



## Strategy

CECI focuses on building the development capacity of local and disadvantaged communities. Our programs and projects support communities in becoming their own drivers for change by focusing on local ownership, empowerment and partnership with local non-government organizations and community-based organizations. Gender equity, social inclusion, transparency and good governance are at the core of our capacity building activities.

## Mission

CECI's mission is to combat poverty and exclusion through the strengthening of the development capacity of disadvantaged communities; as well as supporting initiatives for peace, human rights and equity by mobilizing resources and promoting knowledge exchange and transfer.

## Vision

Through sharing and respect, we work for equality between men and women, both within our own organization and in society at large. We help to combat poverty and exclusion by building bridges within our international network of partners through intercultural interaction and international cooperation.

## Focus Areas

To enhance the quality of lives, CECI Nepal concentrates its actions in five areas of expertise:

- Economic development & livelihoods
- Agriculture and food security
- Local governance and accountability
- Human safety and emergency response
- Gender equality and social inclusion
- Capacity building activities.



PRAN orientation workshop



CECI Volunteers



SDP/Consultant Team Leader, Richard Bonokoski in QIP workshop



CECI volunteer Ane helping in milk filtration

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## Acronyms

ACCC	Association of Canadian Community Colleges
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AGM	Annual General Meeting
ANSAB	Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bio-resources
AVID	Australian Volunteers for International Development
CAD	Canadian Dollars
CBO	Community Based Organization
CECI	Centre for International Studies and Cooperation
CFUG	Community Forest Users' Group
CiCan	Colleges and Institutes Canada
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CSC	Community Score Card
CTEVT	Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training
DDC	District Development Committee
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
DFATD	Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development
DFID	Department for International Development
DMPCU	District Milk Producers' Cooperative Union
DPNET	Disaster Preparedness network
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DWO	Dalit Welfare Organization
DWSS	Department of Water Supply and Sewerage
FECOFUN	Federation of Community Forest Users' Nepal
FINNIDA	Finnish International Development Agency
FTG	Fair Trade Group
FY	Fiscal Year
GESI	Gender Equity and Social Inclusion
HBTL	Himalayan Bio Trade Limited
Hos	Host Organizations
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IDS	Integrated Development Society
IEDI	Industrial Enterprise Development Institute
IEC	Information Education and Communication
LGCDP	Local Governance and Community Development Program
PDRC	Professional Development and Research Centre
PRAN	Program for Accountability in Nepal
MDTF-PFM	Multi Donor Trust Fund for Public Financial Management Reform in Nepal
MSFP	Multi Stakeholder Forestry Program
MOI	Memorandum of Interest
MOE	Ministry of Education
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non-government Organization
NTFP	Non-timber Forest Product
SAC	Social Accountability
SDC	Swiss Development Cooperation
SPBF	The State and Peace-building Fund
TSDU	TVET Sector Development Unit
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education Training
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UN	United Nations
VDC	Village Development Committee
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WB	World Bank

## 2. About Centre for International Studies and Cooperation

The **Centre for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI)** is a not-for-profit organization headquartered in Montreal, Canada. Founded in 1958, CECI has been implementing poverty alleviation projects/programs in developing countries since its registration as a non-profit in 1968. CECI's mission is to combat poverty and exclusion through the strengthening of the development capacity of disadvantaged communities; as well as supporting initiatives for peace, human rights and equity by mobilizing resources and promoting knowledge exchange and transfer.

CECI's core competencies include providing diverse consulting and project management services to address the multiple facets of poverty reduction. With an annual operating budget of approximately US\$35 million, CECI manages dozens of contracts in 14 countries throughout Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, focusing on services related to social and economic development, sustainable natural resource management, humanitarian assistance and disaster preparedness and mitigation. These projects are financed by DFATD, formally known as CIDA, ADB, IDB, FINNIDA, USAID, World Bank, EU, UN agencies and UK Aid. CECI Head Office has a staff of 65 professionals and specialists in such areas as local governance, community development, natural resource management, conflict resolution, human rights, humanitarian response, disaster mitigation, gender equality and monitoring and evaluation.

In Nepal, CECI has been active since 1987 implementing a diverse assortment of projects covering the areas of agriculture, livelihood, microenterprise, business development, governance, DRR, climate change and social inclusion. Over the past 27 years, CECI has implemented more than 40 development projects at a value of US \$ 100 million within 60 of Nepal's 75 districts. It has delivered technical assistance to ADB, World Bank, DFATD, AusAid as well other developmental donors. As a result CECI has fostered a solid project management capacity team and an extensive network of consultants and local service providers.

CECI's strategy is to implement development projects to enhance the technical and managerial skills and capacity of Nepali NGOs and CBOs. It also mobilizes international and national volunteers to support these initiatives through the financial contribution of the Canadian and Australian Government. The majority of Volunteers are placed in CBOs to enhance their institutional capacity and to recognize their significant contribution to the socio-economic development of Nepal. In addition, volunteers are also placed in government agencies to support their planning and programming functions. CECI works in Nepal under the auspices of a MOU initially signed with the Social Welfare Council in 1989 and renewed subsequently.



CECI Nepal staff and volunteers

## 2. Message from the Country Representative



It is our pleasure to present the Annual Progress Report for the FY 2070-71 B.S. (2013-14). During this year CECI projects focused on governance, livelihoods improvement, economic development, gender and social inclusion, and institutional development of partner NGOs.

A consortium involving CECI recently began a new Skills Development Project (SDP) funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Nepal government. The consortium is led by World University Service of Canada (WUSC) and includes Colleges and Institutes Canada (CiCan) formally known as Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC) and Industrial Enterprise Development Institute (IEDI). The project provides technical assistance to the Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT) and the Ministry of Education (MoE). The impact of the project will be the increased employability of the Nepalese workforce. Its outcome will be the establishment of a market-responsive and social and gender-inclusive TVET system.

The Unitererra Volunteer Cooperation Program, funded by DFATD has supported agro food, community sustainable forest management user groups and developing NTFP enterprises. Similarly, Unitererra Volunteers have been active in encouraging private sector development by supporting the selected partners in enhancing institutional capacity building, marketing and publicity on an international level. CECI also manages Australian volunteers for International Development (AVID), an Australian Government program implemented by Scope Global Australia in Nepal. Volunteers are placed in various government and non-government organizations within the country.

