

WHAT'S UP?

NEWSLETTER, OXFAM IN NEPAL

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STARTING MY JOURNEY WITH OXFAM

This is an exciting moment for me, a time of discovery – new organization, new teams, new projects and a new decentralized Nepal. I am thrilled by what I am hearing and seeing. In each department, I encounter energy, dedication and professionalism. In our three programs, I am struck by the complexity that projects are willing to embrace and the thinking behind project designs. I value the balance we are striking between addressing deep-rooted causes of inequality and poverty and responding to the everyday needs of community. Different affiliates and colleagues at Oxfam International whom I have interacted with, have expressed their compliments on the fact that Nepal is a

high performing office. We all should be very proud of this fact. For me, it means that Oxfam in Nepal can offer a lot to the organization globally and that the global organization trusts and support us. I am taking all this positive energy with me as I gradually take on the full span of my role. I take this opportunity to thank you for your support and patience since I joined. Oxfam in Nepal have been fantastic as inductors and this will help me greatly in being your conductor!

Sarah Blin
Country Director

CELEBRATING 40TH SOCIAL WELFARE DAY

Social Welfare Council in Nepal celebrated its 40th Social Welfare Day (Samaj Kalyan Diwas) organizing various promotional activities on 23rd September 2019 with the slogan “सुखी र समृद्ध राष्ट्रिय सोच, समाज बिकास हाम्रो अठोट” (Happy and prosperous national vision; Social development our resolve). Oxfam in Nepal was also part of the celebration to extend solidarity to social welfare.

The program was organized at Bhrikutimandap, Kathmandu in presence of Honorable Vice President of federal Democratic Republic of Nepal Mr. Nanda Bahadur Pun and Honorable Minister of Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen Ms. Tham Maya Thapa, who is also a chairperson of Social Welfare Council. Various national and international organizations came together to mark the day and showcase their contributions to social development through different innovative

programmes, publications, videos, photographs and other products. Oxfam had its dedicated stall at the event that catered as a platform to showcase our programmes to the public.



Photo by Sofila Vaidya/Oxfam in Nepal

ENOUGH CAMPAIGN IEC MATERIAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP



Photo by Sofila Vaidya/Oxfam in Nepal

A three-day workshop was organized to share, reflect and learn about Enough campaign in Nepal (Oxfam's global campaign to end violence against women and girls) being run in different countries around the world. A key message “Women and girls should be free to make choices about their bodies and lives” has been finalized, and based on this, campaign activities will be carried out.

The workshop was facilitated by Gopika Bashi, Asia Campaigner for the Enough Campaign and Astha Rijal, Project Coordinator in the presence of Creating Spaces project partners from Banke, Dailekh and Rautahat districts, and a media partner Ujyaalo network from Kathmandu.

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING WORKSHOP

A three-day MEAL workshop was organized for Creating Spaces (CS) project partners to impart knowledge and skills to them on Logic Model and Performance Measurement Framework and support them to improve understanding of elements of a result-based reporting. The workshop was facilitated by Anna De Vent, Program Officer,

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning, Aarati Sharma, Project Coordinator for Creating Spaces project, and Shailesh Pandit, MEAL and Data Management, Officer. A total of 25 (20 female and 5 male) CS partners and Oxfam staff participated in the workshop organized in Yalamaya Kendra, Lalitpur.

SAFETY AND SANITARY MATERIAL DISTRIBUTED



Photo by Bijay Sha Baniya/RDC

Safety and sanitary materials were provided to the flood affected women and girls in Saptari and

Rautahat districts last June. Women and girls are often most vulnerable in the time of disaster, and lack of safety, sanitation and security further adds severity to them. Therefore, the materials were provided as part of immediate relief package. Oxfam in partnership with Rural Development Centre Nepal and Koshi Victim Society carried out a need prioritization through focused group discussions with flood affected women and girls which led to the prioritization of needs and, based on it, 848 safety and sanitary materials were distributed to the female members of the community. The bag with relief materials consisted of torch lights, sanitary pads, cloths and inner wears. They were also shown how to use sanitary pads and torch lights.

