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**ANNEX VI**  
**FINAL NARRATIVE REPORT**

- This report must be completed and signed by the contact person of the Coordinator.
- The information provided below must correspond to the financial information that appears in the financial report.
- Please complete the report using a typewriter or computer ***(you can find this form at the following address <Specify>).***
- Please expand the paragraphs as necessary.
- ***Please refer to the Special Conditions of your grant contract and send one copy of the report to each address mentioned.***
- The Contracting Authority will reject any incomplete or badly completed reports.
- Unless otherwise specified, the answer to all questions must cover the reporting period as specified in point 1.6.
- Please do not forget to attach to this report the proof of the transfers of ownership referred to in Article 7.5 of the General Conditions.

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*List of acronyms used in the report*

**1. Description**

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- 1.1. Name of Coordinator of the grant contract: Mr. Mahesh Pariyar
- 1.2. Name and title of the contact Person: Mr. Adhiraj BC
- 1.3. Name of beneficiary (ies) and affiliated entity(ies) in the Action: **Palikas, CSOs-Women, Dalit poor and marginalized.**
- 1.4. Title of the Action: **PARIWARTAN (Participation, Inclusion and Wider CSO's Actions for Responsive Transparent and Accountable Local Governance in Nepal)**
- 1.5. Contract number: **EuropeAid/159739/DD/ACT/NP**
- 1.6. Start date and end date of the Action: **1st Feb, 2019 to 31st Jan, 2023**
- 1.7. Target country(ies) or region(s): **Nepal, Doti and Achham of Sudurpachim Province**
- 1.8. Final beneficiaries &/or target groups<sup>1</sup> (if different) (including numbers of women and men): **3,6200 citizen (60% marginalised community)**
- 1.9. Country(ies) in which the activities take place (if different from 1.7):

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<sup>1</sup> ““Target groups”” are the groups/entities who will be directly positively affected by the project at the Project Purpose level, and ““final beneficiaries”” are those who will benefit from the project in the long term at the level of the society or sector at large.

## 2. Assessment of implementation of Action activities

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### 2.1. Executive summary of the Action

With the financial support of the European Union and the partnership with DCA, EDC-Nepal had the opportunity to launch a Pariwartan project from February 2019 to January 2023 at three local levels (KI Singh Rural Municipality, Joroyal Rural Municipality and Shikhar Municipality) of Doti in Sudur Pachim Province with the technical support of ENLOGOS.

The local government and stakeholders gave great importance to this project as the Pariwartan project started at the initial stage of implementation of the federal government system in Nepal was related to good governance. This project has succeeded in making a great contribution to the participation of citizens in the local governance process, accountable local governance, and transparency, participatory planning process, inclusive monitoring and evaluation system, grievance handling mechanism and building a technology-friendly palika.

This project, which started when the model law was being implemented at the local levels, has helped to make the governance actions effective by making local representatives, civil society and citizen's awareness of the responsibility, transparent and participatory governance process.

In the reporting period, Awareness and knowledge of **4321 citizens (male-131, Female-4190)** enhanced on the structure and function of LG's, citizen's rights to participation in local governance and increased awareness among citizens on LG-citizen relationship as well as their rights and entitlement. While **4341 citizen** have indirectly benefited from this project's actions.

Mostly the poor and marginalized dalits, women, and janjatis benefited through **1512 GGS sessions** in Doti districts. The GGS has been a platform for the community people to come together, discuss problems and issues and seek solutions. As a result, **98% of the 4321 citizens reached** in the communities (*based on the assessment of GGS graduation evaluation*) can confidently talk about the constitution provision, the government structure, roles and responsibility of local government, social accountability, the seven-step planning process and much more.

Additionally, **3619 citizens** of the community have benefited from **73 events** of learning sharing experience held by CSOs. Furthermore, a total of **13** ward level elected representative were also attending the GGS regularly and **25 out of 40 GGS members** were elected as ward member in the 2nd local level election. **205 women from 36 CSOs are now in a leadership position and 346 are representatives** of different community structures such as SMC, HMC, Forest and drinking water of local governments and perform their duty with full confidence. CSOs have been sensitized to the local government planning process and have been able to receive fund for different community level activities. To stimulate community members' leadership skills and knowledge on CSOs has been conducted 51 different campaigns and day celebrations following by community advocacy strategy.

With the coordination of the local government and the initiative of the women of the civil society organizations, sensitization campaigns have been completed on the occasions of different days, from which 11 thousand beneficiaries (2851 men, 8150 women) have benefited. After the demolition of **82 Chaugoth** (*A small room made far from the house to stay menstruations women*) during the campaign, the women of 82 households are now sleeping safely in their own rooms.

Similarly, **4 child marriages have been stopped** on the initiative of the CSOs, and there has been a reduction in child marriage, polygamy, and caste discriminations and gender violence in the society. After 10-12 years, **two mothers** (Mamata BK and Magala BK) of Joroyal-2 Melkhola, who were inspired by GGS to drop out of college due to child marriage, have

started going to the campus to study +2 with their children. (*Refer to Link point 3.5, The Raising Nepal newspaper-Jan 29, 2023*)

Further, community people are aware of government services and have started to access those services more confidently. For example, **181** women have received the citizenship certificate, **414** mothers register the birth of their child, **151** couples registered their marriage and received a certificate, **56** death registrations were conducted, **987** single women received social security allowance, **91** disabled people have getting disabled allowance, **98** women are engaged in prime minister self-employment program and **1912** women have got the Covid vaccine by the Palika in coordination with the GGS and under the Pariwartan Project.

In the promoting of good governance, social accountability and experience sharing, radio Pariwartan has also helped in increasing the awareness of public representatives and citizens. During the project period, **1493 times** different 10 jingles, **156 radio** magazines and **72 talk shows** were aired through Radio Triveni FM in Doti. Not only the citizens of Doti, but also the citizens of some neighbouring palikas of Dhangadhi, Dadeldhura and Achham in Far West has been benefited from this program.

30 CSOs have successes to received **NPR 15,620,000.00** for goat rearing, rural road construction project, community building construction, skill development training and capacity building training etc. 36 CSOs has developed **173 gender-sensitive** community action plans (CAP) throughout the project period and submitted them to **151 local** governments and **22 provincial** governments for the various community-based plan. In which **43 CAPs** were approved by the local governments and **8** by the province. Due to the effectiveness of CAP, other **5 CSOs of the Joroyal RM** have also been able to replicate it to get resources from the province to goat rearing and community buildings.