CECI in partnership with national NGOs led by IDS and including HIMWANTI Nepal and Ashmita Nepal with funding from DFID/SDC/FINNIDA is implementing the MSFP Lot VI project. This project covers five mid and far west hill districts aimed at promoting private sector engagement in forestry, increased access to forest resources for the poor and disadvantaged, improved climate resilience capacity to vulnerable communities and strengthen forest sector enabling environment. MSFP works in close collaboration with the government's District Forest Offices and local communities. To date, 800 forest based enterprises have been developed.

In governance, CECI is implementing the Program for Accountability in Nepal (PRAN) with the funding support of World Bank. In this project, grants are provided to CSOs to practice and utilize social accountability approaches and tools. PRAN is operating with the firm belief that to empower citizens and to ensure service providers' accountability they must constructively engage with one another.

CECI has a strong focus on gender and social inclusion. It works closely with partners in developing approaches and strategies for improving the participation and representation of women and disadvantaged communities in development initiatives.

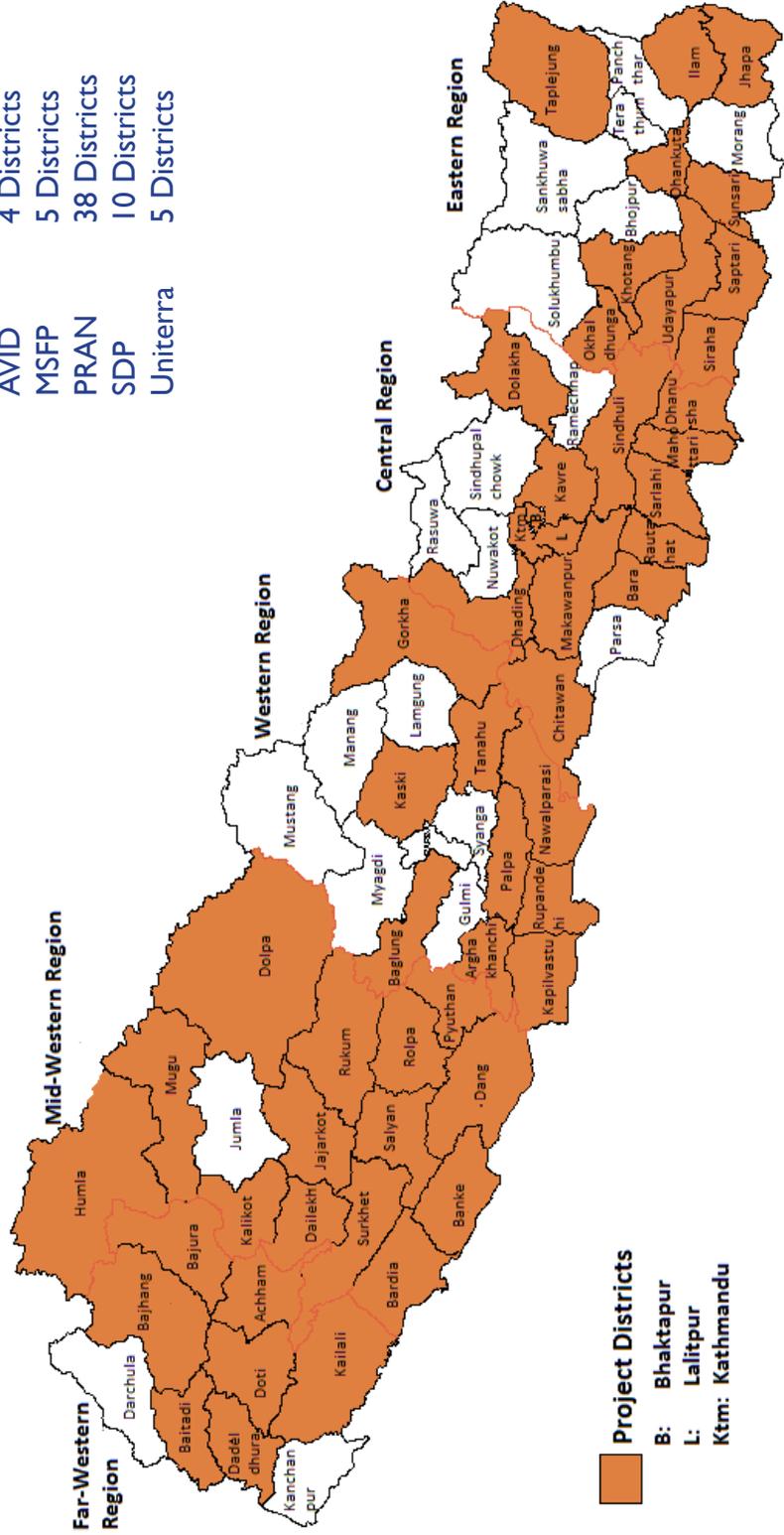
The details for each project and program for this fiscal year can be found in their respective sections of this report. CECI has been supported by DFATD, ADB, World Bank, AusAid, DFID, SDC and FINNIDA in undertaking these programs and I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to our donors for their support. Similarly, we are thankful to our implementing partners both GON and NGOs in successfully accomplishing these activities. Finally, I would like to acknowledge my appreciation of the leadership role taken on by our Communications Officer Ms. Mallika Bhattarai, in preparing this annual report..As well, my sincere thanks to CECI staff and volunteers, Mr. Karl Brown and Ms. Amal Mohamed for their effort and contribution to this report.

Keshava Koirala  
Country Representative  
CECI-Nepal  
October 2013

# CECI's Program Coverage in Nepal (2013-2014)

**Projects:**  
 AVID  
 MSFP  
 PRAN  
 SDP  
 Uniterra

**Coverage:**  
 4 Districts  
 5 Districts  
 38 Districts  
 10 Districts  
 5 Districts



## 4. Program Overview

This year CECI's programs covered 53 districts in all five development regions of Nepal. The following are the details of the major projects implemented throughout the last 12 months.

### 4.1. Skills Development Project (SDP)

A consortium led by WUSC including CECI, CiCan formally known as ACCC, and IEDI has been entrusted by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to provide technical assistance to the Skills Development Project/Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT). The project consulting services began in March 2014 and are expected to be completed by August 2016.

The project provides technical assistance to both the Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT) and the Ministry of Education (MoE). It is executed by the MoE through the TVET Sector Development Unit (TSDU) and implemented by a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) under the CTEVT.

