



# Mahakali Sambhad

A Civil Society Organization lead  
Dialogue in Mahakali basin





## Mahakali Sambad

Mahakali is a river flowing along Nepal-India border. It separates the two countries geographically in most of the places. This basin area of the river spreads in 15,640 square kilometers, and of which, 5,037 kilometers of area lies in Nepal. Around 47 percent of that area is covered by forests and it has seven wetlands within the area.

Dialogue (“Sambad” in Nepali) is a discussion conducted on certain subject matters and situations, during which, debates and conversations on the matter is carried out between two or more than two parties. This also acts as a platform to share news, information about current affairs and ongoing occurrences. Therefore, the practice of dialogue is also accepted as a form of teaching and learning method. Thus, a comprehensive purpose of dialogue is to make things clear on certain

matters and share them amongst each other, so that, issues discussed in the dialogue is settled in a meaningful way.

The Mahakali Dialogue is made of these two words- Mahakali and Dialogue. In Nepali, it is termed as Mahakali Sambad. The problems of people living in both Nepal and India across Mahakali River are identified in this dialogue process. Mahakali Dialogue conduct intense debates on these issues and, it takes initiatives to solve them. Sometimes community people from one side discuss the matter and conduct joint meetings of citizens from both the sides. When they sit together to discuss about the common problems of the border, they forget about their national identity and work together to find common solutions. Therefore, Mahakali Sambad has now become a common and effective forum to discuss similar problems facing locals living in the bordering areas.



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## Introduction of Mahakali Sambad

People living across Nepal-India border jointly formed the India-Nepal Joint Action Forum (INJAF). The organization has been raising voices about the problems such as violence, discrimination, disappearances, high handedness and extortion faced by the people from both the sides and take initiatives to solve them. If there is a problem at either side of the border, Nepal or India, the INJAF members in both the countries, talk to their respective officials including related stakeholders and work together to resolve the issues. Meanwhile, a regional program TROSA came into operation in South Asia including in Nepal. This program is in operation from 2017 to 2021. As Oxfam runs the

program in Kanchanpur, Dadeldhura, Baitadi and Darchula districts of Nepal through its partners, the program aims to help the people living along the Mahakali River across Nepal-India border. This has adopted a system of forming Women Empowerment Centers in local communities and identifying local people's problems and resolving them through such centers.

In the same line, TROSA with support from INJAF organizes Mahakali Sambad to discuss the issues relate to access and control over riverine resources an water induced problem in the Mahakali basin. In the forum, issues related to, irrigation, drinking water, inundation, erosion, Inadequate information flow of EWS (Early Warning System), aqua life conservation and sand mining are also discussed. These issues were prioritized towards resolving.

### TROSA

The Transboundary Rivers of South Asia (TROSA) is a five-year (2017-2021) regional programme jointly implemented by Oxfam and its partners<sup>1</sup>. The programme brings together efforts to support the lives of communities (especially women) living along the Mahakali River Basin.

### TROSA GOAL

Reduced poverty of river basin communities through increased access to, and control over riverine water resources.

### TROSA OBJECTIVES

- Improved policies and practices of government that protect the rights of river basin communities
- Improved policies and practice of private sector and other actors that respect the rights of river basin communities to water resources
- Strengthened capacity of the river basin communities and civil societies to influence transboundary water resource management
- Amplification of women's profile and influence in dialogues and decision-making on water management and water infrastructure





# Objectives of Mahakali Sambad

Oxfam in Nepal is implementing TROSA project in partnership with Nepal Environment and Equity Development Society (NEEDS) in Kanchanpur, Rural Women’s Development and Unity Centre (RUWDUC) in Dadeldhura, Rural Development and Environment Management Society (RUDES) in Baitadi, Sankalpa in Darchula The project in partnership with INJAF works in the Transboundary water governance. The project is working at people-to-people level which improves relations at local settings, making cooperation sustainable in coordination with local governments, private sectors and other related stakeholders. The discussion finalized the name for common platform as Mahakali Sambad.

Mahakali Sambad helps the concerned stakeholders advocate in the water-related issues concerning the people living in bordering areas along Mahakali River and establish their rights on these issues which works to ensure human rights based on international values. As an open forum, it identifies common problems of the locals living in the bordering areas in both the countries and makes sincere efforts to solve them.

