

Annual Report 2022/23



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Content Compilation and Design: **Salina Thapa**

Published by:

Nepal Public Health Research and Development Center (PHRD Nepal)
Minbhawan Marg, New Baneshwor, Kathmandu, Nepal
Telephone: +977-1-4790720
Email: info@phrdnepal.org.np
Web: <https://www.phrdnepal.org.np>

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Message from Executive Director

It is my immense pleasure to release this annual report of the Nepal Public Health Research and Development Centre (PHRD Nepal) which has completed its gratifying 8th year of service in research and development with its entrenched vision.

PHRD Nepal is an independent, autonomous, non-political, non-governmental organization established in 2016 A.D. by a group of young and energetic public health experts with a mission of strengthening the health system through various public health actions and efforts through high-quality research. With an unwavering commitment to fortifying health systems, the organization has embarked on a journey of impactful public health initiatives and rigorous research endeavors. The year 2079/80 marked the 8th milestone since its inception, showcasing commendable strides in both project execution and institutional progress.

Distinguished/known by its dedication to evidence-based public health practices, PHRD Nepal is on a trajectory guided by well-informed policies and guidelines for sustainable health development. The recent fiscal year proved the organization's heightened dedication, exceeding previous accomplishments and setting new benchmarks in comparison to previous fiscal years.

As PHRD Nepal advances, it is unwaveringly focused on strengthening the health system within the framework of the new Federal structure. The organization's multifaceted approach involves conducting high-quality research and implementing strategic actions to fortify local government capacities, ensuring the delivery of top-notch health services.

The organization's strategic focus encompasses a range of critical areas, including but not limited to research on health systems, interventions in non-communicable diseases, formulation of health policies, strategies, standards, training manuals, initiatives in wash, disaster prevention and management, maternal, neonatal, and child health, as well as efforts in food and nutrition, occupational health, and coordination. Additionally, PHRD Nepal actively engages in advocacy and communication, reinforcing its commitment to fostering positive change in public health on both regional and national levels.

In 2022/23 PHRD Nepal achieved some legendary milestones, putting efforts into various research/studies based on different End-line evaluation projects, coordinated with various national divisions where we initiated to prepare the Policy, strategy and Standards and regulations. Whereas we also conducted and



gave our best effort on two international projects capturing all the provinces and districts of the country.

Throughout the fiscal year, notable progress extended beyond health initiatives, with a consistent trajectory of improvement across various disciplines. The collective efforts invested in various areas achieved results, making this fiscal year particularly noteworthy. It serves as a historic moment, establishing a landmark that motivates us closer to our overarching goal of institutionalizing PHRD Nepal as a recognized and accredited organization.

As we move into our eight year, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to all members of the Executive Committee, dedicated General Members, our invaluable development partners, and the collaborative support received from the concerned ministries and departments. Our gratitude is extended to Nepal's government, the Department of Health Services, the Curative Service Division, the National Public Health Laboratory, and the Social Welfare Council. Their unwavering support has played a fundamental role in our success, and I am grateful for their continued commitment. I would also like to extend my appreciation to all staff, Mr. Deependra Kaji Thapa, Ms. Salina Thapa, Ms. Pabitra Balampakai, Ms. Pragya Pokharel, Ms. Arati Dhoju Shrestha, Ms. Anjalina Karki, Ms. Jibika Siwakoti, Ms. Ashmita Prashai, Ms. Sumitra Pyakurel, Mr. Raj Kumar Sangroula, Ms. Santoshi Giri, Mr. Dipak Chaulagain, and Ms. Saimona Karki for continuously, enormously working hard for achieving the organizational goal and publishing this annual report.

We look forward to endure cooperation with all in our future accomplishments. Thank you!

Dr. Janak Thapa
Executive Director

PHRD Nepal at Glance

Nepal Public Health Research and Development Center, simply known as PHRD Nepal, is a not-for-profit making, non-political, Independable, and Non-Governmental

Organization (NGO) with a mission to ensure evidence-based public health practices guided by evidence-informed policies and guidelines for sustainable development in health. It is legally registered as a company under the Office of the Company Registrar and Social Welfare Council (SWC) in 2016.

The governing core principles of PHRD Nepal are - high regard to human right and subjects, stewardship, integrity, team work, accountability, national as well as international networking and partnerships and collaboration.

