IM Swedish Development Partner (IM)

IM’s history in Nepal can be traced back to 1980s when it provided humanitarian support to Tibetan refugees. IM expanded its operations and formally registered as an INGO with Social Welfare Council in 2010. Through its strategic plan (2015-2017) and bridge year of 2018, IM’s work focuses on sustainable development approach to contribute towards national priority of poverty reduction and quality education. To contribute towards this, IM has been working with six long term development partners in Nawalpur, Kapilvastu, Dang, Gorkha and Kathmandu.

**Vision:** IM’s vision is a fair and humane world.

**Mission:** IM’s mission is to create visibility, fight poverty and alienation. IM always defends the principle of all humans’ equal value and rights.

**Commitment:** IM empowers civil society, catalyzing profound societal change towards equality and democracy, as a feminist and anti-racist change agent.

**Theory of Change:** IM believes that sustainable societal change is created by targeted right holders and with key enabling partners and actors – catalyzing social impact on an individual, organizational and institutional level through empowerment, mobilization and advocacy – collectively driving the right to social and economic inclusion and ultimately a strong civil society.

**Our working area**

![Map of Nepal showing IM's presence and working area]

- **Our Presence**
- **IM/EU**
Message from the Country Director

I feel extremely happy to present our Annual report for the year 2018. This year we completed our first strategic period of 2015-2018. We closed the year with evaluation of our work by Social Welfare Council (SWC) commissioned team comprised of experts from SWC, Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen and Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, and the external independent evaluation 2017. The evaluations reports show that IM’s work has resulted in positive outcomes in our target areas. It was reassuring to know that IM has been effective in reaching out to the most deprived communities attributing to promoting children’s right to education, economic empowerment, and strengthening Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

This period has been important to IM in terms of gaining strategic direction and visibility as a sustainable development partner in Nepal. The learnings, challenges and achievements have strengthened our organization and helped us increase our focus. From our humble beginnings in 2010 from a small office in Nawalpur, today we have grown and reached to four districts including national level policy work.

Moving forward, with the aim of becoming better, relevant, and strategic organization, this year we worked on developing our next Strategic Plan for the period of 2019-2023. For this, we conducted consultation meetings and workshops with our partners, thematic experts and civil society leaders including government stakeholders at all levels. We gathered insights from leaders and experts in the area of Women Rights, Economic Empowerment, Poverty Rights to Food, Human Rights, Civic Space, Quality Education and Educational Governance. Their insights and suggestions have been instrumental in showing us the strategic direction for the coming period. We also worked on supporting our Head Office in Sweden to prepare a five year frame grant application to Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). For these purposes, a series of consultation meetings were held with partners and stakeholders. We have also brought few new partners like Jagaran Media Center (JMC) and Fair Trade Group (FTG) Nepal on board for the new strategic period. Partners have also finalized their program plans for this period.

Another major achievement for IM this year has also been the winning of two proposals from back_donors. First we have been able to win a proposal for a three year project (2019-2021) from The Charitable Foundation (TCF) – Australia- called “Livelihoods improvement of Indigenous Tharu Communities through effective pond management”. Then, we, under the consortium led-by Sahakarmi Samaj- Surkhet and other local, national and international partners, won The European Union’s grant for a four year project called “Enhancing Citizens’ Participation in Sub-National Good Governance (Local and Provincial Level) in the Context of the New Federal System in Nepal” for Karnali Province. For this, IM also co-finances 5 % of the total budget through Sida funding in addition to its other technical as well as implementing roles. We have shared brief of these projects in this report.

Finally, networking with likeminded networks was continued as important role of IM for this year by contributing to consultations and drafting process of social development and organizational registration acts for greater CSO friendly laws together with government agencies and CSOs, Livelihood and Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) with AIN and its working groups, NGO federation, and other CSOs.

As we prepare for a challenging yet exciting journey ahead. I would like to express my sincere gratitude towards our donors Sida, TCF, The European Union, and the generous Swedish people, without whose support we wouldn’t be able to bring positive impact in the lives of approx. 23, 322 marginalized women, men, girls and boys from 148 community based civil societies/groups . I would also like to thank my Nepal and Sweden IM team and our partners for their hard work and dedication towards the organization’s mission. A special thanks to Social Welfare Council and their evaluation team, Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen, and line ministries and agencies for their cooperation. Finally, I thank our communities who continue to pursue their dreams despite of the challenges they face.