For self-reliance, women of civil society organizations have engaged various income-generating businesses such as goat rearing, vegetable farming with the support of their families, and they have started depositing the income from that in a bank account in their own name; e.g. in this year, **10 women of Sahara health mothers group** of Joroyal-2 have **earned 15 lakh 65 thousand only from vegetables** and they have managed to **earn 5 lakh 66 thousand from goats**. Their husbands, who often go to India for work, are now involved in women's businesses and supporting them.

In 2022, under the third party support of this project, **six civil society** organizations, with the financial and technical support of the local government, **goat rearing** in Joroyal-4, **community health centre building** in Joroyal-2, **multi-purpose community** building at Joroyal-3 and **Childcare centre (CCC)** in KI Singh-4, **Balbikash Kendra** in Ki Sing- 5 and **birthing Centre** in Ki Sing-7 have been constructed and handed over to the palikas.

Through goat rearing, **29 households** of Joroyal-4, have been supported in their livelihoods, **36 children** attend the community childcare centre regularly, and so their mothers have been helped to earn income by working independently. The Community Childcare centre is currently being operated by the Education Unit of KI Singh Rural Municipality. Similarly, Joroyal community health centre, KI Singh's birthing centre and Balbikash Kendra have been handed over to the their palikas for its sustainability and there are plans and commitments of the Palika's to operate these centres in the FY 079/80. About 600 households are expected to get health services easily from the health unit and the birthing centre.

Concerning with ER 2, the capacity of the local representatives and CSO's representatives was developed to increase the accountability of the local governance process and collaboration between the government and the citizens. As result, **62 new** LG's representatives and **376 CSO's** members are trained on LGOA, leadership and advocacy, voter education. (Major role and responsibilities of LGs, procedures of local policy

formulations and major functions of ward committees.), 4 multi-stakeholder platform formed in Doti. **14 palikas** level and **4** district level multi-stakeholder platform meeting conducted among the LGs and CSOs to increase engagement between citizen and LGs, Economic development and social development committees of LG's are equipped on inclusive policy, plan and budget addressing citizen's interest and concerns. There are 14 gender responsive policies/producers/guidelines formulated in 3 palika. (*GESI-3, NGO mobilization guidelines-3, Thematic committee mobilization guidelines-3, Referral guideline-1, Chaoupadi eradication guidelines-3, organic vegetable production guideline-1*)

According to ER-3, based on the tripartite agreement of EDC, palikas and CellApp Company, Smart palika app and portal operated in 3 palikas, one **CIC** functional and one community free **Wi-Fi operating** in respective palikas of Doti. Similarly, one grievance handling guideline and grievance handling mechanism functional in 3 palikas. Palika has established a logbook desk to registration grievances and **25 grievance** handling day organized by 13 wards separately, three social audits and three public hearing conducted as demo in each palika and palika and wards are accepted to continue on their own.

The project also developed relevant manuals and guidelines to deliver better project activities on the ground: the GGS guideline-1 and Operational Manual-1, the CAP Operational guideline-1, Media Mobilization Guideline-1, Multi-stakeholder Platform Operational Guidelines-1, grievance handling day guideline-1, thirty party support guideline-1, and agreements in Nepali version was formulated and operationalized an each palika. Additionally, relevant trainings and orientations were also provided to concerned staff, CSOs representative and LG representative to operationalize the formulated document into practice.

The following sub-activities were completed to contribute achieve the expectations set by the log-frame of this project. Which has created rights and responsibilities for the new local representatives as well as the representatives of civil society organizations. In particular, voting rights education training, women's access to resources and LGOA training for new representatives were completed in 2022. Likewise, digital display boards have been supported in 7 ward offices to provide citizens with access to local government information in coordination with DCA.

## 2.2. Results and Activities

### A. RESULTS

***Outcome 1: To empower citizens and their organization to effectively engage with the sub-national Governments in promoting responsiveness, transparency and accountability in the governance process in Province 7 of Nepal.***

In Nepal, in accordance with the federal structures, new laws, policies, governance procedures and the structure of local government have changed, it was a challenge to make citizens' participation in local governance and the governance process of local government accountable. But in order to achieve this objective of the project, **4321 women and men (97% women, 42% Dalits)** from 36 civil society organizations of **13 wards** of Jorayal, KI Singh Rural Municipality and Shikhar Municipality were organized and conducted 36 governance schools. (*Details of GGS participations is below table -1*)

**4321 participants** were made aware of new laws, citizens and local representatives who are confused due to the new laws, federal structure, constitution of Nepal, fundamental rights, local governance act, social accountability, civil rights, participatory planning process, etc. Through the GGS, not only citizens' participation in the local governance process, but also to increased their access to resources and services and success to make the governance process transparent and accountable. Women affiliated to these GGS now enjoyed increased awareness about governance mechanisms, roles and responsibilities of LGs, planning processes of LGs, etc.

Through the bi-weekly conducted GGS, the members of civil society organizations, especially women have increased their knowledge, skills and abilities to fight for their rights, lead various structures, deal with the local government and learn about Nepal's constitution, fundamental rights as well as they are able to sharing their knowledge and experience on LG's structures, procedures and the role and responsibility of the government.



SM facilitation on GGS, Joraya 1

This project has contributed to making local government's policies, programs and budget inclusive. The participation of Dalit, women, janjati and marginalized communities has been increased in the participatory planning process. This project has greatly contributed to institutionalize the participatory planning process and initiate the practice of addressing the demands and needs of the target community in their plans, programs and budgets.

Also, the local government had a special role in the implementation of participatory and need-based third party planning. Which has support the deprived communities to increase their access to children's education, access to health services and to reduce poverty.



Gita Bogati from Shikhar 2, received her child birth certificate

In order to promote transparency and accountability, the local government has developed and implemented a mechanism to provide citizens with the right to services and information through electronic technology, to address their complaints, to conduct social inspections every quarter and to hold public hearings every year. Likewise, a multi-stakeholder forum has been institutionalized in those municipalities to review the actions of the government and other relevant bodies related to good governance and share good practices.

Practices to address citizens' complaints on time have already started from the ward level. Local representatives who are knowledgeable about the grievance hearing procedures prepared with the support of the project, organized a grievance handling day to address the grievances. The three palikas of Doti have established desks for registering complaints, and registration in the registrar has also been practiced in the wards. Community Information Center established in Shikhar Municipality is providing facilitation services for the purpose of providing access to citizens' information.

The results of the initiative of GGS under this project are as follows in Doti.