It also plays an active role to further strengthen bilateral relations between the two countries through civil society and various citizen-based organizations. It also provides suggestions to the governments about the problems found in bordering areas of both the countries and help them resolve the issues so that people would not face same problems in future. The main objectives of Mahakali Sambad are:

- To act as platform for dialogues among communities, local government, Civil Society Organisations (CSO), private sectors on issues of Mahakali basin (Nepal and India)
- To raise awareness for access and control over the riverine resources,
- To support on lobbying with water related stakeholders on prioritised issues of Mahakali basin.
- To act as bridge for regular cooperation and harmony among
- people of Nepal and India living across the border of Mahakali basin through information sharing and dialogues
- To continue joint initiatives in economic prosperity and education, among other sectors.

# Indo-Nepal Joint Action Forum (INJAF)

Indo-Nepal Joint Action Forum (INJAF) is an open forum formed to identify and solve the problems faced by locals living near Mahakali River. In addition to above mentioned areas of work, it also educates locals on how to make maximum utilization of the water of Mahakali River and its conservation along with awareness to public about the possible losses the river may cause. The forum has 45 NGOs of Nepal and India along with 20 advisors as its members.

# Mahakali Sambad and INJAF

The Mahakali Sambadis supported by Oxfam under TROSA project through the local partner NEEDS with coordination of INJAF. For that, the secretariat offices in both the countries are equally active in coordinating with their related stakeholders. Oxfam in Nepal, NEEDS, RUWDUC, RUDES, Sankalpa are the part of these discussions.

# Approaches of Mahakali Dialogues

**a. Community discussion**  
TROSA in consultation with INJAF conducts Mahakali Sambad to discuss the issues of public concerns at the community level. In these discussions, the local target groups and stakeholders are invited including representatives from local organizations, local activists, leading individuals in local communities, representatives of political parties, teachers, representatives of health facilities, and security personnel, among others. The major local concerns and solutions suggested by the locals to solve them are presented in the sambads represented by higher level authorities.

Amongst the discussions held in community level in 2018, seven were held in India and five in Nepal. Also, similar interactions are being held in various places in 2019 as well.

**b. Trainings/seminars/ lobby meetings**  
TROSA in coordination with INJAF has been organizing trainings/seminars with a view to enhance capacity of INJAF members, local community members and disseminate information to the people. In 2018, INJAF organized interactive workshops and trainings four times in Delhi, two times in Dehradun, one each in Pantanagar, Tanakpur and Champawat, and more than 10 times in Banbasa.

At Nepal side, it organized four such programs in Nepalgunj, two in Dhangadhi, and 10 in Kanchanpur. Similarly, in 2019, it organized two advocacy programs in India- one in Banbasa and one in Tanakpur. At Nepal side, two similar programs were held in Mahendranagar. Both the programs were related to capacity enhancement of INJAF members. Based on these four programs, the INJAF with support from TROSA prepared its advocacy strategy.

**c. Women Empowerment Center**  
The TROSA project has also developed a focused program for women living near Mahakali River along Nepal-India border. Twenty nine women empowerment centers comprising women of the targeted communities have been formed. In these centers, women gather and discuss about their problems and find way out.

In these discussions, they developed the ways to increase women’s access to river-based resources and help reduce poverty of the people living along the riparian area. They also discuss about issues related to livelihoods, leadership role, ways to get more rights, and various other issues that they face during the course of struggle in life. The participants discuss about the ways to find not only immediate solutions but also seek practical and a long-term solution with clarity in its policy as well.





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Rafting in Mahakali only from one side used to be taken ‘risky’ as it was a bordering river. Therefore, locals couldn’t benefit from this river. But, a new beginning was made during a religious tourism festival organized in Parshudham from January 14 to January 22, 2019 by organizing a rafting in Mahakali River. It proved the idea of rafting in Mahakali River, which was earlier deemed impossible, is practically possible. People started enjoying rafting in the river. It was not only the visitors but also members of Bahadure Women Empowerment Center who participated in the three-kilometer rafting from Kalpate to Parshuram Dham.

**Gauri Hamal**  
Member,  
Bahadure Women Empowerment Center  
Parigau, Parshuram municipality-5, Dadeldhura

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These discussions encourage women leadership and capacity enhancement. On the other hand, the problems and solutions identified in these discussions also become the issues of debate in INJAF and Mahakali Sambad as well. In Nepal’s context, women are more involved in water related activities, more than men. Therefore, selection of the issues and discussion on them by the relevant people becomes more realistic and meaningful. Hence, the issues discussed in Mahakali Sambad are more effective and result-oriented.