This five-year project will support the Government of Nepal in applying key aspects of the TVET Policy 2012. It will help the government to initiate strategic sector reforms that aim to improve overall sector management, performance, quality assurance and relevance of public training. It will increase private sector engagement in training delivery and job placement. Each intervention has been designed to increase the efficiency and result-orientation of the TVET system, making it more market-driven and inclusive.



CECI Nepal Country Representative Keshava Koirala and SDP Project Director Diwat Kumar Shrestha signing the agreement

The impact of the project will be the increased employability of the Nepalese workforce.

The project will cover all the districts of Nepal and target 45,000 people (40% female and 30% excluded groups).

#### Four outputs of SDP project:

- 1 Expanded inclusive market-oriented training
- 2 Improved quality and relevance-TVET provision
- 3 Instituted reforms at operational, institutional and policy levels
- 4 Effective project management and monitoring and evaluation of resource use and achievement



Pre-proposal conference workshop



Discussion on monitoring and evaluation



CTEVT restructuring workshop

# Progressing through SDP:

## Output 1: Expanded inclusive market-oriented training

- Supported selection and contracting of private sector training and employment service providers (TESPs) for far western region (Tr1), mid-western region (Tr2), western Tr3) and central western (Rr4)
- Supported the incorporation of gender and social inclusion (GESI) in selection of TESPs
- Completed database development to support record management maintenance of enrollment, training and employment placement of 36,000 beneficiaries
- Completed development of monitoring and evaluation formats to track delivery of training provided by private TESPs and trained regional monitors and private sector TESPs for far and mid-western regions
- Developed social marketing strategy
- Developed and provided GESI training to regional monitors and private TESPs for the far and mid-western regions.
- Conducted GESI perspective review of short term training course curricula

## Output 2: Improved quality and relevance TVET provision

- Developed standards for the quality improvement program (QIP)
- Oriented ten public TVET schools, to be developed as model schools for QIP and conducted workshop (QIP 1) to initiate QIP planning in each of the schools
- Conducted follow up workshops (QIP 2) with 6 schools to review and advance the planning process. Three schools have completed QIP plans

- Provided schools with training and tools for performance appraisal and training plan development
- Drafted and circulated working paper on involving industry in TVET Schools and the draft TORs for the institute advisory and partnership committees
- Consulted with schools on advance planning for introduction of 15 new programs

## Output 3: Instituted reforms at operational, institutional and policy levels

- Worked with the TSDU of the MOE in the arrangement of position papers on the TVET sector road map and TVET fund.
- Developed the plan for the organizational assessment of CTEVT
- Conducted workshop on CTVET restructuring
- Developed and circulated working paper on succession planning for CTEVT

## Output 4: Effective project management and monitoring and evaluation resource use and achievements

- Developed project monitoring framework linked to the project design as outlined in the project administration manual (PAM)
- Designed and Initiated GESI sensitization training for all CTEVT staff, TSDU staff and consultants
- Formulated GESI task force to advance GESI integration in the project and in CTEVT, as well as to develop TORS for the CTEVT GESI unit
- MIS training database developed with GESI indicators
- Results-based monitoring evaluation mechanism developed to ensure achievement of the project's target population and employment rates by target groups
- Reported quarterly to the ADB on progress in implementing the GESI action plan, as outlined in the PAM

The ten public sector TVET institutions, selected by CTEVT to develop as model schools for the advancement of technical education and vocational training in Nepal are:

- Balaju School of Engineering and Technology, Kathmandu
- The Nepal Polytechnic Institute, Kavre
- The School of Health Sciences, Chitawan
- Lahan Technical School, Siraha
- Seti Technical School, Doti
- Bheri Technical School, Banke
- Rapti Technical School, Dang
- Rural Training Centre, Tanahun
- Uttarpani Technical School, Dhankuta
- Tourism Training Centre, Kaski

## 4.2. Multi Stakeholder Forestry Program (MSFP)



To improve the resilience of poor and disadvantaged people in five districts (Achham, Bajhang, Kalikot, Dailekh and Jajarkot), of far and mid-western development regions, a consortium led by IDS and involving CECI, HIMAWANTI and Asmita Nepal is implementing MSFP. This project has been functioning through a public-private partnership between the government of Nepal and civil society organizations. It is funded by the Government of Finland, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the UK Department for International Development.

The total budget of the MSFP is Rs 207, 826, 091. The project has a 2 year time line and began in March 2013. The main objectives are to improve the livelihoods and opportunities through forest based enterprises, increase the climate resilience capacity of poor, disadvantaged group (DAG) and women and to secure the future of forests via community management. MSFP aims to improve forest management and provide forest based benefits to local communities. Another focus of the project is to support enterprise development and to establish market linkages for their products.

The project has set a target of supporting 2,500 community members in this endeavour. The main role of CECI in MSFP is to support in project management, especially in the area of livelihood development. CECI also assists IDS in the preparation of progress reports, designing and organizing technical trainings and formulating capacity building plans.



The contribution of agriculture and forests to the national economic development of Nepal is still quite significant and about 80% of the populations is dependent on agriculture and forests resources for their livelihood. The lack of proper knowledge on forest management, agricultural production, expanding population, deforestation, unsustainable harvesting, resettlement and alternative livelihood options have been affecting forest as well as rural communities. In addition to that, Nepal is the world's fourth most vulnerable and at risk country when it comes to climate change, a change that has serious impacts on agriculture, forests and livelihoods. Poor, disadvantaged groups and women are the most affected by deforestation and vulnerable to the risk related to climate change.

The project works in close collaboration with the government's District Forest Offices and local communities.

## Results:

During the fiscal year, more than 29,000 households in 82 VDCs of five project districts were supported through various interventions, of which 34% households were from disadvantaged groups. The support provided by the project were operational plan (OP) revision, livelihoods development, climate adaptation initiatives and capacity building. The project supported household level microenterprise development primarily based on NTFPs, bee keeping, allo yarn processing, nettle powder production etc. Around 900 households are engaged in these enterprises. A sound market linkage has been established for the marketing of the products.

The intensive social mobilization and institutional governance of LFGs has substantially improved with the participation of DAGs and other marginalized people in the management committee. Increased in fund allocation for pro-poor income generating activities and increased in community participation in forest management has also been a large contributor.

