representation has been ensured.
- High Level Executive Board in the leadership of chief-secretary where Dalit representation has been ensured.
- District Coordination Center in each DDC where Dalit representation has been ensured.
- Dalit desk in police station and courts.
- Dalit problems were initially understood as the issues of untouchability only but now it has been established as inclusion in political party issue, inclusion in administrative sector, inclusion in election constituency etc.
- Now issue has been raised on landless people and among landless Dalits are majority groups.
- Inclusion process has been started to solve the problems of unemployment and reserved 9-15% seats are available for Dalits.
- Different bad-costumes were abolished from Nepal like Haliya, Kamaiya. These are now in rehabilitation process.
- Large group of Dalits are gradually being educated.

- Dalits large groups are now in different positions. 2 Dalits are already there in court; one CDO; one regional administrator, SP, DSP and Deputy, Joint secretary and officers are in large numbers.
- The country is declared as “Untouchability Free Country”. Caste Based Discrimination and Untouchability (Offence and Punishment) Act, 2068 (2011) came into existence to regulate the declaration. This is the most progressive act ever came in Nepal. This act has allowed to file case against and number of cases are filed in court also.
- In local elections, 4 Mayors, 9 Deputy and vice-chiefs, 1 village municipality chairperson and 31 ward chairperson have been elected. 8 chiefs and 5 deputy chiefs are elected in district coordination committee. These are out from the reserved quotas.
- At least 6000 women dalits have been come from local election through dalit quota and 75 dalit members came in District Coordination Committee.
- 13% representation rights of Dalits has been ensured in the constitution of Nepal.

Now, three things have to be done to institutionalize Dalit movement:

- Dalits should be united to reduce differences within their groups. They have to work themselves.
- All progressive force should be united to solve the problems of Dalits and be united to implement the constitutional provisions.
- All political parties should be united to solve the problems of Dalits.

Indigenous People’s Rights:

Since 2006, Nepal has taken major steps to ensure increased participation of indigenous peoples in policy making through provisions in the Interim Constitution of Nepal 2007 and a new electoral law that requires political parties to ensure proportional representation of all excluded groups in parliament. Similar measures have been taken in the civil service and other state structures. In 2002, the National Foundation for the Development of Indigenous Nationalities (NFDIN) was established to oversee the development interests of indigenous peoples and to make policy recommendations. Currently, the government recognizes 59 indigenous nationalities and a process is underway to reclassify other groups that are seeking this recognition. In 2007, Nepal formally acknowledged that indigenous peoples have suffered historic exclusion, limiting them in exercising their right to identity, with all the associated impacts on their participation in the overall development process. Nepal therefore decided to ratify International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples. Nepal also endorsed the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), following its adoption on 13 September 2007 by the United Nations General Assembly. Among other things, UNDRIP emphasizes the importance of inclusive communication and media and provides a benchmark to guide and inspire efforts to promote and protect indigenous peoples’ rights. All these achievements were achieved due to regular lobby and advocacy of CSOs working for the rights of indigenous people.

Case: Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) mechanism is instrumental to conflict resolution

ILO C169 underscores the value of consultation and participation both as objectives in themselves, and as a means of enabling indigenous peoples to participate fully in decision-making that affects them. The UNDRIP similarly emphasizes the importance of obtaining consent. For indigenous peoples in Nepal, where ILO C169 was adopted in 2007, participation in the Constituent Assembly is seen as key to enabling them to ‘own’ the national constitution and address longstanding structural violence and historical injustices against them. Despite being recognized in the country’s interim constitution, this right to participation has been denied to date. There is therefore huge demand among indigenous peoples for a mechanism to make FPIC standard practice locally and nationally. Against this background, NEFIN has been working to promote FPIC at community level through a series of awareness-raising sessions. FPIC mechanism committees have already been formed in four districts to provide recommendations to donors and government on applying FPIC in practice. At a time when indigenous peoples’ rights are moving up Nepal’s development agenda, establishing an FPIC mechanism is likely to result in increased support from the international donor community. International development agencies, NGOs and INGOs active in Nepal adhere to a set of Basic Operating Guidelines (BOGs) based on the principles of impartiality, transparency, accountability and inclusion – a system established during the country’s internal armed conflict to enable development work to continue within an insecure environment. However there has been reluctance among donors to contribute; several have seen projects stall owing to inadequate prior consultation with indigenous stakeholders. Many feel an FPIC mechanism would help overcome such setbacks.

In April 2013, Nepal’s Supreme Court ordered the government to amend the Constitutional Assembly Act and Regulations to ensure the participation of indigenous peoples in accordance with relevant instruments, including ILO C169. The same month, ILO representatives and BOGs signatories took part in an ‘interaction programme’, during which donors learned from leading Nepalese indigenous activist Dr Krishna Bhattachan about the importance of FPIC, and from ILO representatives about the ILO’s experience in this field as well as the UNIPP programme.

(Source: UNIPP, 2014)

Some Gaps in the Theme Empowerment:

Due to the regular advocacy and lobby of CSOs, government also compelled to bring positive discrimination policy, measures and approach for the empowerment of deprived and vulnerable section of people. There are different plans and policies adopted to address the issues of vulnerable and deprived section of people in the periodic plans of government also. However, there is laps to work together meaningfully in the plans and approaches of government for the upliftment and empowerment of deprived and vulnerable section of people. Neither the government seems interested to work with CSOs nor the CSOs seem ready to work with the approaches of government, which has resulted to deliver the activities meaningfully as planed in periodic plans.

Some of empowerment aspects for the empowerment of women, dalits, marginalized and ethnic minorities were meaningfully translated into practices by CSOs. However, they could not reach to the hard to reach group meaningfully by ensuring their participation in decision making. Some hard to reach groups’ representation have been ensured but their meaningful participation yet to ensure and for that CSOs must work rigorously.

It is the practice of most of the CSOs that they develop projects or programs without consulting the target groups and concerned stakeholders. When they do not consult the target groups and stakeholders, there will high chance of misinterpreting the context diluting the real context of the project areas. Thus, there is chance of laps on ownership from the beginning also. Similarly, it is the practice of most of the CSOs that they ignore the participation of target groups from designing the programs to its monitoring and evaluation. CSOs cannot believe that the target beneficiaries can monitor the programs. So, these gaps need to be addressed.

Most of the CSOs themselves believe that they worked meaningfully for the empowerment of deprived and vulnerable section of people ignoring the duties of citizens. Due to the empowerment measures only civic responsibilities are not being internalized with the target groups due to which these groups only drives with the ideas of demanding rather responsive to the context and situation that has and will create problems for being responsible situation. On crating responsible citizens CSOs need to work further.

4.4 Livelihood

In livelihood, CSOs worked adequately in technology transform and technology innovation. Mainly on agriculture extension and experimentation CSOs worked should be acclaimed. 90% CSOs have taken livelihood as cross cutting issue. The livelihood termed has been used by CSOs as IGA (Income Generating Activity). Besides, people centered research domain like to test the variety of food grains, test the variety of vegetables, breed selection process of small scale animals, CSOs have worked in collaboration with government in Nepal. CSOs contribution can be figured in small scale enterprising and middle scale enterprising. In people's enterprising, CSOs have contributed a lot. The government fund has been allocated in poverty alleviation fund and fund board and the CSOs are delivering their performance in basically livelihood with the use of such funds. Livelihood is a major aspect of financial asset and to assure the financial assets CSOs have contributed.

CSOs contribution in the field of livelihood seems not controversial. The government has accepted the contribution of CSOs in livelihood. There is good partnership with government agencies those who are working in livelihood sectors. CSOs have supported to build small scale infrastructure, physical assets, capital assets, and human resources through which adequate formation of financial capital has been happened like saving and credit groups, small scale banks, and investment in income generating activities. From natural resource capital or natural resource assets, positive discrimination approach has been established. It means that there is access of Dalits, women, and other vulnerable groups to local funds, access to community forests, low interest loans etc.

In human resource, CSOs have a lot of subject matters specialists and social mobilizers. The availability of local resource persons (LRP) is the human resource generated by CSOs in the field of livelihood. There is availability of ginger LRP, tea LRP, *Amliso* LRP etc. This contribution has been appreciated by the country also.

There are exemplarily successful cases in poultry, goat rearing, pig rearing, vegetable farming, ginger farming etc. in livelihood sectors through which the income level of farmers has been increased massively which has contributed to the consumption pattern thereafter eventually the national economy of the country. Moreover, such increased income has contributed to the social sector like health, education, sanitation and others also.

In resilient part, CSOs have contributed more on immediate relief and rescue and some reconstruction works when disaster happened. *Dhurmus-Suntali* Sample village initiative was one of the remarkable contribution from people's side which has been appreciated at national and international levels too.

Some of the synergy with government programs were also initiated by CSOs like Community Support Program of DFID where complete program implementation modalities were developed

in consultation with VDC. The VDC plans were developed and on that plans CSOs supported either. So, this modality has some successful cases where government collaboration was sought and maintained properly.