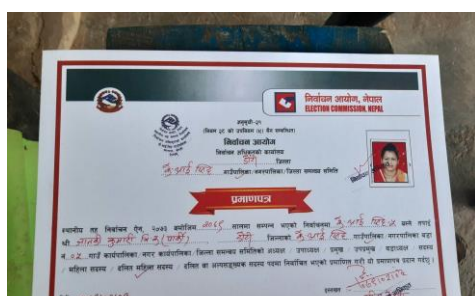
- 98% of all participants can confidently discuss and talk about key mechanisms, responsibilities and processes of LG as well as their comprehend and claim their own rights and entitlements;
- 181 women have received the citizenship.
- 414 mothers register the birth of their child,
- 151 couples registered their marriage and received a certificate,
- 56 death registration were conducted,
- 987 single women received social security allowance, and 91 disabled people have getting disabled allowance,
- 98 women are engaged in prime minister Self-employment program and
- 1912 women have got the Covid vaccine by the Palika.

- The Action has also enabled the leadership capacity of women and marginalized groups. In 2022, 25 out of 40 GGS members were elected as ward member in the 2nd local level election.
- In total, 195 women from 36 CSOs been selected for the vital positions in different local level committees formed by LG and are confidently taking on this responsibility.
- The women had good knowledge of the planning process and provision of the LG they were able to lobby the LG to allocate resources for development work. In Doti, 30 out of 36 CSOs have successes to fund received **NPR 15,620,000.00** from LGs and PGs for goat rearing, rural road construction project, community building construction, skill development training and capacity building training etc. *(For detail see the below table -2)*

Year	Table No. 1, GGS Participant's Details :								Total
	Dalit		Janjati		Others		Total		
	male	female	male	female	male	female	male	female	
2019	28	426	5	32	49	596	82	1054	<b>1136</b>
2020	5	484	0	30	5	612	10	1126	<b>1136</b>
2021	4	472	0	23	3	576	7	1071	<b>1078</b>
2022	27	485	3	137	17	606	47	1228	<b>1275</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>1867</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>2390</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>4479</b>	<b>4625</b>
<b>Dabbling counting</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>304</b>
<b>Exat Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>1767</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>2254</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>4190</b>	<b>4321</b>

Table 2: Status of CSOs receiving fund from Palika								
Year	# of CAP developed	CAP submitted		CAP Approved		Approved Budget (NPR)		Total NPR
		LG	PG	LG	PG	LG	PG	
2019	36	36	0	3	0	1,000,000.00	0	1,000,000.00
2020	36	36	0	7	0	1,600,000.00	0	1,600,000.00
2021	50	39	11	13	3	1,450,000.00	3,500,000.00	4,950,000.00
2022	51	40	11	20	5	4,150,000.00	3,920,000.00	8,070,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8,200,000.00</b>	<b>7,420,000.00</b>	<b>15,620,000.00</b>

Apart from the activities of good governance, this good governance school has helped in bringing down the leadership development of women in civil society organizations, self-reliance, and reduction in ethnic untouchability, reduction in gender discrimination, child marriage, polygamy and all kinds of discrimination against women. As a result, in the second local level election, 40 women of GGS nominated for the positions of members, including ward president, and **25 women were elected** as ward representatives. Previously, political parties used to select women representatives and make them candidates for ward members.



GGs LRP Janaki BK elected as ward rep. KI Sing - 5

But this year, it became a competition between women and women. They are motivated to become public representatives due to the increased confidence among women who have received information about the role of local government and local representatives. This has confirmed that

women are ready to become candidates for the upcoming elections as well. Likewise, the school has inspired women to become independent. The women who got information about the service facilities have started raising goats, poultry farming, ginger farming and vegetable farming with the support of the local government, province government and local governments- agriculture, veterinary, various organizations and DCA's third party support and gift project.

From the income earned from this, they have started depositing the remaining amount in the bank account in their own name after paying for their children's education, treatment and housing. This year, 10 women have managed to earn **Rs. 15 lakh 65 thousand** from vegetable farming. The women of the group who received four goats per person from the gift project now they have **12-16 goats** with individual. It has encouraged **158 households** to engage in goat business and **84 households** to engage in vegetable farming and also helped in their livelihood.

With the income from the sale of goats, they have been able to improve the goat sheds, purchase vegetable seeds and more goats and involve their husbands in income generation. Similarly, the childcare Center operated by the municipality under the third party support in KI Singh Rural Municipality has helped mothers to do income-earning work independently. Women are freed from having to carry their children to work. Husbands who



Alternative income source applied by CSOs, Jrayal 2

go in search of work are now found supporting their wives without going to India.

The awareness campaign of women participants of GGS has reduced caste untouchability. The campaign against Chaupadhi system in **82 households** of Joroyal 2 Melkhola had an impact on other communities as well. As a result, it has become a situation for women to stay in a safe room when they menstruate. In this case, family, especially mothers-in-law and



Devaluation Chaupadi Goth by CSO members, JRM-2

husbands, also help to make this women's campaign successful. The campaign against alcoholism in the community has reduced violence against women and child marriages have decreased significantly. This year alone, the women of GGS managed to **stop 4 child marriages** in Joroyal RM and Shikhar Municipality.

Mamata BK and Mangala BK, forced to drop out of school due to child marriage, have now started going to college with their 9-year-old children. After 10/12 years, they are studying in 12 classes (+2) at Shree Rampur Higher Secondary School, Budar, and Joroyal after understanding the importance of education from GGS. *(We can see the attached video)*

Therefore, this project has succeeded in increasing the participation of citizens in the governance process of the local government, as well as promoting accountability, transparency and responsibility in the governance process and bringing about changes in the economic, social and political conditions of the poor and marginalized communities.

Furthermore, within the project implementation period, the Action has formulated and distributed the following four guidelines and manuals to support project intervention in the fields.

- A Good Governance Manual and Guideline to support the functioning of 36 GGS operating in 3 Palikas in the Doti district;
- A Community Action Plan (CAP) guideline as well as a training organized to inform the CSOs member and the Local Representative. Both the guideline and training aim to inspire a concrete CSOs-CAP capable of tapping resources from the LG and other stakeholders.
- A TOR was prepared for the operation of the Community Information Center (CIC) and an agreement was signed with the Shikhar municipality.
- Similarly, the complaint handling procedure was prepared and provided to palikas along with orientation for the implementation. Now it is executing by palikas and ward.
- A Multi-Stakeholder Platform Guideline provides an orientation to a wider group within the leadership of respective Palika. The guideline and operational document will further accelerate the project activities to perform on the ground.