Climate change adaptation plans have been prepared along with vulnerability mapping in 231 communities. Fifty VDC level local adaptation plan of action (LAPA) were also prepared. As a part of LAPA implementation, 600,000 amriso rhizomes and 100,000 Bamboo and other species were planted in forest areas and public and private lands for landslide and erosion control.

The “Green Kalikot” concept has been initiated by the joint effort of all stakeholders. The plantation campaign has been undertaken by planting various species of trees in both public and private land. This campaign will be continued every year.



1. Bee-hive making training
2. Fiber processing training
3. Loktha paper making training
4. Media coverage of entrepreneurship development





PRAN practitioners with the team

In 2013-2014, CECI awarded 31 sub-grants (10 large grants and 21 small grants) under SPBF/PSD and 43 sub-grants (3 large and 40 small grants) under MDTF/PFM. The sub-grantee CSOs under SPBF/PSD were spread in all five development regions and geographic belts of Nepal. While the sub-grantee CSOs under MDTF/PFM were concentrated only in west, mid-west and far-west development regions. Among 74 CSOs, 92 percent were from outside Kathmandu valley. All the CSOs of SPBF/PSD successfully accomplished their projects in the stipulated time frame of December 2013 and MDTF/PFM completed their project in June 2014. Altogether 134,233 citizens across the districts have directly benefitted from the project.

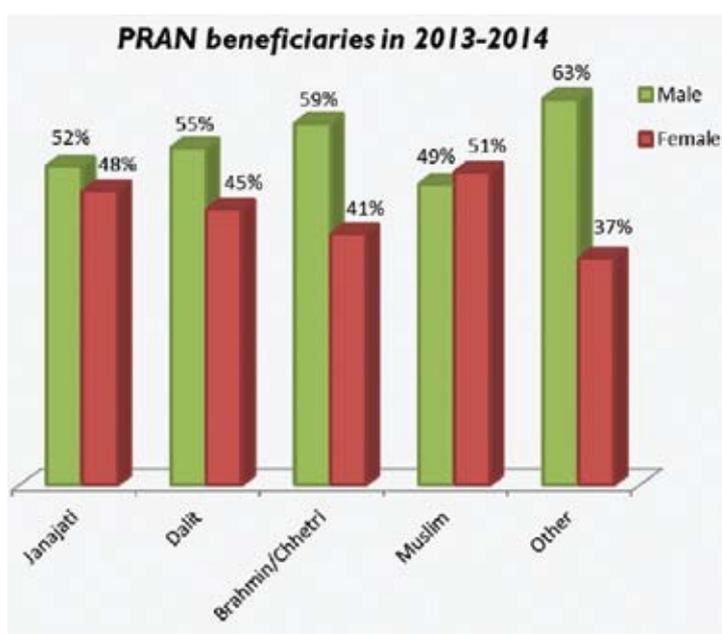
The program is financed by two Trust Funds at the World Bank: the State and Peace-building Fund (SPBF-PSD) and the Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Public Financial Management (MDTF-PFM).

**SAC tools/initiatives – practiced by SPBF/PSD**

- Community Score Card (CSC),
- Citizen Report Card (CRC),
- Right to Information (RTI),
- Civic Education,
- Citizen Complaint Structure and
- Tracking of Public Services

**SAC tools/initiatives – practiced by MDTF/PFM**

- Budget demystification and awareness raising
- Gender and Pro-poor budget analysis
- Public Expenditure Tracking Survey (PETS)
- Public Procurement Monitoring
- Revenue Monitoring
- Media outreach



## Project achievements:

- A critical mass of capacitated CSOs available in local areas
- Sensitized and functional community groups/organizations established
- Empowered citizenry and enhanced client power
- Atmosphere for constructive engagement created
- Sensitized service providers for quality service delivery

Further, the results achieved in the Public Financial Management areas are as follows:

## Engaging and empowering citizens:

- Citizens engagement drastically increased (in some cases 50-75 percent) in village council and ward assembly.
- Citizens are more aware of budget formulation processes.
- Demand increased for the allocation of 35% VDC budget for target group development.
- Able to get updated information on Social Security Allowances (SSA).
- Citizens are more comfortable raising their concerns in the VDC meetings.

## Transparency and accountability:

- Increased the trend of VDCs in displaying their annual budgets through notice board and booklets.
- Increased trend in updated social security allowance distribution records.
- Monitoring committees formed in the VDCs are actively involved in the monitoring of VDC activities.

- Increased the trend in VDC financial audit report dissemination.

## Efficiency:

- VDCs are now following the 14 steps of program and budget planning.
- VDC Secretaries are now punctual and responsive.
- Improvement in SSA distribution system and formation of SSA coordination committees for the proper documentation of SSA distribution at local level.

35% of total budget is being spent for target group as per the guideline.

## Inclusiveness:

- Started to follow the mandate of guidelines for the promotion of Dalit, women and disadvantage groups' participation in projects.
- Increased meaningful participation of target group's representatives in budgeting and planning process of VDCs from settlement level to village council.
- Women group networks are formed and starting to monitor the effective implementation of target group budget.
- Capacity of Social Mobilizer of Local Governance and Community Development Program (LGCDP) is enhanced through their involvement in various orientation and training conducted under PRAN, which helped in effective implementation of local resource mobilization.

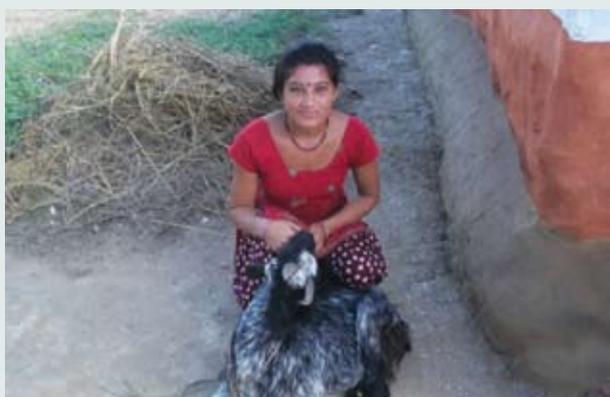
1. Ward level orientation workshop
2. Joint action plan developed between service providers and service receivers
3. Monitoring of VDC's budget expenditure



## Success story



Sangita Bishwakarma with the goat she received



Rekha Bishwakarma holds the goat she received

Although the budget for target group development had been allocated for Barkalpur VDC, Kapilvastu with the previous year's amount of NRs. 60,200 and the current year amount of NRs. 34,500, target groups did not receive any financial support from the concerned government agencies. Instead, the amount was disbursed as an advance to a single person. This discrepancy was flashed during the Participatory Budget Analysis workshop conducted by Adharbhut Gramin Bikas Sewa (AGBS), a CECI/PRAN sub grantee, as a part of the Improving Public Financial Management project.