PHRD Nepal aims to prioritize public health action and research areas; facilitate interventions in collaboration with national and international partnerships with different national and international organizations. To establish the centre for excellence in public health advocacy and evidence-based intervention.

Vision: To ensure evidence-based public health practices guided by evidence-informed policies and guidelines for sustainable development in health

Mission: Strengthen health system through various public health actions and efforts through high quality research.

Goal: To prioritize public health action and research areas, facilitate interventions in collaboration with national and international partnerships

Our Focus Areas

- Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health
- Water Sanitation and Hygiene
- Nutrition
- Health Policies and Guidelines
- Health Research
- Health System Strengthening
- Disaster Prevention and Management
- Health Advocacy
- Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health

PHRD Nepal works in broader field of health and other cross cutting issues focusing on marginalized and disadvantaged group in coordination and partnership with unilateral, bilateral agencies, UN agencies and Government of Nepal. PHRD Nepal is committed to strengthen the health system in new federal structure of Nepal through various public health actions and efforts through high quality research. For which, it aims to strengthen the local government for delivering high quality basic health services.

We are passionate about delivering quality service backed up by innovation through experimentation.

1. Strength of PHRD Nepal

PHRD Nepal continues to demonstrate robust capabilities and achievements in advancing public health initiatives nationwide. Our strengths lie in our comprehensive approach to research, policy development, capacity building, and evaluation within the health sector. Key highlights of our strengths include:

- 1. Expertise in Survey Management:** PHRD Nepal showcases proficiency in managing national-level surveys, ensuring accurate data collection, and analysis to inform evidence-based decision-making processes. Utilizing various cutting-edge methodologies such as Cs-Pro, Survey Solutions, and Kobo.
- 2. Comprehensive Health System Analysis:** Through our surveys on health system governance, basic health services, and emergency health services, PHRD conducts thorough assessments, identifying areas for improvement and strategic interventions.
- 3. Policy Development and Implementation Support:** PHRD plays a pivotal role in developing health and nutrition related policies at the local level, guideline such as government insurance monitoring guideline, Ear eye and dental health guideline, standard treatment protocol facilitating the translation of research insights into actionable policy recommendations for improved health service delivery.
- 4. Capacity Building Initiatives:** Our commitment to capacity building is evident through the development of training manuals, such as the Integrated

Management Information System (IMIS) training manual, empowering healthcare professionals with essential skills and tools.

5. Utilization of Evaluation Frameworks: By employing the OECD framework for project evaluation, PHRD ensures rigorous assessment of projects, fostering accountability and continuous improvement in program effectiveness and efficiency.

PHRD's interdisciplinary approach enables us to address complex health challenges comprehensively, drawing on expertise from governance, and provide evidence, policy development, and capacity-building domains. With a focus on national-level surveys and policy development, PHRD's initiatives are closely aligned with the priorities outlined in the national health agenda, enhancing the relevance and impact of our interventions.

2. Project List

Formative Research, Baseline, Water Quality Test, Monitoring and End-line Survey in Schools and Health Care Facilities

- I. *Formative Research: Completed in December 2022*
- II. *Baseline Survey: Completed in September 2023*
- III. *– First Monitoring – Completed in October 2023*
- IV. *– Second Monitoring – Completed in December 2023*
- V. *Endline Survey Will be completed in May 2024*

Background: WaterAid Nepal, in partnership with JICA and Government of Nepal is launching WASH and hygiene behavior change programme in schools and HCFs in Siraha district. The project aims to improve hand hygiene practices of students in schools and health workers in

Partner	<i>Water-Aid Nepal</i>
Timeline	<i>October 2021- May 2024</i>
Project area	<i>Siraha district</i>
Status	<i>Ongoing</i>

Health Care Facilities in municipalities of Siraha District, ultimately contributing to reduce the spread of WASH-borne diseases and support in preventing infectious diseases. The project on the one hand aims to strengthen the service delivery by ensuring access to inclusive WASH facilities in schools and health facilities, and on the other hand improve hygiene behaviors of target beneficiaries which included school students, health staff, patients, and visitors. The project is being implemented closely with the local government (municipality/ward offices), School Management Committee, school authority including teachers, health facility operation and management committee.