Women Empowerment Centers have been formed in targeted communities in Kanchanpur, Dadeldhura, Baitadi and Darchula districts where TROSA programs are run with support from Oxfam in Nepal. There are eleven discussion centers in Darchula, six in Baitadi, five in Dadeldhura and seven in Kanchanpur. All these centers are located in riparian areas of Mahakali River. In India, groups like Swablamban and Forest Dwellers are involved in INJAF and Mahakali Dialogues.

## Series of Mahakali Sambad

The first series of Mahakali Sambad were conducted from 12 April to 30 June 2018. The first Mahakali Sambad held in Kanchanpur district of Nepal discussed on the transboundary water related issues like floods, inundation, erosion and other problems caused by Mahakali River. The similar discussion held in Banbasa also explored the issues of floods, landslides, drinking water, early warning, irrigation. The final discussion among local governments, journalists, CSOs, Private sectors, communities of Nepal and India prioritised five key common issues (irrigation rights, drinking water, sand mining, fisheries, early warning communication) to be taken forward to further discussion to resolve through lobby with governments and private sectors of Nepal and India. Sambad played a crucial role to aware on the common transboundary water related issues to all the stakeholders and seek support from the concerned stakeholders to solve the problems.

The second series of Mahakali Sambad were conducted from 11 May- 20 June 2019 in Nepal and India. Among five sambads, first three sambads were conducted at community level to identify the water pollution issues in Mahakali river. These local issues were shared with local governments of Nepal and India separately. The final Mahakali Sambad was held in Kanchanpur, Nepal where ministers, political leaders, Mayors, deputy mayors (Sudurpaschim of Nepal), Members of Lower Assembly, Gram Panchayat members (Uttarakhand of India), communities, CSOs, Journalists, women leaders and researchers actively participated. Water pollution in Mahakali river was major focused on that discussion and Citizen science approach for the data collection was shared and joint commitment was made to develop the action plan.

The Mahakali Sambad has been well recognized as the platform for discussion on the issues of Mahakali river with its significant progress in the last two years. It provides platform for local representatives, stakeholders, officials and local activists through INJAF and other CSOs. As the local government and elected representatives publicly owned the issues raised through Sambad and committed for their support to address them. Further, it has also enhanced the INJAF’s recognition from local authorities and became more popular among the public as well.





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I will do my level best to address the problems faced by people residing along the banks of Mahakali River. I will also draw the attention of Uttarakhand government to address these issues. I thank the organizer of Mahakali Dialogue for inviting me in this interaction where I learned a lot about the people's real problems. Our problems definitely are common. Therefore, we need to work together to resolve them.

**Dr Prem Singh Rana**  
Lawmaker, Uttarakhand, India

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In the program, Minister for Forest, Industry, Environment and Tourism, Ms. Maya Bhatta and Minister of State, Mr. Prakash Rawal also committed to making best efforts to solve the problems.

Additionally, Sudur Paschim Assembly Members Mr. Lal Bahadur Khadka and Mr. Man Bahadur Sunar, Coordinator of Public Accounts Committee Nanda Bam, Main opposition leader Dr. Rana Bahadur Rawal also expressed their commitment to resolve the problems because they were common problems of the people in the areas.

Likewise, MLA representative of Champawat, India, Mr. Mahesh Murari, shared that he was very much impressed and showed his readiness to help resolve the issues. Uttarakhand Lawmaker Dr. Prem Singh Rana said he would leave no stone unturned to address the issues because they were common concerns of Nepal and India.

Following are the series of Mahakali Sambad held since 2018 to 2019:

S. No.	Venue	Date	Stakeholders	Remarks
1	Banbasa	28 April, 2018	Local community, Stakeholders of India	India
2	Mahendranagar	23 May, 2018	Local community, Stakeholders of Nepal	Nepal
3	Mahendranagar	16 June, 2018	Local communities, Stakeholders from both countries	Nepal
4	Kanchanpur	11 May, 2019	Local communities, Stakeholders from both countries	Nepal
5	Banbasa	15 May, 2019	Local communities, Stakeholders from both countries	India
6	Darchula	30 May, 2019	Local communities, Stakeholders from both countries	Nepal
7	Mahendranagar	19 June, 2019	Local communities, Stakeholders from both countries	Nepal
8	Mahendranagar	20 June, 2019	Local communities, Stakeholders from both countries	Nepal