Govinda Neupane, Country Director
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Program Achievements for 2018

Education

To promote right to free, quality and compulsory basic education of the marginalized children, particularly girls, we worked in 35 schools of Dang and Kapilvastu districts. Our education partners are SSDC and SEED. We worked with schools to promote quality education, girls friendly and child friendly teaching-learning environment and strengthening school governance. Based on community centric approach, we worked with parents and stakeholders through Girls Education Advocacy Groups, Reflect Groups (a group of empowerment class) and Citizens Watch Dog Groups to raise awareness of education so that all children and particularly girls have increased access to quality education. Based on school centric approach, we supported schools with necessary teaching learning materials, help maintain basic facilities and supported learning achievements. We also supported in conducting bridging classes to encourage drop-out children to reenroll in school and also conducted awareness against child marriage at schools and communities. Our focus was on children from marginalized communities and girls.

We worked with six schools to develop them as Model Schools that provides girl friendly and child friendly environment, equitable access, participatory learning environment, quality education, and inclusive school governance. Best practices and achievements from the Model Schools are replicated by other schools from the surrounding area. Our partners also worked with local media and academia to highlight issues relating to education sector in the area. This has helped towards implementation and follow up of existing education related laws and policies. We have also worked on providing suggestions and recommendations to federal and local government during the new education policy formulation process to ensure inclusive and quality education.

97.75% of total targeted boys and girls (out of 5,416-2,861 girls and 2,555 boys) are enrolled in school.

319 drop out children (187 girls, 132 boys) were re-enrolled.

60% of children from targeted marginalized communities improved their academic performances.

15% increase in learning achievements of targeted children during three years project period.

483 children organized into 35 child clubs for education rights and against child marriage.

43 community based CSOs created and actively engaged in school management and local decision making processes.
Increased enrollment in community schools

In Nepal, there is a general perception that private schools provide a better education than government schools. Therefore, many parents chose to send their children to private schools despite the added financial burden. The only students remaining in government schools come from the extremely poor and marginalized communities who cannot afford to send their children to private schools. This was also the case in Community School of Baghmara. According to IM’s partner SEED, their context analysis report showed that 47% parents were struggling to pay the school fees of their children’s private school. However, parents still preferred to send their children to private schools. On the other hand, Public schools were almost empty.

Since 2016, SEED has been implementing right to education project in two rural municipalities in Dang. Under this project, SEED conducted an enrollment campaign to tackle the issue of low enrollment rates in community schools. Since 2016, SEED has been conducting this campaign continuously. Teachers, parents, School Management Committee (SMC) members, Parents Teachers Association (PTA) members and local government representatives are also actively involved in this enrollment campaign.

Due to their relentless campaigning over the past three years, the number of students enrolling in government schools have increased in public schools in the year 2018.

According school’s enrollment records 1,051 (Girls-548 and Boys-503) new students enrolled in targeted 21 schools. Among them 373 students (Girls- 183 and Boys-190) are transferred from private to public schools in Dangisaran and Shantinagar Rural Municipalities at Dang. This shows that community schools are improving and ensuring quality education. According to Binod Dangi, Principal of Shree Adarsha Aadarbhut School, Kashipur, Dhanauri, Dang, “The SEED applied enrollment campaign in target schools, always includes different activities like home visits, Street Drama, involvement of the Reflect Groups, Citizens Watch Dog Groups etc. It is more effective for the increased awareness of parents for the children’s enrollment.”

The enrollment campaign has been a critical tool to increase community awareness and encourage them to enroll their children to schools. It is also effective because it mobilizes stake holders, duty bearers and other agencies.
Economic empowerment

To improve the social and economic status of marginalized communities, we worked with our partners MADE Nepal, IRDC and SWAN in Nawalpur, Gorkha, Kapilvastu, and Dang respectively. We worked to build communities’ income generating skill, and provided inputs to start small enterprises along with regular technical backstopping support and help them to link to market and finance. Our special focus is on women so that they have strengthened role in decision-making process and control over productive resources.

- 1,816 families organized into 77 community groups and networks
- 1,373 families supported with training, input, and technical backstopping for income generation activities.
- 177 of target individuals have participated in decision-making processes related to productive resources at societal and household levels.
- 933 families increased their annual income by 77% (Income increased from NPR 45,000 to 77,450 annually).
- 2,841 marginalized households got access to services from government and non-government programs.