AGBS has conducted a series of budget literacy orientations and budget analysis workshops, which resulted in the empowerment of the residents of Kapilvastu VDCs to demand answers from government agencies on budget allocations and expenditures.

They were successful in receiving a grant of NRs. 94,600 allocation to goat farming for Dalit women. A total of 27 Dalit families have each received a goat that will help increase their household income.

## Success story

Baglung Municipality commenced regular bus service with improved motor road in rural parts of the District after the continued demand of city dwellers. The rural dwellers strongly demanded that the Municipality improve the motor roads for easy transportation of their local products to market. Their voice was long ignored, however Deep Jyoti Youth Club (DYC), one of the CECI/PRAN CSOs, which has been implementing 'Improving Public Financing Management through Citizen Involvement Program' under Public Financial Management (PFM), took the lead in gathering the needs of the city dwellers and present their demand properly to the relevant authority. DYC became a platform for the city dwellers to realize their dream.



DYC conducted a Public Hearing Program on the issues of municipality governance which was attended by more than 200 people. They were able to demand improved road and City Bus services. While speaking at the forum, the Executive Director and Program and Administrative Officer of Baglung Municipality promised to fulfill the demand in two months and began construction immediately. The completion of the demand by the Municipality has made the rural people happy, brought comfort in their life, and positively changed the quality of their life. Additionally, the commencement of road transportation has provided rural people easy and low-cost access for their home products to urban market.

*Narayan Karki and Mahendra BK from Baglung Municipality 8 commented that "the platform, created by DYC, helped them to achieve their long awaited dream".*

## 4.4. Volunteer Cooperation

A key part of CECI is its volunteer cooperation program. More than 500 volunteers have served in Nepal since the program started in 1987. The focus of the volunteer program is to build the capacity of partner organizations through the transfer of skills and knowledge. Volunteers from Canada, Australia and Nepal provide technical expertise on a wide range of areas, supporting numerous CECI partners in their projects and programs. Subsequently, when volunteers return to their respective countries, they take part in public engagement and education of the general public on development issues.

CECI manages two volunteer programs – Uniterra, funded by Canadian Government and Australian Volunteers in Development (AVID), funded by Australian Government under sub-contract for In Country Management from Scope Global Australia.



Uniterra volunteer



Avid volunteer

### 4.4.1. Uniterra Program

CECI-Nepal, through the UNITERRA volunteer cooperation program, is working with partner organizations to support the creation of individual and collective enterprises that improve socio-economic conditions of disadvantaged and marginalized populations, especially in regards to women and youth. Uniterra is a Canadian volunteer cooperation and international development program that has been active in Nepal since 2004. The program is funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD), Canada and is jointly managed by CECI and WUSC. Through this program, CECI/Uniterra has supported over 17 partner organizations across the country, working and building capacity in various areas including networking, gender and social inclusion, organizational development, program implementation, policy dialogue and communication.

Uniterra is building the capacity of partner organizations which in turn supports rural communities in establishing enterprises and managing resources to bring socio-economic returns to disadvantaged men and women. The main focus areas of Uniterra are agro food (AF),

Uniterra volunteers in 2013-2014		
S.N.	Type of volunteers	Number of volunteers
1.	Long Term	14
2.	Leave for Change	11
3.	Interns (3 months)	5
4.	Interns (8 months)	10
5.	National volunteers	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>

Volunteer Type and Duration of Mandate:  
 Long term (national/intl): 6 months - 2 years  
 Short term (intern/intl): 1 - 8 months  
 Leave for change (L4C): 2-3 weeks

sustainable forest management (SFM) and private sector development (PSD) while the program considers gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) and climate change adaptation (environmental sustainability) as cross-cutting issues. Although the scale of Uniterra intervention remains modest, it's partner organizations evaluated the contribution of the program to their achievements as rather direct and important.

Periodic reviews and evaluations have shown that Uniterra has been quite effective in achieving targeted results.

During 2013-14, 45 volunteers (Canadian and national) were mobilized for the AF, SFM and PSD programs. The partner organizations supported were the Federation of Community Forest Users' Nepal (FECOFUN), Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bio-resources (ANSAB), Integrated Development Society Nepal

(IDS), Dalit Welfare Organization (DWO), Prerana, Professional Development and Research Center (PDRC), Center for Microfinance (CMF), Fair Trade Group (FTG), Himalayan Bio Trade Limited (HBTL), Nepal Agricultural Cooperative Central Federation Limited (NACCFL) and the District Milk Producers' Cooperatives (DMPCUs) of Lalitpur and Makwanpur. Volunteer support was also provided to Siddhi Memorial Hospital, APD hospital, Adharbhat Prasuti Sewa and Man Mohan community hospital.

## Uniterra Highlights of Results 2013-14

### Agro Food (AF)

Uniterra has contributed to building capacity and establishing networking opportunities for partner organizations to enhance their contribution to poverty reduction. It has worked in conjunction with partner organizations in conducting several capacity building trainings during the FY 2013/2014. Some examples include Trainings in cooperative management and business plan development, account management, GESI, quality milk production, animal health improvement, institutional development, TOT and exposure visits to observe model cow farms, fodder cultivation and breed improvement in Chitwan, Kaski, Gorkha, Rupandehi and Tanahu. Over 260 individuals (142 women, 97 Janjati) have participated in these training sessions.

Similarly, Uniterra supported the Nepal Agricultural Cooperative Central Federation Limited (NACCFL) in building the capacity of rural people through organic farming, market promotion, leadership development training and Book keeping. It also worked with NACCFL on running a GESI training and awareness program; developing software and templates for database management for their member cooperatives; and producing business plan templates for distribution and use.



Veterinary doctor, Abdoulaye checking the health of cow



## Community Forest Management (CFM)

Uniterra has supported partner organizations within the forestry sector in developing and promoting forest based enterprise management and resource sustainability. It has collaborated with partners in their endeavor to introduce new projects / services and products on NTFP-based enterprise development, climate resilience economic development, expansion of Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification, REDD +, and quality production. The partner organizations have also improved their capacity to have constructive policy dialogues with government. For instance, ANSAB organized several programs such as pro-poor, community-based enterprise development and networking; enterprise oriented production; management of natural products; biodiversity ecosystem services; and climate change. These programs benefited rural and disadvantaged groups in the communities.