There was no any provision of government to provide assets to the people in livelihood but CSOs established that provisions thereafter government initiated Poverty Alleviation Fund and Fund Board concepts. In livelihood most of the government programs seem to be centered to big and rich farmers and even subsidy is being given to those farmers who has a lot of cattle. However, CSOs contributed by doing need based assessment first and are being prioritized the people as per the findings of assessment. Thus, through this approach at least needy people are getting benefits from the livelihood supports through which poor people and small farmers are getting benefits.

A lot of CSOs have contributed to livestock support. The package program has been initiated by some of the CSOs through which people's lives have been changed. We can take an example of Heifer where it has now reached to 250,000 families in 31 districts. Package livelihood support was provided through which the livable income of each family is now reached to NRs 300,000 per annum. There are 209 Hifer cooperatives in 41 districts where a total of 90 crore capital is there. Through that capital around 250,000 families are being benefited and they are supporting on their economic and social spheres. The collective market of goat meat has been created by around 80 cooperatives.

Besides this, some of the successful livelihood related projects are "Strengthening Smallholder Enterprises of Livestock Value Chain (SLVC) for Poverty Reduction and Economic Growth. The project was supported by Heifer. The project has supported 128, 732 smallholder families from 30 districts and connected them to different farmers' organization since 2012. The impact of SLVC project measured across the five domains was:

Increase income and assets: Each project family acquired assets worth NPR 93, 253 in FY 14 and additional assets worth NPR 105,164 in FY 15. Farmers have increased the sale of goats by 185%.

Food security and nutrition: 75% of the project families have food availability year round. Percentage of families with food availability for less than 3 months/year has decreased from 35.9% to 0%.

Diet diversity: Out of 12 food categories recommended by FAO project families consumed 7 types of food ingredients on average each day including at least one type of animal source food.

Livestock productivity and production: Goat productivity increased by 26% in FY 14 and by 36% in FY 15 and milk production increased by 69%.

Environment: 52% of families have enough for year around availability of fodder/forage; 34% of families have 4-8 months availability of food/forage and 23% families have below 4 months availability of fodder/forage.

Women's Empowerment: The percentage of women holding leadership positions in various committees and forums have increased from 34% in FY 14 to 47% in FY 15. 55% of women have decision making power over productive assets and 67% of the women have equitable control over the family income.

Social Capital: 98% of the families have shown commitment to pass on the gifts they have received from Heifer to another needy family and help them achieve the similar progress that they have attained. 144 social entrepreneur cooperatives (SEW) registered and 42, 326 joined SEW.

Other project named "Kisankalagi Unnat Bui-Bijan Karyakram- Improvement in Goat Productivity. It is government project supported by Heifer in implementation primarily in Gulmi and Arghakhachi. The project has reached out to 1369 household through 54 self-help groups since 2014.

These two are the cases of Heifer projects. There are a lot of national and international organizations that have contributed to the promotion of livelihood. Through such supports, social capital formation, increase in productivity and production, value chain actors' engagement and market promotion of livestock's products have been possible.

Contribution to form Community Forestry:

CSOs contributed to spell out the concept of community forestry in Nepal. Community forestry is one of the successful cases of Nepal which has set its exemplary role in the field of forest conservation and its reciprocate benefits to the community securing livelihood and living standard of people.

The Nepalese government has identified that about 60 per cent of Nepal's total forest area has the potential for community forestry. In practice, community forests cover nearly 30 per cent of the total forest area and 48 per cent of the area identified as having the potential for community forests. More than 130,000 user groups are involved in community forestry, with more than two million households benefitting from their management of 1.7 million hectares of community forests. Community forests have also created natural capital in the form of new forests, and improved existing forest conditions and biodiversity. According to a 2013 report from the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, forest conditions have improved overall since the handover to CFUGs, with 86 per cent showing improvements in forest conditions. This effect has been particularly pronounced in the mountainous regions, where CFUGs have significantly increased the area of forested land, thus reducing landslides and soil erosion, protecting

watersheds, and increasing the country's agricultural output. In 2011, Nepal's Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation conducted an in-depth national survey of households in 137 CFUGs across the country, which concluded that community forests have increased the participation and incomes of the rural poor, women and Dalits (lower-caste groups). Community forests have also enhanced the capacity of local people for planning and implementing forestry and other development work. Their decentralised approach to policy-making and budgeting has made them popular with communities. The economic benefits have been particularly pronounced. Besides the income generated by agriculture and the collection of raw forest products, CFUGs have also been engaged in on-site added-value processing of raw materials, with positive results for local economic development.

The same government report showed that an average of 640 days of employment are created for each CFUG, which at an average salary of US\$2 per day (for unskilled manual labour). The study claims that CFUGs make an average profit of US\$1144 per year, totalling US\$13.7 million for CFUGs across the country. Income generation varies greatly, however, depending on the size of the forests. There are major differences between the income generated by forest areas of more than 100 hectares, and those under. Currently 25 per cent of total income from the community forest must be used for the management, protection and development of the forest itself; 35 per cent must be mobilized for programmes targeted to marginalized groups, as identified by the government's participatory well-being ranking. Each CFUG decides how to spend this money, based on government guidelines and its own management plan. Community forest advocates are now arguing that more funds need to be directed towards individual households, rather than primarily being spent on collective forest management and community development.

(Source: Green Foundation Nepal, 2015)

Some Cases on livelihood and livestock:

Case: Masini builds temporary livestock shelter (TLS) to rebuild her livelihood

In the aftermath of the Nepal Earthquake, the urgent need for shelters was apparent. As people were struggling to find shelter for themselves and their families, they were forced to leave their livestock out in the open, exposing them to extreme weather – hot days and cold nights – increasing their vulnerability to diseases and infections. To protect smallholder farmers from further losses, HEAL-Nepal supported farmers in the construction of 1,350 model temporary livestock shelters (TLS). The TLSs can be constructed with low investment using locally available materials, are resistant to seismic activities and have been approved by Department of Livestock Services.

Masini Waiba from Fataksila, Sindhupalchowk district, is one of the farmers who received the support from HEAL-Nepal in construction of the model TLS. She lost her house during the earthquake which also destroyed her goat shed, which was built adjacent to the house, a common practice in Nepal. In the following days, she tied her goats out in the open. As a result her flock started suffering from diarrhea and the common cold while two of her goats died from pneumonia. After building the TLS she shares, "I am grateful that the project helped me in construction of this improved shed. The vet doctors were in here to provide health services to the rest of the animals and oversee

shed construction. Now I understand that we need to construct animals' shelter far from our houses. My goats are also recovering now."

Gayatri Nepal, along with other farmers from the community, has also constructed TLSs following the instructions of veterinary officers from HEAL-Nepal after seeing Masini's progress. Gayatri shares, "After the earthquake, I cannot afford any additional losses.

So after seeing that Masini's goats were getting better so quickly, I decided to construct one as well. This is a good investment as even if we have big aftershocks I don't need to worry about losing more of my goats."

Sarala Nepal, another neighbor who has built TLS similar to that of Masini's cheerfully shared, "Constructing the TLS has been a boon for me and my family. This October I will be selling three meat goats that will bring at least NPR 40,000 (USD approx. 400). This will be enough to celebrate Dashain and Tihar –our two major festivals."

The HEAL project has constructed 1,350 temporary livestock sheds. As per the crude estimation from the interview with project beneficiaries, a goat shed can provide benefit of NPR. 20,000 (USD 200) per household per annum and a dairy animal shed can provide up to NPR. 40,000 (USD 400) per household per annum. Moreover, farmers can protect their livestock assets through these sheds.

(Source: Heifer International)

Case: Innovative experiences of a women-led Small Farmers Agro Cooperative Limited (SFACL) Khaireni Parsha

The SFACL was established in 2004 and has 1953 members. The cooperative is affiliated to the Nepal Agricultural Cooperative Central Federation Limited (NACCFCL) and Small Farmers Development Bank (SFDB). NACCFCL provides support in terms of capacity building, market access, networking and linkages with relevant agencies, and promotes lobby and advocacy with the government at national level. The SFDB provides financial services.

The SFACL Khaireni Parsha is an example of the unique, three tiered systematic approach and structure of all SFACL's (refer to figure 1 and 2) formed under the umbrella of NACCFCL. In 2008 the cooperative received a national award from the Small Farmers Development Bank as an excellent example of a cooperative characterized by proper management and an efficient governance system.