The objectives of the baseline and end-line survey are:

Primary Interest/objectives:

- To assess the effect of comprehensive hygiene intervention (nudge + promotion) in school student’s key hygiene behavior (observed).
- To assess the prevalent knowledge, reported behaviors, and social norms among school students (at schools and household members), and teachers on key hygiene behaviors.
- To assess the basic socio-demographic and economic characteristics of the sample students at the school level.
- To assess the functionality status of improved access to WASH services (water, sanitation, handwashing facilities) focusing on access, functionality,

inclusiveness, O&M and availability of products (soap, water, cleaning materials,) at schools (spot-check).

- To assess the reach and exposure with the hygiene behaviours change intervention among school students (endline).

Secondary Interest / Objectives:

- To assess cognitive knowledge and anthropometric measurement of students and see whether these has any effect on student’s understanding on key hygiene and its behaviours.
- To assess the prevalence of reported diarrhea (72 hours and 2 weeks’ recall period) among students and diseases perception and exposure with COVID-19.
- To assess the level of microbiological contamination in water in schools (during project handover)

Major Activities:

- Installation of materials and basic WASH facilities that includes the development of small-scale water sources such as connection from water distribution networks to schools and healthcare facilities, installation of inexpensive hand-pump wells, and installation/improvement of sanitary toilets.
- Development of hygiene promotion package for school students, health staff and cleaners, & visitors/ patients of the HCFs in English, Nepali and Maithili languages.
- Conduct hygiene promotion intervention activities on hygiene for schools and health care facilities
- Preparation of handbooks for improvement of hygiene for the pilot area.
- Drinking water and handwashing water quality testing.
- Dissemination of the results and knowledge obtained throughout the pilot projects.



Proposed main human resources of project:

SN	Name
1	Dr. Janak Thapa, Team Leader
2	Ms. Pragya Pokharel, Research Expert
2	Ms. Salina Thapa, Data Management Officer
3	Ms. Pabitra Balampaki, Project Coordinator

Surveillance and monitoring of AMR- Administrative Support to FIND project

- Surveillance and monitoring of AMR- Administrative Support to FIND project: 1st September 2021-December 2023
- Hospital Acquired Infections (HAI) surveillance in Paropakar Maternity and Women's Hospital (PMWH): June 2022-March 2024

Background: Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND) and Nepal Public Health Research and Development Center (PHRD Nepal) are in partnership for a hospital-acquired infection (HAI) surveillance project from September 20, 2022. Regarding

Partner	FIND Geneva
Timeline	1st Sep 2021 – March 2024
Project area	Kathmandu, Janakpur, Chitwan
Status	Ongoing

the AMR project, increasing rates of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) is one of the top ten threats to public health according to the World Health Organization (WHO). It is the cause of severe infections, disease complications, longer hospital stays, and increased mortality, particularly in Low-and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs). Several gaps have been identified to tackle AMR: i) lack of appropriate diagnostic solutions ii) lack of AMR data and use at both: local and national level iii) poor antimicrobial stewardship programs at level 2 hospitals and above. Healthcare-associated infections (HAI) are frequently caused by antimicrobial-resistant pathogens. This project seeks to implement/improve surveillance capacity for HAI in at least one province-level hospital in Nepal, with views of expanding nationally. To this aim, surveillance capacity will be established, including, whenever possible, the use of digital solutions to facilitate data capture, linkage, reporting, and visualization. So, as a local partner of FIND in Nepal, PHRD Nepal shall undertake coordination /liaison services, management services, financial management and consultant services.



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Objective:

- Improved HAI surveillance capacity including

- Conduct baseline assessment of selected hospital including IPC practices
- implement a HAI surveillance system that addresses the gaps identified during the baseline laboratory assessments
- technical assistance for clinicians in the form of mentoring and training including human resources development, training on basic and advanced HAI surveillance procedures and, once developed, in the use of the digital tool
- provide technical assistance for clinicians in the form of mentoring and training including human resources development, training on the use of the digital tool
- Conduct an M&E of the software



Proposed main human resources of project:

SN	Name
1	Dr. Janak Thapa
2	Ms. Salina Thapa

The World Health Survey Plus (National level Household survey)

Background: The overwhelming and crucial importance of achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC), and other Health Related Sustainable Development Goals (HR-SDGs) in health policy discussions within the global health community is driving a proliferation of new estimates to track progress from increasingly

Partner	WHO Geneva and Helpage International
Timeline	July-December 2023
Project area	7 province
Status	Ongoing

complex analytical models. WHO's World Health Survey Plus (WHS+) is proposed as the next generation of an integrated multi-topic, multi-mode household health survey for all member states learning from the experience of conducting household health surveys over the last two decades.