***Output 1.1.: Increased knowledge and capacity among citizens and CSOs to engage with and hold the LG accountable for improving Governance.***

Operationalization of the Good Governance School (GGS) is one of the core project intervention to sensitize and provide in-depth knowledge about good governance, governance mechanisms, constitution provision, Rights and services, roles of the LG's and their representatives etc. to marginalize groups in the Doti district. This will enabled their knowledge and skills to access resources and services from LGs and hold LGs accountable. A total of 36 GGS are operating in the 3 Palika in the Doti of Sudurpachim province.

During the fourth Action year a total 1512 GGS classes were operated with **4,321 (4190 women and 131 men)** marginalized citizens benefitting from the initiative. 25 of the participants were representative of LG at the ward level. Out of all the participants, 98% now have the knowledge confident enough to talk about and discuss key components of good governance and governance structures including the roles of the role and responsibility of three tire of government, constitution provision, the seven-step planning process (incl. the vital registration process) and characteristics of the LG.



Group work in the GGS to identify community problems at Shikhar 1

To oversite the GGS, a 24 GGS management committees were formed in three respective Palika which were chaired by the Women Ward Representative of the Local Government. In addition, a total of 6 Social Mobilisers and 12 Community Volunteers were organized to operate the GGS in the 13 wards of 3 palika's of Doti districts.

During this project, the knowledge, skills and abilities **of 4321 CSO's members of 36 CSOs** have been enhanced to make the governance process accountable and transparent by increasing citizen participation in the local governance process. They have not only mobilized resources in the structure of the federal government, the role of local governments and representatives in Nepal's constitution and its policies, but also in planning and budgeting, they have also been able to bring sources of economic income by making various plans. Women who have developed their abilities through governance schools and various trainings have also been able to lead in various places.

In order to achieve the objectives of ER-1, LGOA training, advocacy and leadership development training, participatory planning and budget formation training, voter education



training, interaction regarding women's access to local resources, 438 civil society organizations and new women representatives have been capacitated, while 1,628 women have gained a CAP formulation knowledge and skills. As a result of which **98% of all** participants can confidently discuss and talk about key mechanisms, responsibilities and



CAP Submitted by CSO, Ki Singh - 7, Ward Office

processes of LG as well as their understanding and claim their own rights and entitlements; 621 people have received vital registration services and 181 women have received citizenship. 98 women Prime Ministers have engaged in self-employment, while 195 women are leading various local government structures. Furthermore, 25 women from GGS have succeeded in becoming local representatives.

The representatives of 36 CSOs who (1237 female) have acquired the

knowledge skills related to the CAP module prepared **173 community action plans** and submitted them to the local government and province government during this four-year period.

In which **43 out of 51** were approved by the local government and **8** by the province and succeeded in mobilizing an amount of **1 crore 56 lakh 20 thousand**. CAP module has also been used by other civil society organizations to get budget from the province.

Likewise, according to the advocacy strategy made by civil society organizations with the technical support of Inlogos, the women of the governance school completed various campaigns on the issue of women's rights, such as the campaign against Chaupadhi practice, campaign against child marriage, polygamy and alcohol prohibition campaigns.

Which greatly reduced the Gender based violence in the society, caste untouchability, child marriage and polygamy. An environment where man and women work together has been created in the community. Man going to India are now coming to help businesses run by women.

Similarly, the radio program conducted to publicize the good governance practices of the community and make the local government more accountable, not only disseminated the achievements, but also increased the self-confidence of the women to be able to interview each other. In agreement with Radio Triveni, **1493 times' different 10 jingles, 156 radio magazines and 72 talk shows** were broadcasted throughout the project period. From this broadcast program, not only Doti, but also the nearby palikas of Dhangadhi, Dadeldhura and Achham districts has been benefited.



CCC Inauguration ceremony at Ki Singh - 4, organized by WRF

**6 CAPs were identified** during this period for the increase in women's income, reduction of their work load and industrial development. In which, 29 households of joroyal- 4 have been benefited from goat rearing. Likewise, mothers of 36 households in KI Singh Rural Municipality 4 are independently engaged in productive work and earning their living easily. Now their children regularly attend the childcare center. The child care center is now being operated through the education unit of the municipality. Similarly, the community health center built in Joroyal- 2 and the Birthing center built in KI Singh 7 have been handed over to the palikas. It has expressed a commitment to bring both health institutions into operation

from 2079/80, from which around 600 households will benefit from it. Likewise, Child development center's buildings in KI Singh and multi-purpose women's community buildings in joroyal have been completed and handed over to the municipality. Civil society organizations were able to tap around 24 lakh including land and technical assistance for the 3rd party CAPs implementation process.

129 households are rearing goats commercially from the gift program conducted with the financial support of DCA. By selling the produced goats and goats, they are earning income by cultivating vegetables. The income from goats and vegetables has helped them in their livelihood. They have managed to become independent by depositing the savings in their own bank account.

They are also aware of the importance of citizen-LGs engagement. In participatory planning, plan implementation, e-technology, community information center, grievance handling day etc. and their involvement in the process of social audit, public hearing organized by palikas has increased.

**Output 1.2.: Needs and interests of citizens especially poor and marginalized citizens (women, dalit, and ethnic groups) reflected in LG policies, plan and programme**



To achieve the objectives of ER2, the actions of this project were focused on addressing the lack of knowledge and capacity in LGs including thematic committees and increasing engagement between citizens and LGs to institutionalize

participatory planning, implementation and monitoring processes.

- As result, 62 new LG's representatives and 376 CSO's members are trained on LGOA, leadership and advocacy, voter education. (Major role and responsibilities of LGs, procedures of local policy formulations and major functions of ward committees.)
- Furthermore, LGs have formulated and implementation inclusive policies, plans and programs to address the needs and concerns of marginalized groups through knowledge of operational laws and policies. In cooperation with this project, the target palikas have started to increase the planning program and budget according to gender equality and social inclusion policy. For example, programs such as Dalit with president, women with vice-president, Kosheli program with vice-president for pregnant women and Farmer with president have been implemented. Compared to the last year, Palikas have been increasing the number of programs and budgets by targeting Dalit, Janjati, women and Disabled. *See the comparison table -3 summary of budget allocated for the marginalized by palikas.*

Table: 3, Budget allocated for the Marginalized by Palikas.			
Targeted	FY 078/79	FY 079/80	Increased %
Dalit, Janjati	6,789,000	7,870,000	86.26%
Women	4,100,000	5,375,000	76.28%
Disabled	200,000	250,000	80%
<b>Total</b>	<b>A-11,089,000</b>	<b>B- 13,495000</b>	<b>82.17%</b>

- 14 policies/producers/guidelines have been formulated and implemented by 3 palikas based on GESI perspectives in Doti. (GESI-3, NGO mobilization guidelines-3, Thematic

committee mobilization guidelines-3, Referral guideline-1, Chaupadi eradication guidelines-3, organic vegetable production guideline-1).