-Currently, the cooperative counts a total amount of 1953 members, all of which are women. The cooperative is structured as follows: - 291 Small Farmers Groups (SFGs), which are the smallest unit at village level; Representatives of Small Farmer members (5-12 members) form an SFG at grassroot level. The SFGs are responsible for deciding matters such as savings collection, and decisions on loan and community development activities in the village. The staff of SFCL conduct household surveys/well-being rankings to identify the target groups and potential members. If the number of target households is sufficient to form an SFG, the staff facilitate the formation. Only one member an SFG is allowed per family. Once the SFG is formed, it must be endorsed by the Inter-Group and MC. Each incoming member must buy a minimum share of NRs. 100. To become eligible to get a loan, a new member has to deposit regular monthly savings for at least for 3 months (in some SFCLs up to 8 months) and comply with the by-laws and policies of the SFCL.

- 13 intergroups (IGs), which are the unit at ward level; Two or more SFG form an IG at the ward level. The main role of an IG is to supervise and coordinate SFG activities under it.

- 1 Main Committee (MC) at VDC level; All IG Chairpersons from each IG form the MC/ Board of Director (BOARD) of the cooperative at VDC level. The BOARD is the main governing body of all SFCLs. It formulates

plans and policies and hires staff to implement these plans and activities. The BOARD is accountable to the GA and is composed of 11 members (President, Vice-President and 9 members (1 representative per each of the 9 wards).

The three-tiered and decentralized structure of the Khaireni cooperative provides equal and democratic opportunities of participation to its members, ensures ownership and management by small farmers and promotes solidarity and cohesion within the group of members. Each SFG selects one representative to participate in the intergroup, and one representative from each Intergroup is represented in the Board of the cooperative.

- a. The territory of Khaireni: The members of the cooperative recalled how in the past the forest occupied most of the local territory whereas the land for agriculture was only a minor portion. The wildlife was much more numerous than nowadays and the main crops produced at the time were rice, corn, mustard and some silk. The agriculture was very simple in the absence of any technical equipment, like tractors, and the population was also partially dedicated to livestock (cows, buffalos, sheep). The market was mostly based on exchanges of products and there were no services in the area such as schools, hospitals, or municipal offices.*
- b. In the present, the territory has changed: the land for agriculture has increased and the wildlife as well as the forest area, has decreased. The agricultural land property is becoming very fragmented, as it is often subdivided at the family level. Regardless, the land is also scarce and many farmers are leasing lands from others. The irrigation system has improved with respect to the past, and the agriculture is now done with the use of modern equipment. In 2014, Khaireni has become a Municipality and nowadays it is provided with different kind of services for its inhabitants, like schools, district and municipal offices, hospitals, increased public transportation, and electricity etc. The main activity is still agriculture, however farmers have diversified their livelihood through the production of new cultivations and livestock production (banana, pigs, fish etc).*
- c. As a future vision, the cooperative members dream that their territory can have a better organized farming area and that the fragmentation of land can be reduced. They also dream to have secondary level schools and are able to benefit more from the touristic potential offered by the National Park.*

The Small Farmers Agro Cooperative Khaireni Parsha was constituted in 2003, when it started its activities as part of a replication programme with the Sana Kisan Krishi Sahakari Santha cooperative, located in Bachauli. The replication Programme was successfully concluded in 2006. In 2005 the cooperative was officially registered at the Division Cooperative Office and it already counted 400 members - all of which were women, as it was, and still is the main condition to become a member of this cooperative. In 2008, only a few years after its constitution, the cooperative received a national award from the Small Farmers Development Bank; it was selected amongst more than 350 cooperatives in the country. Among the main reasons for this selection: i) the high number of members; ii) High level of women's participation; iii) the good management of financial resources; iv) 100% of loan repayment from its members; v) the high number of loan investment in business development activities. From the beginning the main objective of the cooperative is to facilitate the inclusion of the small and poorest farmers, namely "Sana Kisan (Small Farmers)" in Nepalese, and support their poverty alleviation through the improvement of their livelihoods, the provisions of microloans for small business, the encouragement of savings and the provision of fertilizers, seeds and other kinds of services, such as training and capacity building programmes and a remittances programme. In 2011 they purchased the building where the cooperative is still located and finalized the affiliation to the district union.

(Source: <http://asia.procasur.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/2.-Khairhani.pdf>)

Case: Village became safe after embankment

Musahar community of Shergunj has constructed 150-meter embankment with the support from District Soil Conservation and Water shed management Office, Nawalparasi. It has helped resist flood and ensured the safety of 72 households and 30 bighas of their land.

The Musahar community has been residing on landlord's land in Shergunj from 2025 BS. The community is in remote area and hardly has any budget for infrastructure development. Fishing is the major source of income for the people there.

The community people were engaged in rigorous PVA (Poverty Vulnerable Analysis) exercise with the facilitation of ActionAid Nepal. Through it, they found that the land cutting is increasing everyday and there is an immediate need to take precautions. The problem was incorporated in Disaster Management Plan as well.

As one of the precautions measures, the DMC decided to construct an embankment and started exploring fund for it. After much effort, it was able to receive 72 nets from District Soil Conservation and Watershed Management Office. For the stones, the community people arranged it by utilizing the available public resources and finally 150-meter embankment was constructed through the labour contribution of community people themselves.

(Source: ActionAid Nepal)

Case: Real-Time Flood Data and Science Products Support Flood Monitoring in Nepal

Floods are a major natural disaster aggravating poverty in the Indus and Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna (GBM) basins, which is home to over 600 million people and almost half of the world's poor. The increasing frequency and intensity of transboundary flood events in the Hindu Kush Himalayan (HKH) region, which is likely to continue or worsen due to climate change, reinforces the importance of regional cooperation and capacity development in flood forecasting and early warning systems. The HKH HYCOS Initiative (2009-2014), implemented by ICIMOD jointly with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and partners from the regional member countries of Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Nepal, and Pakistan, has focused on the establishment of a regional flood information system and methodologies to obtain real-time hydrological observations.

During the 2014 monsoon season, a pilot Regional Flood Outlook was set up for the Ganges and Brahmaputra basins. A hydrologic and hydrodynamic model using Mike 11 was developed, calibrated, and validated. The model produced three-day flood outlooks (i.e., 24 hour, 48 hour, and 72 hour), for 21 nodes in the Ganges and Brahmaputra basins. A flood situation was correctly estimated for the period 14–16 August 2014 in various river basins, including the Koshi at Chatara, the Karnali at Chisapani, and the Narayani at Devghat in Nepal when intense rainfall occurred across the Himalayas.

ICIMOD provided the flood outlook for various locations in Nepal to the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology (DHM). Based on the flood outlook, DHM prepared a flood bulletin and disseminated warnings to the Ministry of Home Affairs in Nepal and also issued a statement on their website. This allowed for the warnings to be widely disseminated for better flood preparedness when the water levels in the various rivers crossed the alert and danger levels and widespread flooding occurred. Based on the encouraging performance during the pilot phase, the regional flood outlook is being further improved to develop more reliable and accurate forecasts.

(Source: ICIMOD)

Case: Monitoring Nepal's Bread Basket

(New technologies have helped to create a comprehensive crop monitoring system)

In the southern part of the Koshi basin, the mountains and hills of the Himalayas flatten out to wide, stretching plains. These plains run along the Nepal-India border, and comprise some of the country's most fertile land. More than half of Nepal's agriculture is based in this region, and the crops grown here are shipped to other regions throughout Nepal. Because of this, reliable and timely weather forecasts and information around seasonal cropping patterns are critical in assuring the region's food security. Until now, however, Nepal has lacked a comprehensive system that brings this information together in a meaningful way.

Responding to this need, ICIMOD in 2014 partnered with Nepal's Ministry of Agricultural Development (MOAD) and the World Food Programme (WFP) to integrate new technologies in crop monitoring to create a technologically advanced, real-time system that contributes to understanding and analysis of agriculture in Nepal. The system brings together data collected from open source remote sensing technology, satellites, ground-based hydrometeorological stations, public and private domains, and volunteers. It provides information on local and regional cropping systems. The products of this crop monitoring system are fed into a twice-yearly Crop Situation Update produced by MOAD, WFP, and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The Crop Situation Update provides a comprehensive overview of the domestic food supply situation by focusing on the production and trade of major summer and winter crops in Nepal. It also helps to identify anomalies in the country's food production, which reveals areas that need special attention. weather forecasts, the area of crops sown, crop health, and drought probabilities.

In addition, ICIMOD is striving to make vital information from the crop monitoring system accessible to farmers. A team is making use of the growing ubiquity of mobile phones in Nepal and creating an app that gives information on crops and drought. While mobile technologies have been aiding farmers in India and elsewhere in recent years, no comparable resources yet exist in Nepal. The app developers plan to include information on weather, crop season, best farming practices, local crops, agricultural market prices and arrivals, availability of fertilizers, electricity timings, disaster warnings, training opportunities, government schemes, plant and veterinary disease prevention, and financing and insurance services. Moreover, a drought monitoring system, which is in the process of being developed, will provide short- and long-term information on predicted droughts. The team also plans to translate the information on the app into Nepali script so that more farmers will be able to use it. The app is expected to be launched by the end of 2015.