## Emerging issues Nepal

The frequently-organized Mahakali Sambad has identified major challenges faced by people living in riparian areas of Mahakali. In this course, it was identified that some problems faced by people in downstream and in upstream are common while some others are different. Inadequate EWS information flow mechanism is taken as a major problem of the people in downstream. E.g. when gates of Dhauliganga dam are opened, the flood inundates and erodes a large area impacting human life and property due to active early warning information at the community level. There is list of problems identified during the Mahakali dialogues beyond those five key prioritised. These include problems associated with mismanaged crematorium causing pollution in river, decreasing aquatic habitats, drying up of water sources, inadequate water flow from the dam as per Nepal- India agreement, high level of erosion of green pastures, and few programs on environment conservation and protection at municipality or rural municipality etc. Further, mixing sewage into the river, dumping market garbage, water pollution, animal carcasses and using poisons or bombs for fishing are some other serious problems raised by the participants in the discussions.

## India

Inadequate early warning information flow mechanism is one of the major problems in the downstream. However the problems of the people in upstream (Uttarakhand, India) includes, water flow from dam without prior information, rare discussions about the impacts of transboundary floods, water pollution.

## Common concerns

Increasing pollution in river and difficulties in fishing in the river poses more challenges in the livelihoods of many people; erosion and inundation; irrigation problem despite that the abundant of water flowing regularly through the large river and scarcity of drinking water are common problems. Dumping garbage in the river, open defecation on river bank, mixing sewage into the river and discarding animal carcasses in the river are other common problems. Thus, Mahakali Sambads have decided to take water pollution as the major agenda for discussion and Oxfam along with its partners will support through data collection of water pollution from Mahakali through citizen science approach.

## Other issues raised

Unnecessary grilling, examination and hassles by security forces while crossing border checkpoints, cases of theft and extortion mainly while coming to Nepal from India and human trafficking of women and children from Nepal to India are some of the major problems other than those related directly to the water. Also, incidents of misunderstanding resulting in souring relations between locals across the Nepal-India border due to lack of dissemination of proper information on time is a problem that needs to be addressed diligently.

Besides that, locals complained that they were unnecessarily troubled by Indian border security forces while crossing through noman's land for fetching grass and firewood. Increasing number of child workers, sending people with mental disability from India to Nepal, increasing trade of drugs, etc., are some other problems faced by locals in bordering areas. Locals have faced shortage of green pastures due to erosion by the river.





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We might be separated by a bridge and a river and our country might be different but we community people living alongside the border are united.

Therefore, this is a forum of good thoughts. Bhauju is from Nepal, nanda is from India, Bhanja is from India and Mama is from Nepal. We have a relation of rotibeti. Therefore, we don't have any alternative to make such common forum stronger.

Earlier, we had no place to share the problems when we faced difficulties during our visit to Nepal. But now with the establishment of INJAF and starting of Mahakali Dialogue, we have a forum not only to share the problems but also to find a solution. We are also committed to draw the attention of our local representatives and lawmakers toward these problems. We are also working very actively to address the problems.

**Bimala Sejwan**  
Executive committee member from Indian side,  
INJAF

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## Achievements

Some achievements have been made benefitting locals of bordering areas following Mahakali Dialogues. The most important achievement is making everyone sensitive toward the reality about how the life and livelihoods of the locals living in the riparian areas of Mahakali River has been affected and how can it be protected. Whereas, in the past, there was not any tendency of looking at the river-based sources through the perspectives of rights or was there anyone's interest to protect and preserve.

Another important achievement of this program is to make local representatives, lawmakers and other responsible officials of both the countries commit to address the problems of locals of downstream and upstream areas. Now, these problems that used to be merely local concerns have been established as major issues in the policy making levels and are likely to be addressed.

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The environment cannot remain clean without conservation of water, forest and land. We cannot live without clean environment.

Therefore, the issues discussed in Mahakali Dialogues are quite important. As we have just reached in power, we are now in the learning stage. So, these programs help us understand the genuine issues of public concern.

I will try my best to address the problems of locals living in bordering areas along Mahakali River. We are also ready to work together with the representatives of Uttarakhand Province of India to solve common problems. Mahakali Dialogues deserves appreciation for this initiative.