The aim of the WHS+ is to generate valid, reliable, comparable and timely information on a range of health and well-being outcomes and determinants of public health importance in nationally representative target populations.

The results from the WHS+ will support WHO member states to track progress on country-specific objectives and towards UHC and HR-SDG targets, and WHO's Impact Framework approved by Member States.

Objectives:

- Create a robust multi-functional data collection platform for generating data to monitor progress on national priorities, HR-SDGs and UHC
- Support countries to generate, analyse and use high-quality data to fill data gaps
- Develop standardized, computerized data collection strategies that enable speedier data collection and more reliable comparison across countries.

Activities:

- Digitalization of the each and every households of selected ward.
- Organized 10 days Orientation training including Pilot study in collaboration with donor agency.
- Efficaciously mobilized huge human (around 80 HR) resources at a time in all target area (all seven provinces)



- Household data collection (~7000 HH in 32 districts) by using the standardized questionnaire through a CAPI program
- Anthropometry measurements (height, weight, Hip and wrist circumference, grip strength of hands), of the respondents and provide the results.
- Blood test of Random blood glucose, Lipid Profile, Blood Pressure, Haemoglobin, Diabetes level was done of the respondents using quick kit method and used kit disposed in point of care.
- Data cleaning using Stata enclosed coordination with Heal Age international.
- Developed the report and submit to donor agency.



Proposed main human resources of project:

SN	Name	Organization
1	Dr. Abhinav Vaidya, Country Coordinator	PHRD Nepal
2	Dr. Janak Thapa, Sr. Program Manager	PHRD Nepal
3	Ms. Pragya Pokharel, Data Analyst	
4	Ms. Salina Thapa, Data Management Officer	PHRD Nepal
5	Ms. Pabitra Balampaki, Research Officer	PHRD Nepal
6	Mr. Nishal Shrestha, Field Coordinator	PHRD Nepal
7	Ms. Nirmala Naidoo, Statistician	WHO HQ Geneva
8	Dr. Nawi Ng, Support in data management	Gothenburg University, Sweden
8	Dr. Paul Roman Kowal,	IHT, Australia
9	Ms. Poppy Walton	HelpAge Int
10	Ms. Khin Thiri Maung	HelpAge Int
11	Mr. Sushant Luitel, Research Officer	PHRD Nepal
12	Ms. Jibika Siwakoti, Admin and Finance Manager	PHRD Nepal
13	Field Supervisors (12 Persons/ one persons in each group)	PHRD Nepal
14	Biomarkers (12 Persons/one pern each group)	PHRD Nepal
15	48 Field Researchers (12 Persons/in each group)	PHRD Nepal

Endline Survey of Menstruation Health Management Project in Sudurpaschim Province

Background: PHRD Nepal has implemented the Endline Survey of Menstruation Health Management Project in Sudurpaschim Province in partnership with Nepal CRS company for Improvement

Partner	Nepal CRS Company
Timeline	July-December 2023
Project area	7 province
Status	Ongoing

of Maternal and Child Care in Remote Areas (IMCCR) Project, Nepal has undertaken the social marketing of biodegradable

sanitary pads in Dadeldhura, Doti, Baitadi and Bajhang Districts of Sudurpaschim Province in Nepal. Through its local implementing partner, Multipurpose Development Society (MPDS) Dadeldhura, Nepal CRS had implemented the Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) project in basic and secondary government schools in Baitadi, Bajhang, Doti, and Dadeldhura districts of Sudurpashchim province with the vision of enhancing menstrual health and hygiene among women and girls, the project



aimed to empower them to adopt sanitary and hygienic methods for managing their menstrual cycles. This project sought to promote the physical well-being of girl students and uphold their dignity. In addition, the project aimed to instill positive changes in the knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) surrounding menstrual health and hygiene among school girls and women in the project districts. Furthermore, the project was committed to improving the accessibility of sanitary pads by offering them at little to no cost within the program area, addressing the supply side of MHM support.