With both the online monitoring system and the app, the programme hopes to deliver accurate agricultural information to the people who depend on it most. This information has the potential to not only bolster the livelihoods of farmers, but also improve environmental management and resilience to climate change in Nepal.

The crop monitoring system is a collaborative initiative between the Sustainable Development Investment Portfolio supported Koshi Basin Programme and the USAID- and NASA- supported SERVIR-Himalaya initiative at ICIMOD.

(Source: ICIMOD)

Some Gaps in the Theme Livelihood:

In livelihood sector, CSOs contributed on different capitals of livelihood. However, there seems low level of contribution in building resilience of the people. Some initiatives were taken by some of the INGOs and NGOs but in building resilience a concrete efforts were in minimal level. We can take the example of 2 years back earthquake where hundreds of locals' livelihoods were collapsed due to lack of in-built resilience system and livelihood strategies in the country. The government has managed DRR mechanisms and there is participation of CSOs also in the DRR but it seems that that will be active during disaster period. So, in our country livelihood analysis in terms of livelihood strategies, livelihood vulnerability and livelihood interdependence have not been analyzed properly due to which we are always prone to cope with any disaster and

maintain our livelihood. CSOs thus work collectively and collaboratively with the mechanisms of government to maintain sustainable livelihood.

4.5 Service Delivery

In service delivery sector also CSOs have contributed a lot. Service delivery sectors incorporate education, health/sanitation and infrastructure support provided by CSOs.

Education:

In education basically the school building construction, school toilets, educational materials support, library support, construction of walls etc. were initiated and supported by the CSOs. Child enrollment campaigns, education for all campaigns, child friendly learning campaigns, girl child education etc. were successfully initiated by CSOs through which the score of Nepal in MDGs educational goals were achieved remarkably.

According to the final status report of MDG published by National Planning Commission Nepal, 2016,

- ▶ Nepal's very good progress on achieving universal primary education (large increases of the net enrolment ratio (NER) to 96.6, the survival rate to 89.4 percent and the literacy rate (15-24 years) to 88.6 percent (all 2013 figures).
- ▶ The gender parity ratio in primary level gross enrolment stood at 1.09 and the NER at 0.99 in 2015.

For this achievement, the supporting factors were:

- ▶ The establishment of the Department of Education, the transition from A project to a sector-wide approach followed by the integration of various programmes and projects, (principally the Basic Primary Education Programme, the Education for All and the School Sector Reform Programme)
- ▶ Decentralization of school management to communities,
- ▶ The preparation of individual school improvement plans
- ▶ The financial and social auditing of schools, the supervision of schools by resource centres, supporting schools through per capita grants, and mainstreaming religious schools.
- ▶ The introduction of the National Curriculum Framework and the establishment of a system for assessing learning outcomes

- ▶ The provision of midday meals, other health and nutrition programmes and scholarships and toilets for girls.
- ▶ A National Literacy Campaign and the establishment of community learning centres

Health:

In health sector, the construction of health posts, supply of medicine and meals to the affected and mal-nutrient children, distribution of vitamin A, nutrient food distribution to pregnant and maternal women to massive awareness on health and sanitation issues; vaccine and immunization campaigns of government and collaboration of CSOs, awareness on HIV/AIDS, WASH awareness campaigns, ODF campaigns of government and collaboration by CSOs etc. were greatly initiated by CSOs in Nepal.

The National Vitamin A Programme (NVAP) was established in Nepal in 1993, following the recommendation of national and international partners to conduct mass supplementation of vitamin A in 32 focus districts. The districts were selected based on several criteria such as high prevalence of xerophthalmia (drying and degeneration of the cornea leading to blindness), large child population, and the presence of FCHVs and NGOs/CSOs to support the program. The NVAP aimed to provide: (a) vitamin A supplements to children under five years of age, (b) treat children with vitamin A treatable conditions such as measles, xerophthalmia and night blindness and (c) promote consumption of vitamin rich foods through nutrition education.

Starting with eight districts in 1993, the programme was expanded to 32-priority districts in Nepal by 2002. The FCHVs and the community played a crucial role in the dissemination of correct information and acceptance of vitamin A. The vitamin A capsules were distributed by the FCHVs once in April during the pre-measles season and approaching the high risk season for xerophthalmia, and the second time in October prior to the harvesting season. Each round took two days, with fixed-point distribution on the first day followed by home visits for missed children on the second day.

A key feature of the programme is the intensive social mobilisation. The work of the FCHV was complemented by the support of diverse community partners such as ward members, teachers, students, family members, members of women's development work, NGOs and INGOs, Maternal Child Health Workers (MCHWs), Village Health Workers (VHWs) and farmer leaders (farmers who were appointed by the Ministry of Agriculture to serve as peer facilitators). For every 100 FCHVs trained, another 171 multi-sectoral staff from various sectors such as local development, education and health were trained to supplement the ongoing program. This helped ensure that vitamin A messages were disseminated through various sections of the community through diverse sectoral partners.

Now, Vitamin A deficiency is no longer a public health problem in Nepal. Today, 95 percent of the 3.3 million targeted children are reached in every round. The prevalence of Bitot's Spots among pre-school children has reduced from 2.9 to 0.3, which is below the WHO accepted standards (< 0.5). Over the years, the caregivers' opinion about the usefulness of vitamin A changed from being "good for the eyes" to "something that prevents disease"

A major part of the success of the NVAP can be attributed to the social mobilisation and community outreach work by the FCHVs. This helped overcome the barriers posed by the low mass media access and the difficult terrain in the area. The presence of motivated and dedicated FCHVs and mothers groups in each ward (village) provided a strong community network that was maintained through IPC. Starting from the FCHVs, the message was disseminated to a series of community members. For instance, FCHVs would convince mothers about the importance of vitamin A who would tell her neighbour, who in turn would pass the information to others.

The FCHVs diffused the vitamin A message through diverse local platforms such as teashops, during religious festivals and community gatherings, and by engaging other change agents and opinion leaders at different levels.

The case of Vitamin A promotion in Nepal highlights how a multi-sectoral approach, grounded in social mobilisation and using IPC and peer health facilitators from the community (i.e. FCHVs), can contribute to mass dissemination of health messages and widespread adoption of a preventive behaviour (giving children vitamin A supplements).

Similarly, according to the final status report of MDG, 2016,

- ▶ Achieved all the targets under MDG 4 — reducing the infant mortality rate (IMR), reducing the under-five mortality rate (U5MR) and increasing immunization against measles.
- ▶ The IMR of 108 per 1,000 live births in 1990 and 64 in the year 2000 reduced to 33 per 1,000 live births in 2014 thereby achieving the MDG target early.
- ▶ The U5MR of 162 per 1,000 live births in 1990 and 91 in 2000 reduced to 38 per 1,000 live births in 2014.
- ▶ The immunization programme against measles has been successful as 92.6 percent of one-year old children were immunized against measles in 2015.

Further in maternal health,

- ▶ The MMR in Nepal in 1990 was one of the highest in the world at 850 deaths per 100,000 live births. It declined to 281 in 2005 and 258 in 2015.

- ▶ The proportion of women delivering their babies with the help of a skilled birth attendant increased from just 7 percent in 1990 to 55.6 percent in 2014, a nearly eight-fold increase.
- ▶ The large reduction in the MMR is associated with the fall in the total fertility rate (TFR) from 5.3 in 1996 to 2.3 in 2014.

The report has indicated some challenges on maternal health that these improvements have not been uniform and major disparities exist between rural and urban areas and among eco-geographical regions and social groups. Most of the MDG reproductive health indicators were only partially met by 2015. So, CSOs have to work to address such challenges in coming days.

In HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, same status report mentioned that,

- ▶ The HIV infection rate (15-49 years) was 0.3 percent in 2000. It was maintained at around this rate for another five years after which it decreased to 0.2 percent.
- ▶ The rate of infection among 15–24 year olds was reduced by 80 percent between 2000 and 2015.
- ▶ Of the estimated number of people living with HIV, 26.5 percent were enrolled in antiretroviral therapy (ART) in 2015.
- ▶ Nepal stands at the pre-elimination phase for malaria with a substantial reduction in malaria incidence and zero death rates.
- ▶ Nepal has achieved three of the four MDG targets (Proportional of TB Cases detected, partially achieved) on tuberculosis.
- ▶ It has halted and reversed the spread of TB, as reflected in the declining prevalence and death rates, and has met the target of 91 percent of cases being treated under the Directly Observed Treatment Short Course (DOTS).

In this area, there are still concerns on,

- ▶ HIV is 85 percent driven by sexual transmission. However, in 2015 only 66 percent of 15–24 year olds had used a condom during their last sexual encounter and only 36 percent of them had comprehensive knowledge of HIV and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS).
- ▶ There are concerns about the slow reduction of indigenous Plasmodium vivax cases (protozoal parasite), inconsistent data, lack of information on some indicators, growing drug resistance and the spread of malaria beyond the southern plains.