**Maya Bhatta**  
Minister for Forest, Environment and Tourism  
Sudur Paschim Provincial Government

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Sanitation activities to clean neighborhood and riverbanks take place regularly. Representatives of local communities and women empowerment centers have started serious discussions on crematorium management, sewage management and ending the practice of using poison and bombs in fishing. This shows they are becoming serious toward these issues.

Some early warning systems on flood have been set up. The early warning systems at Dattu of Darchula, Parshuramdharm of Dadeldhura, Attariya of Kailali and at the district administration office of Kanchanpur are providing information's. There are few problems associated with these systems as these information's are not adequately reaching to the riverine communities. The relations between the people of riparian areas from the two countries have been strengthened and Whatsapp group has been formed to share the information from upstream to down stream. Similarly in Kanchanpur district, the representatives of Dam operating Authorities are the members of EWS committee of Nepal and India. He helps in sharing the information. The other groups are Nepal-India Women Network which helpsto share information and supports each other where there is any problems related to water governance.





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People used to kill fishes using bombs in the past. Many people including Bal Bahadur Rana and Kumar Shahi became disabled while using bombs to kill fishes in the river. Such bombs also destroyed embankments. Children and animals used to get terrified when bombs were exploded in the river. We could not stop them from using bombs and poisons in the river as they came in groups and did not listen to us.

Later, we could stop it when we formed a woman discussion center and worked jointly with them. We have now stopped it with support from TROSA program, NEEDS, local representatives, security personnel and other stakeholders. We have also put display boards in public squares to aware people against use of bombs and poisons in river.

**Purna Devi Kasera**  
Coordinator, Kalika Women Empowerment Center  
Mahakali Municipality-9, Kanchanpur

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People of riparian areas are given priority in government activities. For example, at Indian side, people outside of the community used to secure tender in fishing. Now, locals are given priority. Outsiders get opportunity only if locals are not interested to do it. This became possible only after Mahakali Dialogue made the locals aware about their right to local resources.

The relation between government authorities of the two sides is now strengthened. For example, the information about releasing water from Dhauliganga dam is given few days ago to chief district officers of Darchula, Baitadi and other affected districts. Once they get the information in advance, they share it with Department of Hydrology and Metrology, community people along with WECs, CSOs and INJAF. This initiative has helped communities and CSOs in receiving

## Basis of sustainability

The Mahakali Sambad has created a situation for the people in the downstream as well as upstream to benefit from this initiative. But making any achievement sustainable is equally important. Therefore, the bases to make the achievements of Mahakali Dialogues sustainable will prove the importance of the program in true sense.

The feeling found in the affected locals that “we can live long only if Mahakali lives long” is the most important basis of the sustainability. This has made them aware about the sustainable use of river-based resources. It motivates them to protect and conserve the river.

As the issues raised are related to concerns of the local people, their human rights and about the special initiatives that the state agencies need to take to save locals from possible disaster are indicators to make this program sustainable. This has encouraged the stakeholders to continuously keep alert and help in such issues.

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I am very much impressed by Mahakali Dialogue program. I found the discussions in this program quite serious and important. I will try to take the issues related to police posts, SSB and customs to the cabinet. The water-related issues are common to both the sides and these issues must be resolved to save our deeply-rooted relations. I am very much committed to do this.

**Mahesh Murari**  
MLA representative, Champawat, India

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Another most important basis to make it sustainable is that the government has owned the issues raised by Mahakali Dialogue. There are issues which needs further efforts and action to be resolved but the concerned authorities from both the sides have expressed their serious commitment to resolve the problems. It is very encouraging that the government has owned the issues raised in a public forum. In this sense, the Mahakali Dialogue has become successful.

## Way forward

TROSA project in coordination with INJAF and other stakeholders can play an important role to make the life and livelihood easier for riverine communities of Mahakali. For this, campaigns on sustainable use of riverine resources of Mahakali river through Mahakali Dialogues should be taken forward.

There is a demand to set up an automatic siren system at Khalla Musatti in Kanchanpur district of Nepal side. Likewise, there is an urgent need to install an early warning system at different locations of ward number 11, 12 and 13 of Bhimdatta Municipality, Brahmadev. This can be addressed through lobbying with local governments.