INSURANCE AS SOCIAL SAFETY NETS

Arghakhachi district is located almost 300 km southwest of Nepal's capital city, Kathmandu. The primary economic support of the people in the district depends on agriculture. Majority of people are of low income as compared to the communities from surrounding districts of Province 5. These people are marginalized and experience high rates of poverty, low level of education and poor health. Consequently, more households are likely to opt for seasonal migration to India in search of work. Due to little or no attention to the India bound migrant workers, they are deprived of insurance schemes, official records of their migration and security of their lives.

From the interventions of Oxfam's Building Economic Resilience Project, local and provincial government has been sensitized on the issues faced by migrant workers to India and their families. As a result, three municipalities (Sitaganga and Bhumikasthan Municipality and Malarani Rural Municipality) has launched accidental insurance scheme for seasonal migrant workers to India through the coordination and collaboration with Oxfam's partner Forum for People's Awareness. In total 1,544 migrant workers have benefited from the insurance scheme in Arghakhanchi district. The local and province government representatives are committed to



Photo by Lal Bahadur GC, Jukena, Arghakhachi

sustain the insurance program in their district. According to ward chairperson of Sitaganga Municipality - 5, "It is not good for workers living in India for years and to remain out of security system. They are our people and we have a responsibility to ensure their well-being."

The project is running in three districts of Nepal, Baitadi, Darchula and Argakhanchi with an objective of Improving the livelihoods and food security of Nepali seasonal migrant families to India. So far, the program has benefitted 10,367 households with remittance services, saving and credit and financial services. Specifically, 2,249 migrant workers have been insured for one year with support from Municipality and Oxfam.

MEDIA WORKSHOP ON THE STATE OF TRANSBOUNDARY MAHAKALI RIVER BASIN



Photo by Sofila Vaidya/Oxfam in Nepal

A media workshop on the state of transboundary rivers was recently organized through the TROSA (Transboundary Rivers of South Asia) project. Oxfam's TROSA project partnered with The Third Pole, an international media house to organize the workshop at Kanchanpur, Nepal. Fifteen selected journalists from Nepal and India, working in the

areas of environment and water, came together to interact with experts and to participate in a field trip, enabling them to report on issues related to transboundary river and riparian communities living in Mahakali. It also helped in enhancing quality and quantity of information and understanding for improved coverage.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND COMPLIANCE WORKSHOP



Photo by Oxfam in Nepal

Oxfam in Nepal's Business Support Department organized a Financial Management and Compliance Workshop on 9 -11

September 2019 in Godawari, Lalitpur. The main objective of the workshop was to throw light on budgeting, accounting, reporting, value for money taxation and maintaining high level of financial compliances. Organizational governance, accountability, fraud and corruption was also discussed.

A total of 26 participants from 13 partner organizations attended the workshop. A similar training was organized on 24 - 26 September 2019 in Dhangadi in which 20 participants from nine partner organizations attended the workshop.

REVIEW AND REFLECTION OF HUMANITARIAN, DRR, WASH AND WATER GOVERNANCE PROGRAM



Photo by Oxfam in Nepal

The mid-year review and reflection workshop of Humanitarian, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), WASH and Water Governance was held on 2 and 3 October 2019 in Godawari Municipality. The main objective of the workshop was to share successes, learnings and challenges, including upcoming six months' plan.

The workshop provided an opportunity for all 35 participants to interact, resulting in development

of key action plans for building synergy amongst various program departments. The key action points agreed included sharing of project information to all the team members on regular basis, project wise budget/activities revision, internal capacity building for team member, etc. Furthermore, the program helped to clarify the need of Humanitarian and DRR hub with clear action plans.

Quick links to new publications in Oxfam in Nepal's website:

[Now its our turn](#)

[Amazed by the impact](#)

[A research on impact measurement practices of Gender Based Violence Programme in emergencies](#)

[Remittance for Resilience](#)



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FEEDBACK?

Do you have programme updates, stories, pictures, videos to share? Or, any important questions on the newsletter?

Please contact: **Sofila Vaidya, Media and Communication Officer** at svaidya@oxfam.org.uk

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