These all achievements are because of the crucial and effective roles played by CSOs in the country undoubtedly which have been appreciated at national and international levels too. In WASH also, due to the collaborative efforts of CSOs, government became successful to declare most the VDCs as ODF zone. This is remarkable achievements in WASH sector contributed and supported by CSOs.

We can take an example of NEWAH, which has specialization on drinking water, health promotion and sanitation. Through its own initiation following achievements have been happened till data:

<i>Water points built community</i>	<i>32,527</i>
<i>Water points built school</i>	<i>418</i>
<i>Number of households latrine built</i>	<i>146,723</i>
<i>Number of other latrine built</i>	<i>3157</i>
<i>Number of students benefited</i>	<i>282,780</i>
<i>Number of school latrines built</i>	<i>663</i>

(Source: NEWAH)

Case: School-led total sanitation seems unstoppable:

Chitwan, Nepal: Shanti lives with her young son in Birendra Nagar VDC (Village Development Committee, or area covered by a VDC), in the Chitwan district of Nepal. Chitwan is in the Terai, or lower-lying plains area of this mountainous country, where animal and plant-life abound and the landscape is verdant. But Shanti's situation is hard. She is a dalit from the poorest stratum of society, and a migrant with no right to permanent membership in the community. Her husband has gone to India to work in whatever casual labouring job he can find. She occupies a flimsy house on public land behind the Shri Rastriya Primary School, always fearful that if she upsets the local community they will send her packing.

This school, where her boy attends Grade 11, occupies an important place in Shanti's life. Firstly, it represents the family's future hopes: both Shanti and her husband are illiterate, and she is determined that her son — her one and only child — will succeed in building a different kind of life via education. And secondly, the school's outreach programme for healthy living has impinged on Shanti's own lifestyle and that of other women in the neighbourhood. All the houses in the designated 'school catchment' — a total of 244 — are targeted for full sanitization by 2009, meaning that they will all have abandoned the practice of 'open defecation' and built their own toilet.

The Shri Rastriya Primary School was originally targeted by the UNICEF-supported School Sanitation and Hygiene Education (SSHE) programme. This imparted a sense of responsibility among students for their own hygiene and sanitary behaviour. They took on duties cleaning the school, sweeping the compound, maintaining

the toilet blocks, and other actions to improve the school and feel pride in it. Child Clubs were formed — Nepal has been a pioneer in child participation — and became a positive force for development, drawing upon their teachers' and parents' advice, and running campaigns and awareness creation activities to promote public health. Schools also involved Parent-Teacher Associations: Shanti is a member of the PTA at Shree Rastriya Primary School.

Building on Strengths:

Until the mid-1990s, little effort was made by the Nepali government to tackle the question of basic sanitation. A 1994 survey reported latrine coverage of only 12 per cent. In 1998, a national sanitation steering committee was set up involving many governmental and non-governmental partners, and the following year, a Basic Sanitation Package (BSP) was developed and carried out in most districts where water supply programmes were underway. The BSP addressed the problems facing poorer citizens in managing to afford the cost of a toilet — 38 per cent of Nepalis live on less than US\$1 a day — by including provisions for revolving loan funds and financial incentives.

In 2000, yearly celebration of National Sanitation Action Week (NSAW) and the School Sanitation and Hygiene Education (SSHE) programme was launched to promote school and community sanitation and hygiene. Within the next few years, 1,000 schools took up SSHE and began focusing on child- and woman-friendly facilities. In particular, they looked at problems facing girls. Lack of separate toilets where they could deal in privacy with menstruation kept many girls away from school after puberty. They felt too exposed to boys' taunts and feared sexual harassment.

Following the international articulation of the Millennium Development Goal for sanitation in 2002, Nepal expressed determination to achieve universal toilet coverage by 2017. Recognizing the success of SSHE and the way in which children in Nepal were proving themselves as agents of change, UNICEF proposed a new model to speed up the pace of coverage. This was School Led Total Sanitation (SLTS), and it was designed to build on the existing strengths of local and internationally-reputed programmes. The approach incorporated basic elements of the School Sanitation and Hygiene Education (SSHE) programme, the reward and revolving fund aspects of the Basic Sanitation Package (BSP), and the participatory tools and techniques of Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) adapted from elsewhere.

Since 2005, the SLTS programme has been set in motion in 15 districts of Nepal where UNICEF is active. Altogether, SLTS is reaching out to 60,000 households with 300,000 people, with leadership coming from 200 schools — of which Shri Rastriya Primary School is one. There are tiers of sanitation steering committees at regional and district levels, performing supervisory and mobilizing roles. But the key work on the ground is done by school-based Child Clubs and sanitation sub-committees at the community level. They are the bodies that take the lead in most activities, with support from teachers, Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs), school management committees, local women's groups and other community-based organizations.

The Implementation of SLTs:

In the preparatory phase, the district school sanitation committee selects the schools for SLTS— they have to have been active in school sanitation for at least a year — and deploys staff to brief the school and community. The Child Clubs are geared up and sanitation sub-committees formed. These have between seven and 11 members, and include a head teacher, a Child Club chairperson, a representative of the PTA and of the school management committee. They map the households in the 'school catchment area' and find out whether they have toilets. Then they develop a SLTS

action plan. Training is given to all those taking an implementing role, and publicity materials developed for use during the campaign.

In the implementation or ‘ignition’ phase, the facilitators hold meetings in the communities, just as in CLTS, and talk openly about defecation. But instead of ‘walks of shame’ around open defecation sites, they conduct ‘walks of praise’ intended to build on people’s strengths and self-respect. They seek a positive response to encouragement and motivation, rather than using words associated with shame and humiliation. Flags are erected to mark open defecation sites. Flow diagrams are used to estimate the volume of dangerous material lying about and chart the paths of disease. The outcome is a commitment to abandon ‘open defecation’ and construct household toilets.

Support for Implementation:

Supportive activities continue over the implementation phase. Rules on sanitation and hygiene practices are formulated in the school and community, with fixed rewards. Varied advocacy and awareness generation activities are carried out in schools and communities using different means and media. Information boards are set up and brochures distributed. Fund-raising generates resources for helping truly indigent families. Special campaigns are held during National Sanitation Action Week with demonstrations, videos and creative programmes such as street dramas and song competitions. Child Clubs organize Exchange visits.

Most importantly, the revolving loan fund is established, with support from UNICEF, government and the Village Development Committee (VDC). In Birendra Nagar VDC where Shanti lives, the revolving fund was supplied with Rs. 200,000 (US\$2,900), and each family could be given a loan of about Rs. 4,000 (US\$58.00) for a period of six months to one year without any interest charge. The cost of a moderately priced toilet is around Rs. 5,000 (US\$72). So far, there is a 100 per cent record of loan repayment. ‘People who are poor are very careful with loan repayment because they fear losing their house and their land if they fail,’ Shanti explains.

In Shanti’s case however, obtaining a loan is difficult. ‘The users’ committee is reluctant to disburse the loan to a squatter family. Once the loan is given, the implication is that we have been granted legal recognition to settle in the area for ever.’ Here is an indication that the poorest, the dalit and landless people may be excluded from support — even though they are the ones who need it most. Shanti is hoping that her husband will send her enough money to build her own toilet to get around this problem.

‘We have done it, Sir!’

The community of Dakshin Ayodhyapuri lies in a remote part of Chitwan. The Chepang and Praja people who live in these forests are tribals without landholding status, and are among the country’s most underprivileged. Despite the difficulties of introducing sanitation in such an area, the primary school Headmaster determined in 2007 to make the school catchment area of 126 households ‘open defecation free’. The Headmaster, teachers and students visited every single home to discuss construction and use of toilets.

Within 40 days, 71 toilets had miraculously been built. The Headmaster, together with some of his staff, then went about digging pits to bury the dried and scattered faeces still lying around in the fields. So impressed, and so ashamed, were the inhabitants to see the Headmaster cleaning up their shit that they insisted in taking over the job from him. The Headmaster then offered a prize to any student who found faeces lying around and reported the culprit’s name.

The long vacation then intervened. After weeks away from school, the students rushed to greet the headmaster, clinging to his arms to be the first to report that they had rigorously used the new toilets and washed their hands

with soap after defecation. Now, they said, they would be the ones to give a prize to their Headmaster if he could spot any visible trace of a public nuisance. 'Open defecation free' status has been gained, largely thanks to the leadership role the Headmaster in Dakshin Ayodhyapuri personally assumed.

In the meantime, she is sharing the toilet of one of her neighbours, Asha Ram Chaudhary. Asha was able to take a loan, and Shanti reached an understanding with him that if she provided building materials and gave her labour, she could use the toilet until such time as she could build her own. 'I would definitely feel proud to have my own toilet,' she says. But for the time being, she is one of only three households sharing their toilets, while another 56 still have temporary or rudimentary facilities. The rest — 185 families — have all built permanent facilities.