We work with our partners by developing replicable and sustainable economic empowerment models. Three such models developed are Organic Farming Model by Jaluke Ghumaure Water Irrigation and Consumer’s Organization (JGWICO), Socio-economic Empowerment Model by MADE and Livelihoods and Entrepreneurship Development (LED) by IRDC. We have shared these Models on various development forums to promote its replication. In addition, two other low cost and resilient livelihood models were also developed on on-farm and off-farm sub-sectors which are Rights-based Integrated Economic Empowerment Model by MADE, and Land-lease Model for Landless Farmers by SWAN.
Working to uplift her community- Dilmaya

“If people get the platform and opportunity then even someone like me who doesn’t have formal education can become a leader and can do great things for the upliftment of their community.” Dilmaya Gharti Magar

Dilmaya Gharti Bantha Magar, 31 lives with her husband and her two children in Shivagadi Rural Municipality, Kapilvastu district. In 2015, IM partnered with IRDC to work in Kapilvastu for the project “Initiatives for Social and Economic Empowerment (ISEE) of marginalized communities.” Dilmaya joined Lumbini Farmers’ Group formed under the project. As part of the project support, Dilmaya also received entrepreneurship training where she learned about ideas on how she could start her own business and support her family. “After the training, I discussed with my husband and decided to open a meat shop.” The couple invested NPR 150,000 (SEK 12500) to start a meat shop. From the project, the couple also received a Deep freezer to store fresh meat for a longer period of time. “Since we couldn’t store the meat in a normal refrigerator for a longer period of time, we could only sell what we had bought that day. So this was limiting our income.” Now the couple earns NPR 40,000 (SEK 3333) monthly from their small venture. Their sale and income triples during festival season.

Besides the economic progress, Dilmaya is also taking great strides in terms of her social and leadership skill. Dilmaya is also Secretary of Chisapani Community Forest User Group of Shivaraj Municipality, Deputy Chairperson of District Land Rights Forum of Kapilvastu and President of her group, Lumbini Farmers’ Group. With these leadership positions, Dilmaya plays important decision making role that impacts her entire community.

As president of the Lumbini Farmers’ Group, Dilmaya led her group members to the process of accessing support from the Prime Minister Agriculture Modernization Project (PMAM). Dilmaya and her group members registered their group in order to access government support from the PMAM. Last year, the received grant of NPR 155,000 which they invested in digging two boring wells. This year as well, they received support of NPR 400,000 which was invested in adding two more irrigation schemes along with agricultural various tools and equipment for production and selling of products. This investment now provides irrigation facility to 85 households in the village, substantially increasing their productivity and income.

Besides this, Dilmaya is also the chairperson of Shivagadi Economic Social Cultural Rights (ESCR) Network that works on promoting awareness of people on their rights under the project. The network is working to minimize the consumption of alcohol, smoking and gambling in their village. The network worked together with the local elected representatives and Nepal Police to impose a fine of NPR 10,000 for selling alcohol without license and NPR 5,000 for consuming alcohol irresponsibly. They have also set up a board at major junctions in their village to sensitize people about the harmful effect of alcohol consumption, smoking and gambling. She shares, “Before you could find men drinking and gambling at all time of the day at major junctions of the village. Now we can say that the practice is less prevalent. This has also been helpful to curb incidences of domestic violence against women.”

Dilmaya and the network members are actively working to resolve problems faced by the community members. Dilmaya is making the best use of the support she has received from IM and IRDC partnership project to uplift herself socio-economically.
Strengthening civil society

IM worked towards strengthening our partner so that can help communities connect with government bodies to claim their rights to services and improve governance and accountability. Our partners then worked with community members to organize them into CSOs at grassroots level. Together, these CSOs from various levels worked together with relevant stakeholders and government authorities to promote and protect their own rights and those of marginalized groups.

This year, our six partners became part of larger CSO network at national and local level that work towards creating enabling environment for CSOs. Some instances of such networks are NGO Federation, ESCR network, CSO forum on SDG, National Campaign for Education, Land Rights etc. These partners are also part of relevant thematic networks. Some instances of which are Rights to food, Land Rights, Rights to Education, ESCR network, Girls’ Education, Climate Change Network, Human Rights related networks and SDG Forum. We also supported our partner SEED to develop their strategic plan and Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting policy (PMER). This has helped in building their organizational capacity and ensuring their sustainability.