- This result has also helped in the implementation of gender sensitive CAPs based on the demands and needs of the target community.
- Economic development and social development committees of LG's are equipped on inclusive policy, plan and budget addressing citizen's interest and concerns.
- 4 multi-stakeholder platforms have been formed in Doti. Due to covid-19, these meetings could not be conducted in the second action year of the project. After that, the palika level multi-stakeholder platform meeting held 14 times has helped to increase the relationship and involvement between LG and CSOs. The development and institutionalization of multi-stakeholder platforms has increased interaction between LGs and citizens on issues such as participatory planning processes, transparency and accountability at the LG level, and citizens' easy access to quality public services. It has generated an environment to discuss and share experiences on the issues of review and joint monitoring of the district coordination committee and the good governance practice planning program at the local level.

**Output 1.3: Inclusive and improved service delivery and monitoring mechanism established at LG**

Result 3 supported local governments to implement inclusive and improved public service delivery, citizen feedback, and systematic monitoring processes. Activities under this outcome have contributed to LGs practicing regular and effective social audits, public hearings and inclusive monitoring frameworks, formation and implementation of committees, improved public finance management and public expenditure tracking.



Vice-president of JRM, Ms. Jamuna Bohara, during the field monitoring at JRM - 2

It has institutionalized social accountability tools and technology such as exit poll, Grievances

mechanism, and grievance practices as grievance handling day, social audit and public hearing to reduce geographical barriers and make GESI focused public service delivery more effective, faster, and accountable.

Social accountability tools/methods have helped to ensure citizens' right to information, provide better services, develop and implement effective feedback mechanisms and contribute to the Government's Good Governance Promotion Strategy (GGPS) 2017.

Grievance management procedures have been implemented in working palikas and wards. Grievance handling day has been institutionalized from ward level to palikas to hear grievances. The practice of Grievance Hearing Day has helped to strengthen the relationship and trust between citizens and local representatives.

Likewise under this result, the "Smart Palika" app and portal have been implemented in the target LGs. The target palikas have updated their e-profiles. Digital display board, signature machine and different software are in use in that municipality. The Community Information Centre operated in Shikhar Municipality has facilitated citizens to increase their access to services by providing information easily. Similarly, the free Wi-Fi service at KI Singh 4 has helped the young and students to receive educational and employment information as well as information from the palika and women to communicate with their husbands abroad for free.

The above mentioned results are briefly mentioned as follows.

- Smart palika app and portal launched in six palika, one CIC functional and one community free Wi-Fi operating.
- One grievance handling guideline and one grievance handling mechanism functional in 3 palikas.
- 25 Grievance handling days organized in three palika.
- Three social audits and three public hearing conducted as demo and palika are accepted to continue on their own.
- Public Finance Management (PFM) Study conducted in six palika and report produced and provided to them.
- 58 LG representatives exposed on Public Expenditure Tracking system (PETS) (refer to Inlogos)
- 73 LG representative including M&E committee member trained on monitoring framework implementation. (refer to Inlogos)

**Output 1.4: Increased interface among LGs and PGs to support well-coordinated and need based development policies, plans and programme in the Province.**

Under this project, various interaction programs have been completed to increase coordination between the local government and the province government. This outcome area has created an opportunity for PGs, LGs, District Coordination Committees (DCCs), CSOs, Municipal Association of Nepal (MUAN) and the National Association of Rural Municipality of Nepal (NARMIN) to sit together and interact.

The various coordination meetings and interactions held in coordination with NARMIN have increased the coordination and collaboration between the local government and the province government and reduced the duplication in planning. It has been found that the provincial government gives priority to the plans of the local government. The provincial government has started to address the citizens' plans recommended by the local government.

In addition, the progress and good practices of good governance discussed in the multi-stakeholder platforms at the palikas and district level have also been discussed in the province. The provincial government has also taken such activities positively and is of the opinion that a province level multi-stakeholder platform should be formed in the province as well.

In the final learning and experience sharing program held in three palikas and district, have expressed their commitment to institutionalize the achieved good governance practices through the Pariwartan project and provided a letter of appreciation with thanks to the European Union, DCA and EDC Nepal and requested to support such programs again.

**B. ACTIVITIES**

**Activity 1.1. Raise poor and marginalised citizens' awareness on the constitution, and structure and functions of three-tier government, in coordination with the LGs:**

Throughout the fourth reporting year, the Action has been successful in raising awareness of and bringing knowledge to poor and marginalized citizens. This was done through by operating 36 Good governance School (GGS), Campaign activities such as CSO's level Deouda sing competition, debate competition, quiz contest, days celebration (International Women's Day, 16 Days of activism). In actual figures, after participating in GGS 4.321 (131 male and 4190 Female) (For detail see



GGs running. JRM- 1

the above table-1) CSO's members are now aware of the constitution provision, structure and

the above table-1) CSO's members are now aware of the constitution provision, structure and

function of the three-tier government system, the roles and responsibility as well as the planning and vital registration processes of LGs. As stated previously, 98% all participants can now talk confidently and engage in discussions about this.

Nonetheless, while operating the GGS initiative, a budget for a ToT was not allocated. Later the budget was revised and allocated from the same budget heading to conduct a ToT for Social Mobilisers and volunteers in the first Action year. The project developed a Volunteer Mobilization Guideline and allocated incentives from the GGS operation budget. Further, the project has been more focused on the governance component, GGS participants would like to build more knowledge on social issues such as women's right, unpaid care work, dalit rights etc. To deliver on these topics the Social Mobilisers and volunteers needed more training. Thus, the Action organized a five-day Social Mobilization training from DCA core funds to capture better the social issues.



Quiz contest on the occasion of women day celebration JRM  
- 4

Good governance school itself has proved to be a powerful tool for empowerment. However, the need for various learning materials has been felt to make governance school operations and the learning process of adults more effective. Radio, educational videos, flipcharts with pictures, attractive posters, etc. help proud citizens to make the learning process more effective.