Uniterra, together with other support agencies, aided FECOFUN to successfully organize national level meetings and discussions for the promotion of the FSC certification program in Nepal. Furthermore, HBTL started a new project on essential oil production, now 400 women and 50 men are directly involved in the production of quality essential oils. Forty



Community forest in Dolakha

tons of essential oils were produced during the reporting period. provided organic farming, certification good agriculture and collection practice trainings to supply farmers.

Uniterra volunteers participated with the IDS in organizing trainings on climate change and gender to partners. The training was entitled “Climate Change and Gender Perspective: Issues, Challenges and Climate Change Adaption in Nepal.” Our Partner organizations highly recognized the volunteers’ contribution to capacity building in the areas of: communication and marketing (including the publication of chiuri butter, dhathelo oil flyers, website development/ updates, community story publications on the FSC, Small and Community Level Option (SCLO) website, social media strategy, and document editing); networking with Canadian partners through a market study in Canada and Europe; organizational management (annual report, result based management framework, organizational evaluation, workshops on funding proposal process, stakeholder relationship and risk management, grant development editing of proposals, environmental scan, project database, financial guideline and cost calculation for the upcoming product lines); and research and promotional activities of products.



Luzianne planting trees together with FECOFUN staff

## Private Sector Development (PSD)

There has been a significant contribution in PSD by Uniterra volunteers during the year. They have enhanced the management capacity of partners through the development of comprehensive human resource policies, asset inventory systems, electronic and manual tools, communication strategies, strategic planning, financial management and project management. Volunteers supported host organizations to develop various technical tools for management of programs, as well as creating monitoring, evaluation and business development-strategies, a business opportunity data-base, needs assessment and trainings etc. They also contributed to strengthening the networking capacity of partners through support in developing membership databases, researching Social Solidarity Economy (SSE) initiatives, organizing a workshop for the Nepal SSE network, and organizing a joint meeting with stakeholders and partners on planning.

Volunteers also offered support to host organizations in knowledge sharing, including developing organizational communication strategies and plans, designing communication materials (brochures, websites, Facebook) and training staff in the use of social media and internet. Similarly, volunteers supported the production of the annual report, program related documents and video for wider distribution and to increase the partners national and international visibility.



FTG members working together

Partners were also assisted in providing various services to farmers and producers in the communities. Services related to enterprise/business development and the establishment of a Mobile Craft School (MCS). The cooperation and participation of local organizations led to exercises in promoting job creation through micro-enterprise development, sheep farming for wool production, trainings and workshops in product design, exhibitions on responsible tourism, organization of trade fair, orientation programs on fair trade and SSE.

In the micro finance sector the services covered included: capacity building of savings and credit cooperatives; consumer awareness and financial education (CAFE); a study on the Impact of Credit on the installation of Biogas plant; an assessment on youth access to financial services; sustainable microfinance services and micro-enterprise promotion through women managed cooperative societies; and strengthening women collectives.



PDRC's newly established well equipped Resource Center supported by Center For International Studies & Co-operation (CECI)

CECI/Uniterra financially supported PDRC in establishing a well-equipped computer resource center. The PDRC resource center provides facilities for students especially the Dalit youth for their career/professional development and allows them access to more current Information and Communication technologies. This learning center encourages youths to use social media intelligently and professionally for career building.

A member of PDRC has said "Our learning center has served hundreds of students since its establishment. Many students come and learn basics of computer, internet and social media on a daily basis. Some of the students work on their dissertation and research work while others organize their CVs and different letters from our learning center using our books, computers and internet".

## Uniterra's support in small-scale dairy sector in Nepal through building the capacity of local organizations.

The dairy sector is a growing industry in Nepal. In the past ten years there has been significant growth in the number of dairy cooperatives and farmers producing milk. Many rural households now depend on the sale of milk as their primary source of income.

Uniterra is currently in its second phase of programming in Nepal. Uniterra II (2009-2014) has supported the small-scale dairy sector in Nepal through partnering with three district unions: the Lalitpur DMPCU, the Makawanpur DMPCU and the Rupandehi DMPCU. Through these partnerships, Uniterra has reached 115 primary milk cooperatives.

In Uniterra II, 17 international and national volunteer mandates have been associated with increasing capacity in Nepal's dairy sector, which directly impacted 5,633 beneficiaries (47 percent women), including small-scale farmers and milk cooperative members.

### Accomplishment in dairy sector

Organized over 74 trainings on animal health management, livestock nutrition and improving milk quality, trained 2,524 participants (1 457 women; 1 067 men)

- Held 73 trainings focused on building capacity in institutional development, attended by 800 participants (355 women; 445 men).
- Supported numerous exposure visits for cooperative members in the Lalitpur, Makwanpur and Rupandehi districts.
- Promoted gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) through including a GESI lens in all activities, as well as running 25 GESI-specific trainings, reaching 779 beneficiaries (474 women; 305 men).



### Voice from the field

“Before the training, we used whatever grass/feed was available, even if it was old or stale. We did not realize the benefits of feeding animals more than one type of grass. After the training we planted improved varieties of nutritious grasses, and are mixing feed for a more balanced diet. We also built a trough feeder so that feed does not get watered or contaminated and are using chaff cutter to cut grasses/fodders into small pieces so that it is easier for the animals to digest food.”

*Manakamana MPC member, Makwanpur DMPCU*



## Uniterra's support in cross-cutting issues



Uniterra also supported various cross-cutting issues beyond the above-mentioned sub-sectors. Through the mobilization of volunteers and program support, Uniterra helped partner organizations to promote services targeted to girls/youths such as education for child development, protection and development for girls; promotion of home gardening to improve food and nutrition for children; Public Service Commission exam preparation support for Dalit youths; and the initiation of Dalit Youth Employability Enhancement Database program. Further,



Uniterra Volunteer provided concrete support in communication and documentation of the '2013 Microfinance Summit Nepal'. The Summit was attended by 850 national and international delegates, cooperatives, regulators, academics, experts, researchers, promoters and supporters within the microfinance industry. Uniterra also promoted equality between women and men, utilizing 43% of the total sector fund on this initiative.. Similarly, Uniterra promoted the integration of social inclusion issue within the partner organizations.