IM and partners participated and influenced in various relevant development forums and dialogue processes organized by government and donors. For example, Human Rights Magna Meet, new draft laws and administrative requirements for CSOs such as the Social Development Act, Social Organizational Registration Act, provincial strategic plan, new federal law drafting on education/land/food/employment/SRHR etc.)

33 CSOs from national, local and grassroots level supported to promote and protect ESCR and engaged in local and national policy formulation processes.

6 partners strengthened on strategic approach to development including RBA, gender and environmental perspectives and transparency and accountability and organizational development. 2 advocacy action related to shrinking space of CSOs i.e. on draft civil society laws carried out by IM’s national and local partners together with other CSOs.

3 partners (MADE, IRDC, SSDC) discussed the aid effectiveness agenda i.e. promoting synergies, reducing resource duplications with their other donors.

IM and partners participated and influenced in various relevant development forums and dialogue processes organized by government and donors. For example, Human Rights Magna Meet, new draft laws and administrative requirements for CSOs such as the Social Development Act, Social Organizational Registration Act, provincial strategic plan, new federal law drafting on education/land/food/employment/SRHR etc.)
Demanding protection against sexual violence against women and girls

Nepal is seeing a surge in number of rape cases being reported this year. An average of three rape cases are reported every day in the country. The number of cases that goes unreported are even more. Weak policies and lack of access to justice denies justice to victims and encourages culprits. Sarmila Shrestha, Chairperson of JuRI Nepal and an advocate shares, “It is extremely difficult for a victim to come out and file a complaint due to social stigma. They risk their reputation as our patriarchal society will first point their fingers on the victims. Even after making a complaint they aren’t sure whether they will get justice. The unfriendly environment of our complain mechanism and justice system can be intimidating.”

IM’s partner JuRI Nepal along with many other civil society members submitted a memorandum letter to put pressure on government and law enforcement agencies with a demand to take immediate actions to effective investigation of rape and other sexual violence against women and children. The letter was presented to the Home Minister, Chief of National Human Rights Commission, and Chief of Nepal Police. Sarmila shared, “The intention was to put pressure at all levels take urgent action on such heinous crime. Policy makers, implementers and watch dog need to be proactive to eradicate this social problem.” JuRI Nepal led other civil society members such as Nepal Bar Association, media houses and human rights workers to jointly submit the memorandum letter. The letter submitted to Home Ministry presented six specific demands that could be immediately implemented by the Ministry to curb sexual crimes. IM in Nepal works with JuRI Nepal to advocate for and protect Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of people.
Highlights from the Strategic Period 2015-2018

IM has completed its first strategic period for 2015-2017 including a bridge period of 2018. This period has been important to IM in terms of gaining strategic direction and visibility as an important and strategic development partner in Nepal. During this period, IM focused on strengthening Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) through its education and economic empowerment programs so that they are better equipped to work towards advocating and promoting the basic rights and services of marginalized groups, and build sustainable development models in working areas. We were able to impact the lives of over 40,000 individuals directly through our work. We partnered with seven NGOs/CSOs to work in areas of education and economic empowerment in five districts. We have worked to build their organizational capacity, thematic expertise, understanding of development approaches and reaching to the most marginalized section of the society.

In 2018, Nepal government worked on formulating policies and laws as per the new constitution and the new federal structure. This year IM also focused its work towards reviewing draft bills, providing recommendations to lawmakers to ensure that human rights especially of the poor and marginalized were respected, protected and prioritized. For this we worked together with our partners and other CSOs such as NGO Federation, Association of INGOs in Nepal (AIN), and Human Rights Alliance (HRA), Rights to Food Network, Land Rights Forum etc. During the period, we worked towards promoting learning and sharing among our partners and other like-minded stakeholders. This was done through partners’ network meetings and through AIN’s Livelihoods Working Group (LWG) and GESI working group platform. We closed the strategic period with evaluation of our project by SWC/GoN commissioned team comprised of experts from program, finance and representatives from SWC, Ministry of Women, and Ministry of Agriculture. The evaluation report suggested that IM’s work has resulted in positive outcomes in our target areas. Here are some highlights and achievements from the period.