Objectives:

- To assess the menstrual hygiene knowledge, attitude and practices among schoolgirls, key influencers and school teachers (male and female)
- To assess the current availability, accessibility and affordability of sanitary pads/pads
- To assess the demand for “Freedom Sanitary pads” at the retail level. (Purchasing and coupon usage)
- To assess the knowledge, attitude and practices related sanitary pad products
- To identify the media habits and awareness of existing menstrual hygiene management messages

- To assess the status of school absenteeism due to menstruation
- To compare the end-line results with baseline results of MHM project indicators

Activities:

- Designed and Finalized the Overall methodology, digitalization of tools.
- Conducted the orientation training to field enumerators.
- Data cleaning, coding and analysis of the data.
- Evaluated the effectiveness of the MHM project interventions in bringing positive changes in the schoolgirls and women's knowledge, attitude and practice relating to menstrual health and hygiene management in the MHM project districts.
- Developed the report and submitted to the donor agency.



Proposed main human resources of project:

SN	Name
1	Dr. Janak Thapa, Team Leader
2	Dr. Deependra Thapa, Co-team Leader
3	Ms. Pabitra Balampaki, Project Coordinator
4	Ms. Salina Thapa, Dashboard Monitoring Officer

3. Completed Project

Early Childhood Development (ECD) Guidelines Development in Health Services

Background: The Government of Nepal has prioritized the early childhood development as an important agenda but is implemented mainly through the Ministry of Education. Nepal has made great strides in expanding access to pre-primary education with enrolment rate

Partner	WHO Nepal
Timeline	December 2022 - July 2023
Project area	Nepal
Status	Completed

having increased from 12 per cent in 2000 to 86 per cent in 2017. According to a

nation-wide survey conducted in 2014, children aged 3 to 5 years attending early childhood education programs in Nepal were 17 times more likely to be on track in their foundational early literacy and numeracy skills even after excluding the effects of numerous socio-economic factors. The Family Welfare Division (FWD) initiated discussions for strengthening the



role of MoHP for ECD. The FWD aims to develop guidelines for integrating the concepts of ECD within the health services for pregnancy and childhood. This proposal was submitted to provide technical assistance to FWD and WHO to develop national guidelines for integration of early childhood.

Objectives:

- To develop a national guideline for identification and integration of early childhood development in MNCH services.

Major Activities:

- Relevant national and international literature reviewed
- Conducted the TWG meeting with subject expert, FWD officials, WHO representatives, other relevant organizations
- Developed the draft report and shared with stakeholders
- Conducted the workshop and incorporated the feedback
- Submitted the final report to donor agency

Proposed main human resources of project:

SN	Name
1	Dr. Deepak Raj Chaulagain, Subject Expert
2	Dr. Janak Thapa, Subject Expert
3	Ms. Pabitra Balampaki, Public Health Officer
4	Ms. Salina Thapa, Public Health Officer

Provincial level Policy dialogue on Universal Health Coverage (Event conducted in Pokhara, Janakpur, Nepalgunj)

Background: Universal health coverage (UHC) is based on the World Health Organization Constitution of 1948 declaring health a fundamental human right

Partner	WHO Nepal, CSD
Timeline	June 2022- November 2022
Project area	Pokhara, Janakpur and Nepalgunj
Status	Completed

and on the Health for All agenda set by the Alma-Ata declaration in 1978. Nepal is moving toward Universal Health Coverage (UHC) to ensure that all people are able

to utilize promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative, and palliative health services without any financial hardship. The policy dialogue and advocacy for Universal health coverage have been prioritized as important agenda by the government of Nepal under Nepal Health Sector Strategy (2022-2030), National Health Policy 2019, 15th year plan. The curative Service Division (CSD) has a mandate for technical support in delivery of basic health services and emergency health services.

The Provincial Level Universal Health Coverage Policy Dialogue was held in Pokhara, Janakpur, and Nepalgunj from 22 June to 4th July 2022 respectively. The presence of Provincial level key personnel to enhance the importance of UHC in the health sector and to understand the role of UHC in minimizing the financial burden for health services utilization.



Objectives:

- To inform about Universal Health Coverage Framework for Nepal among the Province and Local level stakeholders.
- To discuss the health financing modalities in the context of Nepal.
- To advocate for the importance of UHC with policymakers and planners at all levels of government in upcoming plans in achieving Universal Health Coverage and ultimately SDG.

Major Activities:

- Preparation of meetings in the presence of Provincial level key person regarding UHC agendas at the subnational level
- Panel Discussions and PowerPoint presentations regarding UHC agendas at the Provincial level.