Similarly, with the facilitation of the Pariwartan Project, 36 civil society organizations conducted 51 different types of campaigns in Doti to raise public awareness on issues such as the importance of LG-citizen involvement, their role in local governance, vital -registration, rights and entitlements. There were **12 quiz competitions, 12 debate competitions and 27 mass awareness campaigns** such as; women day, 16 days campaigns has organized by CSOs at local level, from which 11 thousand and one citizens (2851 men, 8150 women) have benefited. Apart from this, they also conducted a campaign against Chaupadi system, anti- Anti child marriage and polygamy and against the Covid-19, which is mentioned in detail in Outcome 1 in above in coordination with LGs, youth networks and local CBOs.

Further, community people are aware of government services and recourses and have started to



Deouda Song competition among the CSOs. JRM

access those service more confidently such as vital registration, citizenship, allowances, self-employment opportunities from the LGs, and LG's schemes. **(Details in mentioned above)**

The major 2nd sub-activity is sensitization campaigns under the Activity -1, sensitization

campaigns are carried out especially by deprived communities, classes and their representative groups, civil society organizations to get their rights. Various interventions of the Pariwartan project have empowered and informed citizens and civil society organizations about the government's policy, legal system, process and rights. Citizens and civil society organizations are able to identify their rights and coordinate and collaborate with the local government and various stakeholders to conduct and lead campaigns. Therefore, even after the completion of the project, it is believed that their organization will continue to operate regularly and the campaign for the rights of marginalized communities will continue to advance.

Furthermore, 72 experience and learning exchange programs have been completed with the aim of sharing experience and learning with members of civil society organizations from other communities who have acquired knowledge, skills and abilities from the governance school.



Through the 72 experience and learning sharing programs, 3619 (125 male, 3494 female) citizens of civil society organizations in different wards of the working area gained acquired knowledge and skills about government structure, role of government and citizens, role of local representatives, citizen's rights, participatory planning, public service facilities and procedures. These activities

facilitated by representatives of governance schools, local government representatives and ward representatives have helped to increase citizens' involvement in the governance process and the access of citizens to information resources services of the local government. Likewise, 36 events awareness campaigns and 6 event tailored campaigns related to e-governance were completed with the participation of 1,242 citizens (382 men, 860 women) from various wards and civil society organizations with the aim of increasing citizens' access to information and service facilities.

During the project's Action year-1, in the month of April and May, the infection of the covid-19 epidemic increased throughout the country due to which good governance schools could not be operated at the community level. However, awareness campaigns had to be conducted through mobile and radio in coordination with the palikas.

With the support of DCA's core fund, food and hygiene materials were distributed to the covid affected people. During the increasing infection of covid, social mobilizers and volunteers of governance schools conducted household campaigns on health and sanitation and mask wearing campaigns in various communities to protect from against covid-19.



Covid 19 awareness campaign at JRM 2

Even though the GGS could not be run, they made 1340 households aware against the covid through phone calls and household awareness campaigns. They succeeded in vaccinating 1912 women in quarantine and at home. Although the covid epidemic has hindered the operation of the community level activities under this project until 2020, the project activities have been accelerated after the covid infection has returned to a normal situation, as a result of which the project has succeed to achieve the expected results, which is mentioned output-1.1.

**Activity 1.2. Build knowledge and capacity of CSOs representative poor and marginalized group on advocacy, equitable public services, and local level planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring process.**

Under this activity, the capacity and skills of 438 (31 men and 401 women) of 36 CSOs have been enhanced in various aspects including Local Governance Act, leadership, advocacy, planning and accountability.

As a result, they have been able to claim their rights, lead various structures, become local representatives on behalf of various political parties, implement local government plans and budgets, and represent the voice of the citizen's.

Similarly, civil society organizations have been able and skilled to lobby with LG to prioritize the needs and aspirations of marginalized citizens, to raise questions on issues of social accountability and transparency, and to raise issues of social discriminations, gender equality and social inclusion and GBV.

On behalf of 36 civil society organizations, 40 women were able to take participants in local election as contests, 25 women won as people's representatives, 159 women led various local structures, 222 women have affiliated in various structures, and 82 households were freed from chaupadi system, and there is reduced gender discriminations, polygamy, child marriage and violence and being able to get 51 CAPs approved by local and province governments is the key achievements of this activity.



CAP formulation workshop. Group work

In order to achieve other achievements like the above-mentioned achievements, it is necessary to pay very important attention to the changing context of the community, the government's policies, laws, and the working style of empowerment.



CAP development at the community. Ki Sing - 4

Although it is felt that there are many more activities to be done within this project, but some of the activities were included in the preambles and due to the long process of revision that couldn't be conducted according to their needs for all civil society representatives. However, the local government was also impressed by the achievements based on the proposed activities and in the coming days, they have expressed their commitment to involve the citizens of other communities in the governance process by using the capable persons of the civil society organizations as resource persons.

**Activity 1.3. Build media partnership for raising public awareness and promoting best practices**

To improve governance at the LG level, with the aim of garnering widespread popular involvement and conveying the positive messages of the community to the mass public to create



consciousness of social accountability, rights and responsibilities to the government and citizens; a Radio PARIWARTAN Program was started in Doti in formal partnership with the local Triveni FM from 2020. This types of partnership with the media has helped to educate and inform the mass public, promote good governance at local level, hold governments accountable, and build public relation and cooperation between citizens and governments in governance process. The radio Pariwartan program broadcasted to promote good governance practices and make the local government more accountable has not only promoted achievements but also helped women develop their ability to share their learning and experience with each other and increase their self-esteem too.

During the project period, 1493 times different 10 jingles, 156 radio magazines and 72 talk shows have been broadcasted throughout the project period with an official agreement with Radio Triveni. Throughout these aired program, not only Doti, but also the citizens of Dhangadhi, Dadeldhura and Achham districts and nearby towns and villages were informed.



Community voice recording for the Radio program by Tribeni FM

It is expected that the Radio FM tribeni, will be continuing such programs for the promotion of citizen awareness and good governance in the coming days as well. Through the partnership with the media,

the Radio Pariwartan has played an effective role in keeping the citizens alert and aware and making the local government agencies and civil society organizations accountable to the citizens during the Covid-19 pandemic.

#### Activity 1.4. Support CSOs to develop gender sensitive Community Action Plans (CAPs) and pilot the selected projects:

The development and implementation of CAPs not only encouraged the creation of development plans and projects based on the demands and needs of the citizens, it also helped the LGs to select and develop participatory plans that are more focused on the target community.