At Indian side, it has become necessary to set up a siren system at Thuligaad, Bum, Tanakpur dam and Sharada Barrage. INJAF and NGOs need to coordinate with local government of India for making them understand about the importance of these warning systems.

The water drained from Mahakali Barrage reaches up to Lucknow of India but people in Uttarakhanda are not able to use the water adequately. The coordination among Uttarakhand and Uttarpradesh state can only resolve the problem.



Projects are for certain durations and for achieving specific objectives. Therefore, forums like INJAF and Mahakali Dialogue need to be given continuity for long time so that any misunderstandings or any other problems that surface between the two sides can be resolved through these mechanisms. These forums have become more relevant as people have started seeking their support even to settle personal affairs.

Only to describe a list of problems is not a solution. One needs to prove it through evidences and facts. Any issue needs to be addressed in its initial stage. Otherwise, it gets further complicated. At first, the concerned community itself needs to address any problem based on facts and evidences. This approach which is called 'citizen science' makes resolution of any problem effective and long-lasting. It would be better if Mahakali Dialogue adopts this approach as well.

**Rajan Subedi**  
Team leader, TROSA, Oxfam





An embankment has become necessary in the upstream riparian area at Nepal side. Failure to use the early warning system properly has caused losses. Coordination among the stakeholders of both the countries and between inter-country networks, interactions and seminars has become necessary. Such activities are taking place randomly but that is not sufficient. These activities need to be managed in a well-coordinated and regular basis.

Revenue is collected from mining activities in Mahakali River. There is a demand in community for the proper use of revenue for improving their livelihoods.

There is also a need of establishing a fund for early warning system which can help riverine communities for better preparedness and strengthen EWS information flow mechanism in their community in consultation with local governments of Nepal and India.

For better management of Mahakali river, awareness on well-management of crimation area is required. Further, communities of Nepal are struggling to get adequate water during crimation due to low water flow from Sarada Barrage during the dry seasons.

It has become equally important to bury the dead animals in designated areas properly. Water sources have dried up due to change in the course of Mahakali River and it has created scarcity of drinking water. It needs to be solved immediately. Also, India not releasing adequate water to Nepal side as per the agreement should be addressed through dialogues.

The messages of Mahakali Dialogue to “save water, protect it, and make it clean” is very good one. It is important to understand the quality of water in Mahakali which should be conducted through Citizen science approach. This helps to generate evidences at community level for the better lobby and evidence-based advocacy. Strengthening the community-community

Citizen groups helps to strengthen bilateral relations at the public level. Any initiative and work done jointly by the two sides becomes more sustainable.

INJAF members, representatives of affected areas, local representatives, security personnel and civil servants should be properly briefed about the problems of the locals in bordering areas and ask them to solve them. For this, also trainings and orientation programs are necessary.

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I will share the issues raised by Mahakali Dialogue in my next meeting. I will take sincere initiatives to clean the river and save Mahakali from becoming polluted. I will try to address certain issues immediately if that can be done in my capacity and will write to the higher levels if that requires support from the higher authorities.

**Gita Devi**  
**Gram Pradhan, Phakpur Gram**

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- The major and genuine concerns of the people of bordering areas should be identified and solved on priority basis. For this, a thorough study and research is needed. Only the studies based on facts and evidences help resolve the issues.
- While establishing an organization, it must follow formal procedures like registration, formulating statute, making minutes, taking permissions etc. Therefore, running citizen-based informal groups is practical to strengthen networks in Mahakali basin.
- Coming together as a group to raise common issues are effortlessly addressed in a systematic manner. If, representatives from the two countries are also involved in this process, it will be more fruitful.



- Tasks like data collection, facilitation of women empowerment centers, study and similar other small projects can be handed over to the target communities themselves. First, this helps them financially and secondly, it gives them a feeling of ownership to the programs and that makes the programs successful.
- Associate local groups such as women empowerment center with INJAF and other citizen-based groups so that they would not feel isolated even after completion of the projects like TROSA and can remain active afterward.

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I have participated in four Mahakali Dialogues. It has raised important issues albeit informally. For example, Mahakali Treaty. In Nepal, local units are more powerful. We can formulate certain laws on our own. So, I will certainly do certain things that are possible from my level. As far as Indian government structure is concerned, they are not as powerful. Hence, it may take time.

**Gyanendra Bahek**  
**Ward chair, Mahakali Municipality-7.**

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