Proposed main human resources of project:

SN	Name
2	Dr. Janak Thapa, Team Leader
4	Ms. Salina Thapa, Public Health Officer

Rapid Assessment of Nutrition Services and Products available through the Private Sector: A Landscaping Exercise (Karnali and Madhesh)

Background: The health and nutrition indicators are improving in Nepal but still, malnutrition exists among women, children, and adolescents. There is increasing recognition of the critical role of

Partner	Save the Children
Timeline	September- December 2022
Project area	Dhanusha, Sarlahi, Surkhet, Dailekh
Status	Completed

the private sector in effectively addressing many health and development issues including undernutrition. Despite the importance of private sector in nutrition-related services, there are limited studies on the role playing by private sectors in providing nutrition services, as well as the capacity of private sector actors in providing such services. A rapid market scan of products would help us understand the landscape of nutrition products currently available for consumers. This study aims to increase our understanding on the scope and potential areas for expanding MCH nutrition-specific activities through the private sector channel in selected areas of Karnali and Madhesh Province of Nepal.



Objectives:

To increase understanding of business initiatives aimed at reducing malnutrition, by mapping and assessing evidence and lessons learned, identifying good practices and opportunities for further engagement in nutrition, and making recommendations to promote and support sustainable business action on nutrition.

Activities:

- Desk-reviewed and literature reviewed
- Conducted the field orientation training for enumerators
- Developed and finalization of data collection tools
- Data Cleaning, coding, analysis and Report writing.

Proposed main human resources of project:

SN	Name
1	Dr. Deependra Kaji Thapa, Team Leader
2	Dr. Janak Thapa, Team Leader
3	Ms. Pabitra Balampaki, Public Health Officer

Endline Survey of Health and Rights Improvement Project for adolescent Girls through Menstrual Hygiene Management in Bajura District, Nepal (2020-2022)

Background: Good Neighbors International (GNI) Nepal, in partnership with Peacewin Bajura and Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Centre (KIRDARC), is implementing the “Health and Rights Improvement Project for Adolescent Girls through Menstrual Hygiene Management in Bajura District, Nepal” (HRI Project). The project is implemented in three municipalities and two

Partner	Good Neighbors International
Timeline	1st September- 31st December 2022
Project area	Dhanusha, Sarlahi, Surkhet, Dailekh
Status	Completed

rural municipalities of the Bajura District of Sudurpaschim Province of Nepal. The project was commenced in July

2020 and will conclude in December 2022. The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) funded project aims at improving the health rights of adolescent girls in the project implemented municipalities. Keeping in mind the approaching phase out of the project, GNI Nepal carried out an end line study adopting the third-party approach. Nepal Public Health Research and Development Center (PHRD Nepal), a national level NGO, and its consultants, provided the consultancy service for conducting the endline study. The overall goal of the HRI project is improving the health and rights of adolescent girls through the improvement of menstrual hygiene management (MHM) environment. The project was implemented in five local governments of Bajura district encompassing Gaumul Rural Municipality, Khaptad Chhedadaha Rural Municipality, Budhiganga Municipality, Tribeni Municipality, and Badimalika Municipality.



Objectives:

- To assess the level of improvement in MHM-related knowledge, attitude, and practice among target groups.
- To compare, measure and analyze the results with project’s result framework and baseline survey.
- To know the prevailing opportunities, challenges, catalysts, and sectoral overviews of MHM with a view to improving the MHM behavior, attitude, and practice in the same working location, including in similar areas in the future.

Activities:

- Designed and Finalized the Overall methodology, digitalization of tools.
- Conducted the orientation training to field enumerators.
- Data cleaning, coding and analysis of the data.
- Evaluated the effectiveness of the MHM project interventions in bringing positive changes in the schoolgirls and women's knowledge, attitude and practice relating to menstrual health and hygiene management in the MHM project districts.
- Developed the report and submitted to the donor agency.



Proposed main human resources of project:

SN	Name
1	Dr. Deependra Kaji Thapa, Team Leader
2	Dr. Janak Thapa, Co-team Leader
3	Ms. Pabitra Balampaki, Public Health Officer

Community Resilience/Disaster Support: COVID-19 Recovery in Nepal (ASTELLAS Project)

Background: World Vision International (WVI) Nepal has implemented

Partner	World Vision International
Timeline	September- November 2022
Project area	Mahottari, Sarlahi, Rautahat
Status	Completed

“Community Resilience/Disaster Support: COVID-19 Recovery in Nepal” (ASTELLAS Project) in three different districts (Mahottari,

Sarlahi and Rautahat) of Madhesh Province of Nepal, in partnership with three different local organizations from November 2021 to November 2022. The project aimed to support the local Government to strengthen healthcare systems to build community resilience against COVID-19. This report is the summary of the endline study conducted to examine the extent to which the ASTELLAS project intervention has been successful in achieving its goal and outcomes.