1. Uniterra volunteer with local women in Gotikhel
2. Women testing milk fat in Makawanpur district
3. National volunteer conducting training on women leadership in Lalitpur district
4. Students using the facility of PDRC resource centre supported by CECI/Uniterra

## 4.4.2. Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID)

The Australian Government is funding and working in partnership with the Nepal government to provide Australian volunteers through the Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID) program. Australian volunteers have been serving in Nepal since 1999 and CECI has been managing the program through a sub-contract with Scope Global Australia since then.

Australian volunteers come from a diverse range of backgrounds that include men and women aged between 18-80 years. They carry varying professional backgrounds which enables a diverse support system for the partners' various activities. Australian volunteers have made positive contributions to the local community. They work with local people to reduce poverty by sharing knowledge, developing sustainable skills and building the capacity of individuals, organizations and communities in line with partner governments and Australian Government development priorities.

The major role of CECI in this program is to manage volunteers' placement to partner organizations as per their mandates, to provide support in logistic arrangements during their stay in Nepal and to carry out monitoring of the volunteers' work performance in relation to the assignment requirements.

In the fiscal year 2013-2014, 26 Australian Volunteers worked for the development of Nepal. The volunteers worked in sectors that are consistent with the country program priorities including education, health, economic development, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and humanitarian needs. Currently there are 16 Australian volunteers in Nepal. Seven are working in the health sector, three in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and humanitarian, three in water and sanitation and three in education.

Over the course of the reporting period there were 26 volunteers that completed or started their assignments. These assignments were in education (3), health (11), water and sanitation (5), gender equality and social

AVID volunteers in 2013-2014	
Sector	No. of Volunteers
Education	3
Health	11
Water and Sanitation	5
Governance	2
Livelihoods	2
Disaster Risk Reduction	2
GESI	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>

inclusion (1), governance (2), livelihoods (2) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) (2) sectors. Assignments were hosted in: government ministries and departments, educational institutions; hospitals; and local NGOs. Volunteers brought skills and experience from the following sectors: community/social development; planning, monitoring and evaluation; engineering/architecture; health (tuberculosis treatment, nutrition of mothers and children, family planning practices); water quality management, rain water harvesting; organization management; media/communications; information/knowledge management; business development/marketing; and disaster and emergency management.

The Program was able to initiate partnerships with new HOs in health, education, livelihood, hygiene and sanitation sectors, all of which are DFAT priorities in Nepal. Assignment was developed for the placement of volunteer at DWSS Regional Office in Pokhara and a volunteer has been identified for mobilisation early next year.

In the livelihoods sector AVID will be working with Ministry of Industry (Mol), Department of Cottage and Small Industries (DCSI) and the Cottage and Small Industry Development Board (CSIDB) along with other government, NGOs and private sector stakeholders to support the implementation of Micro-Enterprise Development for Poverty Alleviation (MEDPA) Program.

**Dr. Judy Taylor** was assignment to the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) as a Partnership Development Officer in May 2013, and was heavily involved in the development of the new National Health Policy of Nepal. Her assignment was designed to strengthen and incorporate partnership strategies and approaches into the Ministry's programming and planning system. She also participated in the working group, assessing the place that research and evaluation should have in the policy. This included assessing the National Health Policies of similar countries in South and South East Asia.



AVID volunteers with the Honorable Minister of Health during the launch of National Health Policy book

## 4.5. Disaster Risk Reduction

CECI does not consider DRM as a separate sector but as a part of a holistic approach in development. Thus, through the volunteer cooperation program, CECI provided volunteers to local organizations to deal with DRR. Further, as a member of the Disaster Preparedness Network (DPNET) Nepal, CECI provided financial support to the preparation of Nepal Disaster Report 2013, which examined and analyzed data from disaster events in 2012.



## 4.6. Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI)

CECI is committed to giving a voice to socially excluded groups through inclusive, equitable and sustainable development. By mainstreaming gender and inclusive perspective into policies, procedures and practices at both the organizational and project level, CECI is helping to transform centuries of inequality and exclusion behaviors that have prevented Dalits, Janajatis, Muslim, marginalized communities; and women from every caste and ethnic group to access education, health, quality food, jobs opportunities and power.

Every project designed, implemented and monitored by CECI includes a GESI strategy

and uses participatory methods to empower women and socially excluded groups. Moreover, all CECI staff and partners regularly take part in GESI trainings. A training kit on GESI has been developed to support our partners in promoting these approaches and methodologies within their organizations and programs.

In order to assist the effective implementation of this program, CECI has developed monitoring tools designed with gender perspectives and indicators that not only highlight the active participation of women but also reinforce our work on gender.

### Trainings and Knowledge Sharing Workshops

CECI commits to mobilizing its personnel, volunteers and partners to promote equality between women and men by creating opportunities for discussion on gender equity and social inclusion (GESI) related issues. CECI's gender advisors played a key role in promoting the equitable distribution of labor between men and women through a series of GESI training workshops in the dairy-sector. With the aid of local partner organizations there was an increase in women's representation and participation in the membership, trainings, meetings and executive committees of dairy cooperatives.