In order to assist civil society organizations to making plans easily, a gender responsive CAP manual was prepared in the initiative of the project based on the guidelines of the Nepal government. 1628 (127 male, 1501 female) of 36 civil society organization's members have equipped on CAP formulation and, enhanced their skill and knowledge about the CAP's importance and its implementation process. As a



Community Health Center built by CSO, Supported by third party support. JRM-2 Ritha

result, throughout the project period, 36 civil society organizations produced 173 CAPs on their own initiative and submitted them to the local government and province government. Out of these 173 CAPs submitted, 36 civil society organizations received NPR. 15,620,000.00 worth of schemes through 51 CAPs. **(See the detailed in table-2 above.)**

The civil society organizations who have acquired the knowledge and skills of participatory planning and CAP development have succeeded in facilitating livelihood and becoming self-sufficient by conducting rural road, community building, health building, and vocational training and income generation programs under their leadership with the budget received from the local government and province government.

The representatives of the local government have also responded that the plan led by the women of the civil society organization, that the women of the community will get equal wages for the equal work, is long-term quality, transparent and effectiveness. Palikas have positively taken the practice of civil society organizations using the gender-responsive CAP's model and made it mandatory for everyone during the planning process. Ward presidents say that CAP has helped in the selection of plans and budget allocation. *(Mr. Jaya Lal Dhami- Ward president KI Sing-4).*

Due to the importance of CAP and its use, it is an easy way for civil society organizations to get government resources and mobilize them to do collective actions, so 5 other civil society organizations have also replicated CAP model into practice.



Similarly, to ensure citizens' participation in the planning process and to support CAP develop of targeted community-focused programs and plans, coordination meetings have been held with the palikas and wards with the involvement of representatives of civil society organizations. These coordination meetings held 6 times during the project period have provided financial support to citizens' CAPs to support the programs and plans of the palikas. For example, KI Singh Rural Municipality has provided a grant of Rs 4 lakh and land for the construction and operation of the community childcare center (CCC) and also provided 2 facilitators for the operation of the CCC. Now, the child care center is affiliated to the education unit of the municipality, the education unit is also providing lunch and administrative expenses for the children. This has enabled the mothers of 36 households to confidently engage in productive and income-generating activities and earn a living easily. Similarly, Joroyal and KI Singh Rural Municipality have provided necessary land, technical support and financial support (at the rate of Rs. 4 lakh for each CAPs) for the implementation of 6 CAPs under the third party support. Palikas are also providing technical and treatment assistance to 158 households of working areas under



Goat rearing by CSOs supported by third party support at JRM-4

the gift project supported by DCA for goat rearing.

Goat rearing, multi-purpose women's community building, community health center, community child care center, child development center and birthing center are 6 projects completed under the third party support which were selected from among the CAPs submitted by civil society organizations.

These schemes have contributed to the livelihood of 29 households and to make women financially independent, to reduce the workload of women in 36 households and to help them in their leadership development.

For income generation, 129 households are involved in goat rearing business, while 65 households are involved in vegetable production business and have been depositing the income in the bank. Similarly, Community Health Center and birthing Center have been handed over to the palikas and has promised to operate health services from this FY 079/80. From this service, about 600 households of the community are expected to benefit from this. 7 review meetings were held with the participation of 202 (male 13, female 189) to regularly monitor and review the above-mentioned third party cooperation plans, the achievement of which has been accepted by the local government and helped in the sustainability of the plan. Palikas suggested that these types of programs carried out in cooperation should be re-run by the local government, which would provide more support to the municipality's plan.

**Activity 2.1: Orient LG authorities to the LGOA and support them to formulate inclusive laws, policies ad plans: INLOGOS**

**Activity 2.2: Facilitate development of multi-stakeholder platform to influence integration of prioritised community needs into LGs' polices, plans and programmes:**

A multi-stakeholder forum has proven to be effective in gathering citizens' opinions, suggestions, and opinions on the contemporary issues of good governance, making governance more transparent and more accountable. 4 multi-stakeholder forums have been formed in Doti with the participation of local government, stakeholders and citizens at the three palikas and district levels. The multi-stakeholder forum has been used by the DCC and local government as a platform to discuss and interaction between the citizens and the government on the needs of the citizens, the issues of governance and policies of the



government. These meetings have provided support in policy analysis and policy implementation of the palikas. Gender equality and social inclusion policy can be taken as an example of the operational policy of the thematic committee.



The Mayor Mr. Dirga Balayar of Shikhar speaking on multi-stakeholder meeting

By providing regularity to the multi-stakeholder forum, the forum meeting has been held 4 times at the district level and 14 times at the palika level to discuss good governance and policy issues and collect suggestions from the citizens. Likewise, regular follow-up meetings have been held 33 times at the municipality and ward levels. In the meetings completed in this way, 88 at the district level, 360 at the municipality level and 584 local

representatives and citizens participated in the regular follow-up meeting. The multi-stakeholder platform implemented at the municipality and district level has helped to reduce the distance between citizens and the government, give more space to citizens' voices in the policy and participatory planning process, and improve governance and accountability, so the palikas are committed to its continuation. While conducting these meetings, it was felt that regular meetings should be held at the ward level to support the implementation of the policies and programs of the municipality and the decisions made in the multi-stakeholder forum. Therefore, regular follow-up meetings proposed under this project were organized in the ward. Which greatly helped the newly elected representatives at the ward level in governance.

**Activity 3.1: Support LGs to establish and strengthen e-governance systems:**

In accordance with the tripartite agreement between the palikas, CellApp Company and EDC, an electronic profile and smart App has been developed and implemented in the 3 palikas to increase citizens' easy access to all LG level information, reports and decisions online. It will help to easy access to interact, submit complaints and suggestions as needed with the local government through online.



After discussion and interaction with the representatives of all three palikas



Use Wi-Fi network by community talking with her father india.

on e-governance in the first phase, all the three municipalities have spent 20 lakh 16 thousand rupees for manpower mobilization to the development of e-profile and Smart App. On the basis of the tripartite agreement on the facilitation of EDC, the development of profile and Smart App has been completed with the technical support of CellApp Company at Jorayal, Ki Singh RM and Shikhar Municipality of Doti.

Currently, the palikas are updating the infoUse Wi-Firmation in the system built in the fourth version. And in the coming days, they have expressed their commitment to continue its implementation with the technical support of CellApp. This system includes digital monitoring, digital data, LG representative dashboard, e-meeting, complaint box, online registration of basic services and other features. Through which LG helps to interact directly with citizens and make service delivery faster and more efficient.

Furthermore, free Wi-Fi zone has been declared in collaboration

with DCA and the Ward Office of KI Singh Rural Municipality- 4 to assist in the implementation of the system and accustom the citizens to digital literacy. Free Wi-Fi service has greatly helped students and youths to take online classes to get various educational and employment information, while it has made it easy for rural women to have virtual conversations with their husbands abroad.