Objectives:

- Measure the effectiveness of the project by comparing the baseline result to the endline survey result based on goal and outcome level indicators.
- Evaluate the impact of the project in reference to its goals and outcomes.
- Assess the project sustainability in line with the sustainability markers.
- Suggest the major learning and recommendations for further actions.

Major Activities:

- Developed methodology
- Study tools developed and finalized
- Orientation training to field researchers and enumerators
- Data collection, cleaning, coding, translate and transcribe.
- Data thematic analysis and report writing
- Incorporated feedback and final submitted the report.



Proposed main human resources of project:

SN	Name
1	Dr. Deependra Kaji Thapa, Team Leader
2	Dr. Janak Thapa, Co-team Leader
3	Ms. Anjalina Karki, Project Coordinator
3	Ms. Salina Thapa, Public Health Officer

Monitoring Local Level Capacity Strengthening to Address Child, Early, and Forced Marriage (CEFM) in Madhesh Province, Nepal

Background: The law of Nepal has restricted the marriage before 20 years.

Partner	<i>JHCCP</i>
Timeline	<i>July 22- November 22</i>
Project area	<i>Sarlahi and Rautahat</i>
Status	Completed

However, child, early, and forced marriage (CEFM) remains a common practice in many regions of Nepal. Provincial government has recently demonstrated increased political will to address

the issue of child marriage and girls' education. In addition to increased enforcement of the age of child marriage laws and has launched a "Save a Girl, Educate a Girl" Campaign. Likewise, many local government has been implementing several initiatives to retain the girl's student in school and providing different schemes to continue their further education and discouraging CEFM. While these efforts are laudable, much remains to be done in Madhesh Province to address the underlying causes of CEFM and to eliminate the practice.

Objectives:

- To strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of the Government in Madhesh Province.
- To design, implement, monitor, evaluate, and coordinate effective SBC activities and child protection (CP) system strengthening using a community-based, multi-sectoral, and data-driven approach

Major Activities:

- Developed of methodology
- Study tools developed and finalized
- Orientation training to field researchers and enumerators
- Data collection, translate and transcribe.
- Data thematic analysis and report writing

Proposed main human resources of project:

SN	Name
1	Mr. Rabindra Thapa Team Leader
2	Dr. Janak Thapa, Co-team Leader
3	Mr. Nava Raj Bhattarai,

4. List of Previous Work of PHRD Nepal

➤ *Policy and Advocacy*

1. Basic Health Service Package (BHS) Development, 2018
2. Emergency Health Service Package (EHS), 2019
3. Standard Treatment Protocol of Emergency Health Service (EHS), 2020
4. Antimicrobial Resistance Guideline (AMR) Development
5. Telemedicine Program Guideline Development
6. Home Based Health Service Standard Development
7. Improving maternal, newborn and child health in prioritized Municipalities: Evidence based MNCH Strategic Action Plan through Bottleneck Analysis workshop.
8. Technical Support to Develop Health Policy in Godaita Municipality, Sarlahi, Province 2
9. Standard Treatment Protocol of various diseases like Psychosis, Nephrology Respiratory
10. Development of ToR of each Health facility
11. Learning Resource Package (LRP) for training manual, resource guide and participant's manual on Standard Treatment Protocol (STP) of Emergency Health Service Package (EHSP) development
12. MToT on EHS-STP at provincial level health worker
13. Strategy development on Blood related disorder
14. National Essential Invitro Diagnostic List (NEIDL)
15. Standard Treatment Protocol (STP) of Prosthodontic and Orthodontic
16. ENT, Eye and Oral health standard
17. Policy diagouge on Universal Health Coverage and MToT on STP-EHSP
18. Develop the Health Policy in Haripur Municipality, Sarlahi, Madesh Province