## List of CECI Nepal partners in 2014-2015

PRAN partners	Districts
Malika Development Organisation of Nepal (MDO Nepal)	Achham
Sashakta Mahila Bipannata Biruddhako Karyayatrama Sahabhagita Nepal (SAMABIKAS)	Achham
Pahunch ra Srijanaka Lagi Sahakarya, Nepal (WAC Nepal)	Achham
Youths in Empowerment Sector (YES) Nepal	Achham
Sustainable Community Development Centre (SCDC)	Agrhakhanchi
Nepal Chetana Kendra (NCK)	Arghakhanchi
Sahara Nepal	Bajang
Rural Environment Awareness Development Society Nepal (READS)	Bara
Jan Jagaran Youth Club (JJYC)	Bara
Geruwa Rural Awareness Association (GRAA)	Bardia
Deepjyoti Youth Club (DYC)	Baglung
Dalit Empowerment Center (DEC)	Bajura
Human Society for Poor Upheaval Sacrifice (PUSH)	Bajura
Women Empowerment Support Team (WEST)	Dhankuta
Rajmarga samudayik Sanchar Kendra (RSSK)	Dhading
Batabaran Tatha Manab Samsadhan Bikas Samaj (SOURCE) Nepal	Doti
Janaki Women Awareness Society (JWAS)	Dhanusha
Chetana Club	Dang
Forum for Human Rights and Disable (FHRD)	Dang
Society for Environment Education Development (SEED)	Dang
Social Institution for Skill Employment and Awareness (SISEA Nepal)	Dang
Society Welfare Action Nepal (SWAN)	Dang
Dalit Mahila Ekata Kendra (DMEK)	Dang
Awareness Group of Oppressed Women, Nepal (AGOW Nepal)	Gorkha
System Development Service Centre (SDSC)	Gorkha
Unification Nepal (UN-Nepal)	Gorkha
Sustainable Community Development Centre (SCDC)	Gorkha
Himalayan Conservation and Development Association (HCDA)	Humla
Birat Community Learning Center (BCLC)	Jhapa
Panch Tara Yuba Samrakshak Manch (PTYSM)	Jajarkot
Gramin Samaj Nepal (GSN)	Jajarkot
Gramin Ekikrit Bikas Kendra (RIDC)	Jajarkot
Centre for Human Rights and Access to Justice (ED-JUS)	Kailali
Jana Sewa Samaj Nepal (JSSN)	Khotang
Baal Sewa samaj Nepal (BSSN)	Khotang
Aama Milan Kendra (AMK)	Kaski
Kanali Network for Integrated Development (KNFID)	Kalikot
Integrated Development Resource Centre (INDERC)	Kapilvastu
Madhesh Human Rights Home (MAHURI-Home)	Kapilvastu

Media Advocacy Group (MAG)	Kathmandu
Dalit Alliance for Natural Resources (DANAR)	Kathmandu
Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO)	Kathmandu
Siswa Community Development Centre (SCDC-Nepal)	Kapilvastu
Siddhartha Social Development Centre (SSDC)	Kapilvastu
Rural Self-Reliance Development Center (RSDC)	Kapilvastu
Kapilvastu Institutional Development Committee (KIDC)	Kapilvastu
National Council for Economic Development Research (NAREC )	Kathmandu
South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics & Environment (SAWTEE)	Kathmandu
Freedom Forum	Kathmandu
Gramin Samudayik Sanshta (GSS)	Mugu
Vijay Development Resource Centre (VDRC)	Nawalparasi
Women Welfare Association (WWA)	Palpa
Liberation of Oppressed Development Centre (LODC)	Palpa
Social Resource Development Centre (SRDC-Nepal)	Palpa
Fulbari Intigreted Rural Development Organization (FIRDO)	Pyuthan
Peoples' Oriented Service Center (POSC)	Rolpa
Human Rights Awareness Centre (HURAC)	Rolpa
Human Rights Protection and Legal Service Center (HRPLSC)	Rukum
Environment and Child Development Council (ECDC)	Rautahat
Alliance for Idol Mission-Nepal (AIM)	Sunsari
Nepal Women Entrepreneurs Association (NWEA)	Taplejung

<b>Uniterra partners</b>	<b>Districts</b>
Integrated Development Society (IDS)	Kathmandu
Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bioresources (ANSAB)	Kathmandu
Federation of Community Forestry Users, Nepal (FECOFUN)	Bhaktapur
Himalayan Bio Trade Private Limited (HBTL)	Kathmandu
Environment Development Society (EDS)	Surkhet
Natural Resource Development Centre (NRDC)	Lalitpur
Nepal Agriculture Co-operative Central Federation Ltd. NACCFL	Lalitpur
Rupandehi District Milk Producers Cooperation Union	Rupandehi
Makwanpur District Milk Producer's Cooperative Union Lt. (MDMPCU)	Makawanpur
Lalitpur District Milk Producer Cooperative Union Ltd. (LDMPUCU)	Lalitpur
Aadharbhut Prasuti Sewa (APS)	Kathmandu
Siddi Memorial Hospital (SMH)	Bhaktapur
Centre for Micro-finance (CMF)	Kathmandu
Dalit Welfare Organization (DWO)	Kathmandu
PRERANA	Lalitpur
Professional Development and Research Centre (PDRC)	Kathmandu
Fair Trade Group Nepal (FTG-Nepal) and 19 affiliated member organizations	Lalitpur

<b>AVID partners</b>	<b>Districts</b>
National Society for Earthquake Technology (NSET) Nepal	Kathmandu
Nepal School of Social Work (NSSW) at Sutra Centre for Development Education and Research	Kathmandu
Department of Water Supply and Sewerage (DWSS).	Kathmandu
Family Planning Association of Nepal (FPAN)	Kapilvastu
Nepali Technical Assistance Group (NTAG)	Lalitpur
Nepal Tuberculosis Center	Bhaktapur
Public Health Concern Trust- Nepal (Phect-Nepal)	Kathmandu
Rato Bangala Foundation (RBF)	Lalitpur
Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP)	Kapilvastu
Department of Water Supply and Sewerage's (DWSS) Regional Office (RO) in Pokhara	Kapilvastu
National Micro Entrepreneurs Federation Nepal (NMEFEN)	Kathmandu

<b>SDP partners</b>	<b>Districts</b>
Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT)	Kathmandu
TSDU	Kathmandu
Ministry of Education (MoE)	Kathmandu
Industrial Enterprise Development Institute (IEDI)	Kapilvastu
World University of Canada (WUSC)	Kapilvastu
Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCA)	Kapilvastu
TVET Sector Development Unit (TSDU)	Kapilvastu
Balaju School of Engineering and Technology	Kathmandu
The Nepal Polytechnic Institute	Kavre
The School of Health Sciences	Chitawan
Lahan Technical School	Siraha
Seti Technical School	Doti
Bheri Technical School	Banke
Rapti Technical School	Dang
Rural Training Centre,	Tanahu
Uttarpani Technical School	Dhankuta
Tikapur Polytechnic Institute	Kailali

<b>MSFP partners</b>	<b>Districts</b>
Integrated Development Society	Kathmandu
HIMAWANTI	Kathmandu
Asmita Nepal	Kathmandu

### **Our donors:**

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

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Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD), Canada

Department for International Development

Finnish International Development Agency (FINNIDA)

Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC)

World Bank

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PRAN	CSOs, Mallika Bhattarrai
MSFP	Keshava Koirala, IDS
AVID	MoH
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