When there is no further 'open defecation' in a school catchment, the flags can be taken down and the community declared ODF: open defecation free. So far, this has happened in 75 school catchments, 25 settlements and four VDCs. Another 125 school catchments are close. Each school responsible for a catchment receives an award of Rs. 10,000-20,000 from the district committee. Reports are given to the authorities and the media, and then regular monitoring begins. Suggestions will be made for upgrading where a toilet is very basic and liable to collapse, fill up, or become unpleasant. Emphasis is also given to hygiene behaviour and washing hands with soap.

SLTs Outcome:

Apart from the progressive construction of toilets, there are many positive outcomes from SLTs areas. The programme has built new bonds within communities, mobilizing students, teachers and households for joint action. The materials needed for construction — pans, pipes, fittings and cement — are available in local shops, enabling them to expand their business.

A new pride is visible in ODF communities. People have started sweeping their yards more frequently, organizing waste water disposal systems, digging pits to bury their garbage, and setting up tables with basins of water and soap for hand-washing. Among children in school, attention to hygiene has markedly improved. Where there are difficulties in overcoming barriers to full sanitization, the schools and communities have come up with their own solutions.

Their joint ownership of SLTs has generated resources, capacity, and management experience to meet the ODF goal. This characteristic of SLTs means that there is a good chance that progress and behavioural change will be sustained.

A vitally important question concerns the impact on health. In the end, the adoption of toilets is supposed not only to enhance self-respect, but to bring about a reduction in disease. The results in this context appear encouraging. The number of cases of illness in ODF communities is definitely perceived to be lower, as is the number of children failing to come to school because of diarrhoea or worms. Girls not attending school because they are poorly — meaning that they are menstruating, and dare not attend in case of being seen to bleed — are also fewer. The health post records and those of community health volunteers show reduced frequency of diarrhoea in the ODF-declared communities. In one VDC sub-health post, reported cases of diarrhoea in the under-fives went down from 7% to 5% between 2005 and 2007.

There is still a long way to go to reach universal sanitation in Nepal and many barriers to overcome. These include the long political resistance to seeing sanitation — as opposed to water — as any kind of national priority. But for those who are skeptical, there is now evidence that placing the problem in the hands of schools and communities and enabling them to take the lead, can have a transformative effect on the health and morale of hundreds of thousands of people.

(Source: UNICEF)

Infrastructures:

In infrastructure sector, constructions of taps, bridges, school building, toilets can be incorporated as a supportive role of CSOs.

We can take the example of RADO Nepal, which alone contributed effectively in infrastructure sector in Makwanpur district,

Summary of project /Program since 2002-2016- RADO Nepal working in Makawanpur district							
S. N.	Name of the Program	No. of Schemes	No of VDC covered	Beneficiaries	Output	Program support Cost/'000	Funding agency
1	Gravity DWS	129	29	6063 HHs	1927 Taps	83800	Plan International
2	Gravity DWS	3	1	402 HHs	59 Taps	5184	RWSSFDB
3	Rehab-gravity DWS	40	8	1666 HHs	507 Taps	3500	Plan International
4	RWH system-Jars	38	11	1013 HHs	1043 Jars	41800	Plan International
5	School/Toilet building	52+20 Schools	19	VDCs	Class room/Toilet	32600	Plan International
6	Total Sanitation through CLTS-ODF/PODF		13	17666 HHs	9348 toilets added	10147	Plan International

7	School-WASH	92	29	School	92	3529	Plan International
8	Cooperative Building	33	19	VDCs	33	9220	Plan International
9	Small Irrigation project	66	18	VDCs	93 Hectares	9700	Plan International
10	Market Shed/VCC	17	10	VDCs	17 Buildings	1720	Plan International
11	Birthing Centre construction	5	5	VDCs	5 Buildings	767	Plan International
12	Agricultural Access Road	11	6	VDCs	21 Km	2300	Plan International
13	School Physical Improvement Program	500	43 VDCs, 1 Municipality	Mk	4 Roomed-92, 2 Roomed-325, -641, Toilet-614, Ext. Env-24 Com/16 Dws, Maintenance-641, Water Facilities -70	490575	DEO/DoE/Plan International
14	LWF Campaign	488	District	School	492	6150	Plan

					Times		International
15	Trail Bridge support program	22	12	Mk		46726	Helvetas/TBS U/DDC
16	Temporary Learning Centers construction	5	2	School	5	500	Tearfund International
17	Temporary Learning Centers construction	47	11	schools	47	10200	Plan International
18	WASH in TLCs	33	10	schools	33	2640	Plan International
19	Water and MHM kit distribution		6	HHs	6000 HHs	500	Plan International
20	Winterization materials Distribution		7	HHs	6064 HHs	9000	Tearfund International
21	GFS Rehabilitated	10	2	HHs	537	7000	Terafund International
22	Lifting cum Gravity flow system	1	1	HHs	175	6000	Rotary International
23	Model House Construction	1	2	HHs	38	17100	Tearfund

From the year 2002-2016 data we can figure out easily how supportive role an organization can play in infrastructures. This is just an example how supportive a CSO can be in the field of service delivery. Not only RADO but most of the CSOs have effectively contributed in infrastructures development sector which has eventually contributed to the development of Nepal.

Some Gaps in the Service Delivery

In service delivery, it seems that CSOs are trying to work in collaboration with government and with the plans of government. However, there are certain areas where CSOs efforts need to be reviewed. In education sectors, CSOs are contributing to different campaigns and advocating for ensuring quality and child friendly education system but it is blame to CSOs that minimal hardware supports are contributed.

In health sector, CSOs have always joined hands with the government's initiatives but minimum efforts are flourished in adjusting to infrastructural supports in health sector either. In infrastructural supports also CSOs some efforts are really praiseworthy but these efforts are not evenly managed in the remote areas of different areas as the efforts are concentrated only in certain areas ensuring accessibility and flexibility of the CSOs that needs to be reviewed by the CSOs working in this sector.

Section 5: Challenges of CSOs

When we talk about democracy and democratic practices in the country, the state can go beyond its parameter by sidelining the issues of transition justice. To cross the mindset of impunity the state can go for authoritarian practice through its mechanized structure. In present scenario, government and its bureaucrats are dominated at the moment by the mindset of impunity. So, CSOs' alertness, lobby and advocacy are crucial in this respect and now to overcome such situation is the most challenging atmosphere for CSOs.

It is a general practice that CSOs are the development partners of government. During natural calamities, CSOs have always played the role as most promising actors and in other situations also CSOs have always played critical and constructive roles in the development of Nepal. Thus, their contributions should not be shackled behind with few considerations.

In other domain, CSOs also have challenges to transfer the commitment of international treaties into implementation and enrich facilitating roles of CSOs. These treaties need to be solicited into implementation by adjusting in our context. However, during endorsement of any new policies or acts there will be chances of many loopholes which are impractical during implementation.

The other challenge with CSOs is to institutionalize the gained achievements happened through different campaigns and initiations on national development process. We cannot refuse that due to CSOs' hardship, regular lobby and advocacy, different achievements in terms of democracy, good governance, empowerment, livelihood and service delivery have been achieved and that must be acknowledged by state and go hand to hand to institutionalize these gained achievements.

Due to some misdeeds of some CSOs, state seems apathetic towards the performance of CSOs. With the references of such cases, state is treating in generalized approach without evaluating based on the performance of CSOs. To overcome and deal with such situation CSOs are facing a lot of challenges. Thus, a better coordination mechanism can be drawn to assemble the proximity of its regime. Government's monitoring and evaluation may evolve CSOs performances and areas of improvement and they can improvise their workability and expertise in coming days.

NGOs are blamed for the patchwork and palliative which is not a total true. NGOs should work with specific ideas focusing on their specialized areas so that such blames can be mitigated. It is also an internal and institutional governance issue of CSOs that have been questionable in Nepal which have now realized by most of the CSOs by furnishing their commitments to improve on such grounds.

Contextually, the widening gaps between CSOs and Government have foremost been alluring for the development partners. It is the most complicated challenge to both CSOs and government. It was visualized during the recent natural disaster of floods in July- August, 2017. The government's one door policy has been criticized by CSOs due to the inaccessibility of immediate response programme. Later governments have to abandon the policy and reinforced

CSOs in society. This shows the government and CSOs widening gaps. It has also been criticized that the government endorses policies against CSOs without their consent so that CSOs are protesting against emerging acts.

CSOs are always blamed that they put forward the ideas and ideologies of funding agencies and it is somehow true due to the challenge of CSOs on resources and sustainability. That must be now proved wrong through democratic working culture of CSOs for the welfare of vulnerable and deprived section of people. Basically, CSOs have challenge to process sustainability based resource mobilization in their projects. There is a challenge with them to raise from their petty group interest, political influences by maintaining multiple accountability. Government also blames CSOs are not interested to go and work where governments assign and thus are confined with their own peripheries.