Education: During this strategic period, IM and its partners have been able to increase children's access to education in our working areas. There has been an increment in enrollment and retention of students and improvement in learning outcomes. With girls’ education as one of our priorities, we have worked towards raising awareness on girls’ education and creating gender friendly learning environment in schools. We have re-enrolled 572 dropout children and 992 never enrolled children in government schools, of which half are girls. By enhancing capacities of School Management Committee (SMC) and Parents Teachers Association (PTA) to become inclusive and accountable governing bodies, parents and members from marginalized communities have increased representation in these bodies and play a role in school monitoring and governance. Our partners have worked with 35 schools to update their School Improvement Plan (SIP) in a participatory way. These schools are now identifying their specific needs to improve quality of education and are accessing increased funds to meet these needs from the government. We have worked with six schools to develop them as Model Schools so that the best practices and achievements done there can be replicated by other schools from the surrounding area as well. Moving ahead into the new strategic period, we will take forward our work on developing two quality educational development model with our partner SEED and SSDC.
Economic empowerment: IM’s partners work with men and women from marginalized communities to claim their ESCR. They work as facilitators to connect target communities and local government bodies to help them access government resources. Farmers groups are now aware of government programs and have started demanding for support for income generation. They were able to get government support to construct irrigation schemes, collection center, and improved livestock sheds. In addition, they have received agricultural inputs and training. This has resulted in increased marginalized community members’ access to resources and increased their income. During this period, we worked with our partners to develop replicable and sustainable income generation models. Overall, capacity of three partners namely MADE Nepal, IRDC, and SWAN increased their capacity to become responsible CSO to support marginalized communities for their economic empowerment. Rights holders in the targeted working area were empowered, and increased their access to government services, and started income generating activities. IM and partners developed three economic empowerment model and have been sharing with the government and relevant stakeholders to replicate the model. Local government has been accountable toward the marginalized communities for their social and economic empowerment.

Humanitarian Assistance: IM worked on relief, recovery, and rehabilitation after the Gorkha earthquake. Emergency relief was provided to 2,680 highly affected families and 520 students with seven partners in six districts. Relief materials included food items, temporary shelters, drinking water, dignity kits for women and girls, and seed and inputs for crop production. For recovery, we supported in retrofitting of schools and ensured that victim families were empowered to demand effective support from the government and that women-friendly recovery processes were being considered. We then worked to enhance recovery of livelihood, community infrastructures, capacity building and psychosocial support to affected target groups, and advocacy with local governments. Over 920 families have received support to rebuild their livelihood during this period. We also supported government schools to ensure quality education. Increased access to quality teaching and learning materials to 1,085 (nearly half girls) students of 8 schools. The students enjoyed rights to education and resumed their regular study after support of quality educational materials. 650 targeted families got benefitted with the repair of 10 irrigation canals. Similarly, drinking water schemes helped 850 families by providing a regular supply of water. With the support in rehabilitation, the families increased their access to drinking water and irrigation facility. Capacity building in accounting skills and installation of accountability boards encouraged community participation and awareness for sustainability of the community infrastructures. We are linking the earthquake recovery work done from 2016 to 2017 with long term development from 2018 to 2020. For this, we worked on capacity building of the earthquake affected communities, and their CSOs in order to link them with government services for sustainable development.

Rudra Maya Nepali and her daughter pose with her goats provided by the project. The goats were provided after providing them three day-training on goat rearing.