➤ *Research/Study*

19. BISWASH Building Trust and Confidence among NTD Affected and Vulnerable Population (BISWAS)” Project
20. Stakeholder engagement for delivering contextualized learning on AMR in Nepal.
21. Baseline survey on “Weight Measurement of 6-59 Months children from Jajarkot, Mohottari, Kavre and Dolakha Districts”.
22. End-line survey on “Weight Measurement of 6-59 Months children from Jajarkot, Mohottari, Kavre and Dolakha Districts
23. Health Financing Mechanism including Free Schemes for SRH Services in Nepal – An overview
24. Insuree Satisfaction Survey and Policy Research for Suggesting Improvement in Enrollment Rate in National Health Insurance Program (NHIP) of “National Health Insurance Support Project.
25. End Line Evaluation of Comprehensive Programing to Address and Respond Gender Based Violence (GBV) in Nepal
26. Understanding the Barriers and Enablers to Continue Quality Care Services for Management of Possible Severe Bacterial Infection (PSBI) by Private Sectors Providers of Kavre Nepal: A Qualitative Study
27. Prevalence, trends and determinants of post abortion contraception use in selected districts of Nepal
28. End line Survey: Maternal and Child Health Promotion Project

➤ *Disaster Preparedness*

29. Health and Nutrition Disaster Contingency Plan

➤ *International Program*

30. International Universal Health Coverage Day Celebration
31. COVID-19 response program
32. World Breastfeeding Week 2020
33. Landscape Analysis of Health Care Integration in LMICs

5. Way Forward

- Regular coordination and collaboration with three tiers of government of Nepal for various health related projects.
- MoU with different national and international colleges and Universities to stimulate and facilitate the development of collaborative programs.
- Regular proposal writing and bidding for international projects.
- Celebration of major national health events in coordination with Department of Health Services.
- Conduct short courses related to Proposal, Research and different health related software.
- Conduct school health program on various health issues like adolescent health, menstrual hygiene, communicable and non-communicable diseases.

6. Gallery



Group photo after WHS plus training



Field visit of WHS survey in Rautahat



Blood testing of enumerator



Students playing in school -2nd Monitoring



Students playing in school -1st Monitoring



Kickoff meeting with FIND and PMWH team



Orientation training to Field Enumerator of Baseline-IHBHS survey



Data collection of IHBHS survey



Field work in health care facility- Gautari HP



HAI update meeting in MoHP



FIND AMR closing and dissemination meeting



ECD TGW meeting with subject expert in FWD



Group photo After 8th AGM



Orientation training of ASTELLA in Bardibas



Group Photo with GNI field team



Students playing in school



WASH activities learning through game



7th AGM group photo



Initial discussion of WHS plus survey



Mock session of IHBHS survey baseline



Training on MHM for field staff



Ready to field move-MHM team



Respondents from School-MHM



HAI TWG meeting on PMWH

7. Functional Committee

Advisors:



Dr. Senendra Raj
Uprety



Mr. Achyut
Lamichhane



Mr. Parasu Ram
Shrestha



Dr. Naresh Pratap
KC

Executive Director:



Dr. Janak Thapa
(Member
secretary)

Executive Members:



Prof. Dr.
Abhinav Vaidya



Dr. Olita Shilpakar



Mr. Ashok Pandey



Mr. Pramodh
Chaudhary



Ms. Jibika
Siwakoti



Dr. Deependra Kaji
Thapa



Mr. Raj Sangroula



Ms. Salina Thapa

Staff



Dr. Janak Thapa
(Executive
Director)



Dr. Deependra Kaji
Thapa (Senior
Research
Consultant)



Ms. Pragya Pokharel
(M&E Manager)



Ms. Salina Thapa
(Senior Research
Officer)



Ms. Pabitra
Balampaki
(Senior Research
Officer)



Mr. Sushant Luitel
(Project Officer)



Ms. Jibika Siwakoti
(Admin/Finance
Officer)



Ms. Urmila
Ghimire (Office
Assistant)



PHRD Nepal

नेपाल पब्लिक हेल्थ रिसर्च एण्ड डेभलेपमेन्ट सेन्टर

Nepal Public Health Research and Development Centre

Centre of Excellence in Public Health Research, Advocacy and Evidence-Based Intervention

Minbhawan, New Baneshwor-31, Kathmandu

Email: nphrdc16@gmail.com

Contact: 01-4790720

Nepal Public Health Research and Development Center (PHRD Nepal)

Min Bhawan Marg, New Baneshwor, Kathmandu, Nepal

Phone: +977-1-4790720, 9851196386

Email: info@phrdnepal.org.np

Web: www.phrdnepal.org.np