To some extent there is unhealthy completion among CSOs themselves. On the one hand there is laps on maintaining synergy with government programs and plans and on the other hand among CSOs there is huge duplication. Every CSO feels revelry to other CSO in terms of getting funds and dealing with the finding agencies that must be corrected by CSOs believing on coordination and collaboration for the common cause.

Hence, the government and CSOs cannot commensurate each other's work and address public needs. In changed context, CSOs should upgrade and start work from its rhetoric working style (Franchise state) to changed context of SDGs and federal structure of Nepal. Till now there is a huge confusion among CSOs for its organizational and working structure. In the context of newly elected government bodies, insufficient infrastructure and lack of knowledge, there is a huge chance of endorsing new policies with or without CSOs consent as a result it may directly hamper CSOs constituency and acknowledgement in society and on that part CSOs must face a lot of challenges and CSOs must be ready to cope with the situation furnishing collaborative efforts for the development of Nepal.

Section 6: Conclusions and Recommendations for Improving CSOs Role in Changed Context

Generalized unclear definition of CSOs often leads to confusion and disguises public interest. Since there is a long history of CSOs evolving in Nepal from Lichhavi period, the categorization of civic roles are delimited. With proper definition CSOs role partake government's primary agenda to react as a development partner. Civil society groups are the preserver/ observer that they must keep their autonomy and independence of the state and private sector. Thus, their internal governance should be sound.

CSOs are the contributors who can bring significant changes in social lives thus the government actors and CSOs should regulate activities under the government priority sectors by maintaining synergy so that CSOs can be more accountable and transparent in their activities. A democratic state cannot be stable unless it is effective and legitimate, and has the respect and support of its citizens. To align with government actors, donors and CSOs need to create synergy to the emerging new policies, plans and programs to support development aspects of the country. It is recommended that there is a need of government-CSO consultative council as in other country to increase mutual understanding and cooperation between GOs and the CSOs for the overall development of the country.

CSOs should contribute for the better coalition and coordination to bring transparent in their activities and alliance in their priority areas. CSOs need to work collectively for the common cause. No unhealthy completion among them. Media and NGOs act together during transitional phase to incorporate their effective roles and such level of collation and coordination need to be furnished for overall development of country either. There is availability of expertise in CSOs so to utilize the expertise of CSOs, government should form an alliance and coordination to retrieve grassroots needs and response accordingly. This will intrinsically solicit state role and recognition.

In post earthquake situation, CSOs were and are the primary responders who have supported to uplift the livelihood of grassroots level people. However, due to the common interest, the most earthquake districts they came up with unhealthy competitions that caused the duplication of activities resulted low level of delivery to the affected ones. Thus, to assimilate and acknowledge the division of work, they should cooperate for the considerable working modality that can mutually bring accountability in general public.

CSOs are working for the empowerment of people so they must be institutionally and thoughtfully capable to deliver their performance. So, there should be some measures for organizational development and capacity enhancement measures in CSOs activities.

CSOs are advocating and lobbying the issues without in-depth evidences so they must promote more investment on research, advocacy and monitoring, political transformation and change on power structure rather simply service contracting work. The designed projects or programs should be based on the evidences and logics and for that CSOs must be equipped with the facts and findings. SO, CSOs must invest on that part also for their organizational development thereafter benefits to the hardcore groups.

CSOs need to focus on service delivery part also so that people who are living with poverty can directly be benefitted as well as lobby and advocacy mechanism can flourish to its horizon. Since CSOs have prioritized right based approach in Nepali societies from long time however the meaningful participation of deprived and backward community is still lagging behind. Due to lack of public understanding and lack of effective sustainability measures, project often have its limited effect in society.

It is also suggested that CSOs working modality and pattern should be reviewed in the new context. CSOs need to come into next phase of working juncture where collective efforts and people's participation from designing to implementation and monitoring and evaluation should be ensured. Further, the CSOs work should be focused to contribute to facilitate the functioning of local bodies in the new structures so that new structures could work properly and effectively. The collaboration and coordination of CSOs with DDC now to be changed and channelized to local structures as municipality and rural municipality.

CSOs contributed a lot for the empowerment of citizens which might have limited to the responsibility parts of the citizens so on that part CSOs should work to cultivate for responsible citizens.

Since there is few dispute regarding transparency and accountability of CSOs, the government should track or monitor activities which SWC might not only be the responsible agency but also other agencies may take grievances, cancellation/ seizure of licence renewal, safeguarding procedure so that it can minimize financial corruption. It may also be the idea to award any CSOs that have been able to create considerable changes in society. In existing draft acts and other acts, government should amend acts which can cease over sighting nature and CSOs effective roles in Nepali domain. Government also should consult with thematic experts before endorsing any acts as the government and CSOs are the development partners.

Due to political influence, most of the CSOs/ CBOs receive renewal documents from the concerned government agencies. In reality, these CSOs/ CBOs do not pose any activity in society. Henceforth if these organizations cannot pose any activity for second year at least then the renewal process can be reviewed. In this regard strict government laws or policies should be applied to concise the prominence of CSOs those are not working properly.

In terms of governance, the world has already gone to the concept of Open Government Partnership (OGP). OGP is a new global effort to contribute for making good government and maintaining good governance in the country. OGP launched on September 20, 2011 through the initiative of America and Brazil and the cooperation of 8 countries and 9 CSOs of the world. The major feature of the organization is to accept the mutual cooperation between the government and civil society to promote democratic governance system in the country.

OGP has the goals to enhance transparency and accountability in governance system and increase participation of people in policy formulation. Thus, transparency, accountability and participation are the major goals of OGP. 70 countries have taken membership of this organization. In 2015, the member states committed 109 National Plan of actions including more than 25 hundred commitments to achieve the goal of the organization. These action plans are mainly focused on the areas of Public Participation, Access to Information, Public Service Delivery, Budget Transparency and Open Data.

There is no any single formula of OGP. To formularize OGP, government can adopt any method and medium to get optimum level of its goal. For an example, one country can prioritize right to information whereas other country can prioritize open data system. Whatever the methods and mediums that the country can adopt the bases of transparency, accountability and participation can be evaluated in four phases that OGP assumes. First – Initial Steps, Second-Intermediate Steps, Third- Advance Steps, and Fourth- Innovation Steps are the major phases. In these steps, the government has to do several tasks. OGP encourages the government to take a lead in these steps. In the Sustainable Development Goal declared by UN, there are 17 goals where the monitoring part of goal no. 16 is given to OGP by UN. To achieve this goal no. 16, UNDP is collaborating with OGP. Justice, Peace, Inclusion, Transparency, Accountability, and Access to Information are the major goals that are included in goal no. 16 of SDG.

Nepal has not become the partner of this world forum. When the declaration of this forum was prepared in 2011, there was the concern and lobbying to the government that Nepal should take an interest to be the partner of the forum. However, no concrete initiative has been taken so far. Nepal did not take part in the first and second world summit. In the third world summit, then Chief Sectary of Government of Nepal and current Chief Commissioner of National Information Commission took part as government representatives and Chairperson of Freedom Forum took part as civil society representative. Before that Nepal took part in Asian level discussion forums. Through these, certain level of understanding and relevancy on the importance of OGP has been gradually felt to be involved in OGP forum.

Nepal has been adopting and practicing different methods for the effectiveness of governance, transparency, accountability, and service delivery of public sectors. Inclusion and participatory system are the main beliefs of Nepal. It has been one year that Nepal is practicing Right to Information Act. There is a legal provision on the collection and disclosure of properties of

public dignitaries. There are policies and practices to promote the access of public in different sectors. Fairness system, empowered national level mechanism and civic system against corruption are there in Nepal. However, we are not in OGP forum through which we are not being able to ensure our democratic system and national commitments effectively. Thus, it is utmost necessary to declare Nepal as OGP partner and initiate our practices in line with the values and beliefs of OGP and for that CSOs role to lobby with the government to be a part of this forum.

Local Governments will be the main responsible agencies for the effective implementation of the SDGs at the ground level in Nepal. The constitution has allocated responsibilities to local Government that is directly related to the SDG targets. However, these newly elected local Governments have very limited resources and experience, which presents a major challenge. It can be realized that local governments will need to play a crucial role to achieve the SDGs. Now it is the duty of CSOs to analyse first the financial capacity and gaps in the local government in order to implement the SDGs. Without support from central government and development partners including CSOs and CBOs, the local governments of Nepal will not be able to implement SDGs. Additionally, it can be easily analyzed that there is lack of coordination mechanisms within and between development partners and Government agencies that are responsible for the implementation of the SDGs. So, here CSOs contribute from their side to enrich coordination between development partners and government.

The Government has yet to localize the SDGs, and implement the constitutional and legal rights of local governments and communities. Therefore, particularly in the context of local communities the following aspects should be considered in the future for the effective implementation of the SDGs in Nepal.