Til Bahadur Rana of Suryodaya farmers group in Arkhala of Bulingtar Rural Municipality. Returned from Malaysia and started vegetable farming and goat farming from support of IM and MADE.
Strengthening Civil Society: During this strategic period, IM worked together with its partners and other CSOs to build their capacities to help them protect the rights of marginalized communities. IM and its partners have supported in the formation and mobilization of 148 CSOs of marginalized groups at grassroots, and supported their networks of district and national level who are actively engaged in linking communities with government line agencies to claim their rights and entitlement. We worked for joint advocacy on girls’ education, economic rights, rights of marginalized communities, protection and promotion of ESCR etc. Our partners have been able to extend their networks at local and central levels. The formation of ESCR Network has provided a common platform for IM’s partners and civil society actors to work together to promote and ensure these rights from local to national level. Our partner JuRI-Nepal organized province-5 level consultation workshop on the draft CSO bill jointly with other CSOs, parliamentarians and provincial government in order to provide comments and recommendations from CSO perspectives. JuRI-Nepal led and submitted a joint submission of memorandum of 17 CSOs to the honorable Speaker of the Federal Parliament and Minister for Law and Justice on seven draft bills. As a result of this initiative, provincial government has approved this law of registration and management of CSOs in early 2019 by incorporating some of the recommendations of JuRI-led CSOs have been incorporated and this is good law in the eyes of CSOs. Other bills where JuRI and other CSOs reviewed and commented include Right to Food and Food Sovereignty, Free and Compulsory Education, Child Right, Land Act (7th Amendment), Bill to amend the Caste-based discrimination and Untouchability Act, Privacy Rights and Right to Employment. The joint submission of CSOs was prepared after series of consultations with parliamentarians, ministries, CSOs, networks, human rights defenders, and media.
During the period, IM will work to empower civil society organizations, promote social and economic inclusion of the marginalized communities and support in creating enabling environment for civil society. The key target group will be women and youth from marginalized communities. By the end of the strategic period, we foresee that policies for economic and social inclusion will be applied and enforced to ensure inclusion of the targeted rights holders. In addition, civil society actors will have the capacity to amplify the voices of the marginalized groups and are working together to make legislators more open to dialogue with them. During this period, IM will focus on strategic approach to development, strategic advocacy and building models for societal change. These new initiatives will be built upon the results of last strategic period.

This strategic plan contributes to achieve the following long-term outcomes:

- Target groups are socially included in society.
- Target groups enjoy and defend their right to Economic Inclusion.
- IM’s partners are diverse and have the necessary skills and resources to be a change agent and reach their objectives.
- Civil societies have, in targeted areas, the necessary space, and conditions to take their different roles in the processes of societal change.

We will work with nine partners in total that includes on-going six partners and three new partners from the field and national/local level. IM and partners both will establish broad-based partners’ ecosystem where we can leverage resources and knowledge from them and advocate jointly for rights of marginalized women and youth.
**Social Inclusion:** Our focus will be on social rights and issues such as discriminations based on gender, caste, ethnicity; rights to participation in decision making processes at family, societal and governance levels; rights to girls’ education; child marriages, and access to social protections/social security schemes. Community Based Organizations, groups and networks will be engaged to unify marginalized community members and collectively claim their rights and be part of the decision-making process. IM will work together with diverse partners to demand for the effective implementation of existing non-discriminatory policies and reform others for social inclusion through dialogue and evidence-based advocacy.

**Economic Inclusion:** IM will work to economically empower marginalized community members who had previously been deprived of economic opportunities. We will work to promote women, youth, and fair trade friendly enterprises model. The enterprise model ensures the linkage of services and finance for the production, and linkage of the product to the market. IM, partners, and the other CSOs work together to influence the different levels of the government to incorporate the suitable provisions in to the policies. IM and partners empower the target community who are deprived of land rights and advocate to ensure tenancy rights, safe settlement, and implementation of leasehold farming.

**Organizational Capacity Development (OCD):** IM will apply two approaches to build its partners organizational capacity. One is strategic approach to OCD supports to its partners based on their needs and interest. IM will provide OCD funds to its agreement partners which will help them develop their organizational capacity for a long term and strategic perspective. Second, IM will develop partners’ capacity in different development and thematic areas. These areas will be identified during the assessment process of partnership and interventions.

**Civic Space:** IM will promote civic space to create an enabling environment for civil societies of marginalized groups with focus to women, youth, and minority groups. IM will build partners’ capacity, facilitate platforms for civil society to engage them and other like-minded actors in discussions and work together to influence decision making processes on the situation for civil society. IM will partner with actors to conduct research, make analysis, capacitate other actors, and lead advocacy initiatives relating to the civic space such CSOs work, advocate for CSOs friendly policies and laws, and promote rights to assembly, freedom of expression for civil societies from grassroots to all levels etc.
New Projects Summary

Livelihoods improvement of Indigenous Tharu Communities through effective pond management

IM will work on this three year project funded by The Charitable Foundation from 2019-2021. The project will work to improve livelihoods of marginalized farmers by investing on pond improvement, supporting smallholder farmers to commercialize their agricultural products, and establishing viable institutions to sustain the project intervention. The project has been designed on the principle of revolving the investment made for rehabilitation of ponds to support similar initiatives in other similar communities. This project will support rehabilitation and improvement of two ponds in Buddhabhumi Municipality, ward no-9 of Kapilvastu district benefitting 2,213 smallholder farmers in 461 households and will be implemented in partnership with Indreni Rural Development Center-Kapilvastu.