Local CSOs including communities have been contributing to achieving the SDGs and they will be strong partners of the Government in the future. Therefore, their contributions must be recognized in the process. The localization of SDGs is urgent to create ownership over them, and the process should include the participation of poor, vulnerable, Indigenous Peoples, women, youth and local communities. There is a lack of harmony between sector policies/strategies, constitutional policies and the SDGs. Therefore, the Government needs to review and reform all relevant policies to harmonize. Local CSOs, communities and women's groups have been playing a significant role towards achieving the SDGs, although often they are not aware of the SDGs achieving processes. Therefore, a participatory and inclusive as well as gender-focused process is urgently needed in order to involve them fully.

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Annexes:

Annex I: Desk Review Indicators:

- Findings of different reports with comparative data/analysis
- Acts/Policy provisions supportive for CSOs initiatives
- Priority themes as health, education, agriculture and disaster will be looked upon

Annex II: Checklists for FGD participants:

- Perceptions based short questions (designed in annex V) to figure out whether CSOs have contributed to the development of Nepal. It will be administered to the FGD participants before conducting FGD.
- What CSOs are doing from the year 1990 on thematic five areas (Experience sharing by each thematic participants) in line with the ToR (Democracy, good governance promotion, empowerment, service delivery, livelihood promotion etc.)
- How your organization is contributing to the development of Nepal in terms of empowerment, service delivery, livelihood promotion and other development endeavors? (CSOs' logics)
- Reflection of government organizations, planning commission and INGO on the sharing of CSOs and their own views on the contribution made by CSOs in Nepal.
- Recommendations for effective contribution in the changed context of Nepal and development approach as SDG.

Annex III: Interview Guidelines

- ✓ How do you rank the contribution of CSOs in the development of Nepal? In which sector (particular sector of national experts mentioned above) CSOs have been contributing effectively since 1990?
- ✓ Would you like to remember any best practices that CSOs have contributed effectively in the development of Nepal?
- ✓ Whether or not CSOs programs/projects are in line with the national development plans? (Expert views). If so how?
- ✓ Recommendations for effective contribution in the changed context of Nepal and development approach as SDG. (To be in line with the recommendations of ToR)

Annex IV: Guidelines for Case Collection

- ✓ Context of case before intervention/involvement
- ✓ What was the intervention to contribute to the context?
- ✓ How has the context changed through the intervention?
- ✓ How it became supportive to the development of Nepal?

Annex V: Perception based short questions

Theme I: Democracy

Subject Experts perceptions on CSOs role in promoting, strengthening and institutionalizing democracy in Nepal

	Agree	Disagree	Unsure
In the promotion of democracy, CSOs can contribute effectively in Nepal and they are doing their best.			
If agree/disagree, how?			
In strengthening democracy, CSOs role seems praiseworthy in Nepal.			
If agree/disagree, how?			
In different democratic movements and campaigns, CSOs have contributed effectively in Nepal.			
If agree/disagree, How?			
CSOs have always played a role as catalyst for ensuring democratic rights of people in Nepal.			
If agree/disagree, How?			
CSOs are supporting/facilitating to the government of Nepal largely for institutionalizing democracy in the country.			
If agree/disagree, How?			

Theme II: Good Governance

Subject Experts perceptions on CSOs contributing in ensuring good governance in Nepal

	Agree	Disagree	Unsure
In the promotion of good governance, CSOs can contribute effectively in Nepal and they are doing their best.			
If agree/disagree, how?			
In strengthening governance system of the government's bodies/agencies, CSOs role seems praiseworthy in Nepal.			
If agree/disagree, how?			
In different good governance campaigns/activisms, CSOs have contributed effectively in Nepal.			
If agree/disagree, How?			
CSOs have always played a role as facilitator for ensuring democratic governance system in the country.			
If agree/disagree, How?			
CSOs are supporting/facilitating for institutionalizing good governance in the country.			
If agree/disagree, How?			

Theme III: Empowerment

Subject Experts perceptions on CSOs contributing in the empowerment of women, Dalits, marginalized and deprived section of people in Nepal

	Agree	Disagree	Unsure
In the empowerment of women, CSOs have contributed and are contributing effectively in Nepal.			

If agree/disagree, how?			
In the empowerment of Dalits, CSOs have contributed and are contributing effectively in Nepal?			
If agree/disagree, how?			
In the empowerment of marginalized groups, CSOs have contributed and are contributing effectively in Nepal?			
If agree/disagree, How?			
In the empowerment of deprived section of society, CSOs have contributed and are contributing effectively in Nepal?			
If agree/disagree, How?			
CSOs are supporting/facilitating to the programs of the government of Nepal on empowering women, dalits, marginalized and deprived section of people in the country.			
If agree/disagree, How?			

Theme IV: Service Delivery

Subject Experts perceptions on CSOs contributing in providing supports on infrastructure, education and health/sanitation in Nepal

In providing infrastructural support to the people, CSOs have contributed and are contributing effectively in Nepal.	Agree	Disagree	Unsure
If agree/disagree, how?			

In providing educational support to the people, CSOs have contributed and are contributing effectively in Nepal?			
If agree/disagree, how?			
In providing health/sanitation related support to the people, CSOs have contributed and are contributing effectively in Nepal?			
If agree/disagree, How?			
CSOs are supporting/facilitating to the programs related to service delivery of the government of Nepal.			
If agree/disagree, How?			

Theme V: Livelihood

Subject Experts perceptions on CSOs contributing in promoting livelihood and maintaining resilience of the people in Nepal

In the promotion of livelihood, CSOs have contributed and are contributing effectively in Nepal.	Agree	Disagree	Unsure
If agree/disagree, how?			
In maintaining livelihood resilience of the people, CSOs have contributed and are contributing effectively in Nepal?			
If agree/disagree, how?			
CSOs are supporting/facilitating to the programs of the government of Nepal on livelihood promotion and resilience of people in the country.			
If agree/disagree, How?			

Annex VI: Participants of FGD: Based on Each Thematic Areas

Service Delivery		
SN	Participants	Organization
1	Sarbagya Shrestha	Water Aid Nepal
2	Gopal Ghimire	SOS Children Nepal
3	Durga Bhattarai	SWC
4	Gopal Kumar Jha	BAN
5	Prabha Pokharel	IDS Nepal

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Livelihood		
SN	Participants	Organization
1	Ashok Shah	
2	Sunil Rajbharat	CIN
3	Shubha Raj Adhikari	Kantipur FM
4	Dr.Sitaram Byahut	

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Empowerment		
SN	Participants	Organization
1	Jog Raj Giri	FECOFUN
2	Ganesh K. Mandal	Madheshi Civil Society
3	Shailesh K. Jha	Madheshi Civil Society
4	Nitya Nanda Tajpuriya	Secretary General
5	Ajaya K Chepang	Nepal Chepang Association
6	Dr. Lalan Chaudhary	Treasurer
7	Himmat Singh Lekali	World Bank

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Good Governance

SN	Participants	Organization
1	Daya Sagar Shrestha	NGO Federation Nepal
2	Drona Koirala	RRN
3	Rajeev Kunwar	Transparency International Nepal
4	Kala Swarnakar	FEDO
5	Tara Nath Dahal	Freedom Forum
6	Pranav Bhattarai	GoGo Foundation
	7.	
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	9.	
	10.	
	11.	

Democracy

SN	Participants	Organization
1	Sushila Kumari Panth	National Planning Commission
2	Lily Thapa	Sankalpa
3	Kunda Sharma	WHR
4	Dr. Ganga B. Thapa	
5	Kumar Bhattarai	CWIN
6	Bhawan Subedi	Oxfam
7	Raksha Sharma	Action Aid Nepal
8	Devendra Singh	Action Aid Nepal
9	Toyam Rayamajhi	Joint Secretary
10	Anand Aditya	Pragya Foundation

Annex VII: KII Guidelines including national expert lists

- ✓ Whether or not CSOs programs/projects are in line with the national development plans? (Expert views). If so how?
- ✓ Would you like to remember any best practices that CSOs have contributed effectively in the development of Nepal?
- ✓ How do you rank the contribution of CSOs in the development of Nepal? In which sector CSOs have been contributing effectively since 2000?
- ✓ Recommendations for effective contribution in the changed context of Nepal and development approach as SDG.

Following are the key experts carefully chosen to incorporate their views on CSOs contribution in legal advocacy and recommendation for institutionalization process.

1.	Kedar Khadka	GoGo Foundation
2.	Netra Timalisina	SAAPE
3.	Dr. Tirtha Regmi	Heifer International Nepal
4.	Sharmila Karki	Jagaran Nepal
5.	Krishna Dhital	Rural Awareness and Development Nepal
6.	Gauri Pradharn	CWIN Nepal
7.	Ganesh BK	National Dalit Network Nepal

8. Narayan Gyawali Lutheran World Federation
9. Subodh Raj Pyakurel INSEC
10. Gauri Pradhan LDC Watch
11. Surya Nath Upadhaya Former CIAA Chief Commissioner