The project invests 180,378 USD (including 119,865 USD in the management of two ponds) in three years. As per IM’s technical feasibility assessment, the farmers can earn 295,238 USD as a result of the intervention within the project duration. They can pay back cost for maintenance of pond (119,865 USD) within three years from less than 50 % of their profit. IM’s implementing partner, IRDC collects the money from farmers through cooperatives, which will be invested in other similar projects.

Objective: Improve livelihoods of the farmers through sustainable management of ponds, crop diversification and commercialization through adaptation of the climate resilient livelihoods model.

Output 1: Increased volume of water and enhanced efficiency of water use through improvement of pond and water distribution system.

Output 2: Increased access of farmers to inputs, services, market and finance for commercial farming.

Output 3: Establishment of farmers’ institutions for sustainability and capacity building of farmers for replication;
During the period of 2019-2022, IM will be working together with four consortium partners - Sahakarmi Samaj (lead of the consortium), Terre des homes (Tdh- Switzerland), Center for Dalit Women Nepal (CDWN) and Dalit Development Society (DDS) to implement the European Commission funded good governance project. The project will be implemented in 12 Palikas (rural municipalities) of three districts- Salyan, Jajarkot and Kalikot of Karnali Province from January 2019 – December 2022. The project total budget is 1,108,890 EUROS (approx. NPR 126,400,000) of which 90% has been funded by The European Commission while 5% each has been funded by IM and Tdh. The project will work to enhance participatory and cooperative relationships between citizens and local governments, by strengthening public governance, accountability, and transparency. It will also work to establish cooperation and dialogue among local governments, between local and provincial governments and ministries to improve overall local service delivery and ensure reflection of local needs in programs and policies. To the consortium, IM will mainly provide quality assurance support to the lead of the consortium for EU compliance management and thematic technical support to the consortium lead and members on Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA), Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI), civic space, and agriculture and education sectors.

OBJECTIVE
1. To enhance participatory and cooperative relationships between citizens and local governments, by strengthening public governance, accountability, and transparency.
2. To establish cooperation and dialogue among local governments, between local and provincial governments and ministries to improve overall local service delivery and ensure reflection of local needs in programs and policies.

EXPECTED RESULTS
1. 3,150 citizens from about 600 grassroots organization including women, Dalit & marginalized people are represented, empowered & mobilized to ensure inclusive, participatory & accountable local governance.
2. Local Governments (LGs) in 12 municipalities are equipped to design and develop inclusive plans, policies and ensure their implementation, with the active participation of Community Groups (CGs) and CSOs.
3. Province & 12 Palika-level Government (rural municipalities) work constructively and collaboratively in promoting local good governance.
Financial Statement for FY 2018

- 16% Education (NPR 8,289,267)
- 35% Economic Empowerment (NPR 17,613,463)
- 14% CSC Strengthening (NPR 7,442,703)
- 15% Program Management, Research & Evaluation (NPR 7,817,276)
- 20% Administration Cost (NPR 10,335,952)

100 % Total Cost in NPR, 51698,662

IM Team

From Top Left: Mr. Nabaraj Timalsina (Office Guard), Mr Dhan Bahadur Dawadi (Guard cum Gardener), Khem Kumari Sunuwar (Office Assistant), Uttam Aryal (Sr. Finance Officer, uttam.aryal@imsweden.org), Govinda Neupane (Country Director, govinda.neupane@imsweden.org),

From Bottom Left: Sunita Gurung (Program Officer, sunita.gurung@imsweden.org), Anju Shrestha (Admin and Finance Associate, anju.shrestha@imsweden.org), Keshab Dahal (Program Officer, keshab.dahal@imsweden.org)
Mayor of Buddhabhumi Municipality, Keshab Kumar Shrestha with Chairman of The Charity Foundation Australia, Steve Killelea.

People harvesting fish in Birja pond of Budhhabhumi – 9, Kapilvastu.

Dilmaya leading 16days campaign against GBV rally

Women from Reflect Group Nandanagar

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Teachers and children using teaching Learning Materials at class room Dang