Digital display boards have been installed in 6 wards with the support of this project to further increase access to information for citizens. It has helped the citizens to get information easily and also help the LGs to communicate information. Although this activity is not included in the project document, the ward has been assisted by adding activities in December 2022 to promote it in the field of good governance.



Grievance handling day organized by ward at Shikhar

Similarly, a community information center (CIC) has been launched in collaboration with Shikhar Municipality and EDC to increase citizens' access to public information and service facilities. EDC provided the necessary materials and equipment for the operation of the CIC, which has been operating since 2020,

while the municipality arranged for an information officer for three years under cost sharing. According to the agreement, the municipality has appointed the information officer to provide its own funds to operate the CIC regularly.

### Activity 3.2: Work with LGs to strengthen and sustain existing grievance redressal system for improved governance:

Grievance redressal mechanism have been formed in all the three palikas to address the complaints of the citizens. After the orientation and handing over of the complaint handling procedures, 2077 developed with the technical assistance of Enlogos, the complaint handling process has started in the palikas and its wards.



Grievance handling day organized by JRM 2

After a one-day orientation on the grievance handling procedure with the participation of 82 LG representatives, a five members grievance handling committee was formed in each palika under the coordination of the deputy-mayor/vice-president.

This committees have introduced the practice of grievance register desk at their Palika's with 13 wards, to improve the quality of services and complaint registration.

As result, 25 different grievance handling day has been celebrated by 13 wards in the citizen's issues related on the public services, plan and programs based on written and verbal complaints among the 452 citizens.

Representatives who are afraid to celebrate Grievance handling Day have felt that their confidence has increased by practicing Grievance handling Day. This has helped to make the blameless relationship between the citizens and the representatives closer and they have

accepted the Grievance handling Day as a powerful method for the accountability and responsibility to solve citizen's issues.

**Activity 4.1.2: Sharing meeting at the district level:**

By sharing good governance practices at the district level, the final learning and experience sharing program of the project was organized at the district level in order for other palikas to replicate those good practices and learnings under this activity.

It was completed with the participation of 68 (40 man and 28 women) people including representatives of concerned palikas and district level stakeholders' representatives, journalists and civil society organizations under the coordination of the DCC.



In the learning and experience sharing program, the

representatives of the target community and the palika's representatives informed about the good governance practices and lessons learned with the support of the Pariwartan project.

In the experience sharing program, interventions such as good governance school, CAP model, e-governance, CIC, third party support, grievance hearing day were considered as good practice by the participants.

In this way, the participants also informed about the positive achievements experienced by the monitoring of the working areas done at different times with the representatives of the DCC and the palikas. For example, increasing citizens' awareness in governance, women's leadership development, businesses operated by women for income generation, the relationship between citizens and the LGs, and the achievements of citizens' access to plans and resources, and the benefits of citizens from goat rearing, community health centre, birthing centre, child care centre, and child development centre built by third parties support.

**2.3. Describe if the Action will continue after the support from the European Union has ended. Are there any follow up activities envisaged? What will ensure the sustainability of the Action?**

Most of the actions conducted with the support of the European Union have been completed with the coordination and cooperation of the palikas. The Palikas have aware of all the activities of the project and during the monitoring and facilitation, they have been giving confidence to the citizens that they will continue to provide more support. In coordination with the palika, a multi-stakeholder platform and complaints handling mechanism has formed. In their coordination, the governance school has been operated, the participatory planning process has been institutionalized and the plans under the third party support have been completed with the cost sharing of the palikas, and the e-governance system has also been installed in partnership.

CAP model, GESI policy and complaint handling procedure, 2077 have been implemented by them and KI Singh- 4 community child care centre has been operated under the palikas as community school. The child development center, birthing center, community Health center, and community Women's Buildings under the third party support have been handed over to the palika formally and they have promised to operate the service from this FY.

Therefore, it is believed that the civil society organizations and the local government will continue to increasing the involvement and access of the target community in the plan and budgeting, even after the completion of the project.

Similarly, women from civil society organizations involved in the Pariwartan project have now succeeded in becoming representatives of different wards and some women are leading other group and committees. With the facilitation of the project, their abilities have been developed and they have the skill to deal with LGs, so it is believed that the above-mentioned achievements and methodologies of the project will be continue.

- 2.4. Submit an updated Logframe matrix, highlighting the changes. When the planning has included milestones (intermediary target values), the updated logframe matrix should allow to compare the achievements at the date of the reporting with the corresponding values in earlier reports (when relevant) and with the corresponding milestones and final target.**

Intervention logic		Indicators	Baseline (incl. reference year) 2019	Current value Reference date			Targets (incl. reference year)			Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
							Y1	Y2	Y3		
Overall objective: Impact	To increase citizens' meaningful participation in sub-national good governance in Nepal	Oc. 1: Percentage of citizens mainly women, youth, Dalits and other ethnic minority that have access to public services	49.4%				62.9%	80%	92.48%	Impact evaluation report published by the Local, Provincial and Federal Government	The impact of the action will be complimented by other initiatives of government and non-government sector
		Oc. 2: Percentage of citizen mainly women, youths, Dalits and other minority who participated in decision making process	88.4%				43.22%	89.3%	95%		
Specific objective(s): Outcome(s)	To empower citizens and their organisations to effectively engage with the sub-national governments in promoting responsiveness, transparency and accountability in the governance process in Sudurpachhim province of Nepal	Op. 1.1: Percentage of target population satisfied with their last experience of using resources, services and entitlements from the Local Government (LG)	97.1%				98.3%	98.5%	99%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project completion report</li> <li>Final evaluation Report</li> <li>End line Survey Report</li> <li>Local policy and programme documents formulated by the LG during the action implementation period.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The success cases of the action's intervention will be replicated by government and other stakeholders to larger geographic areas</li> <li>Strong and high-level commitment from the LG is sustained and LGs are willing to make change</li> <li>The LG will be committed to involve more civil society organizations in the governance process at local level</li> </ul>
		Op. 1.2: People's participation is embedded as a norm in laws, policies and programme making process.	0				0	641	1649		
		Op. 1.3: Proportion of citizens who believe decision making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population	37%				31.9%	51.9%	85%		
Outputs	Output 1.1: Increased knowledge and capacity among citizens and CSOs engage with and hold the LG accountable for improving governance	Oc. 1: Proportion of citizens who are able to recall at least three roles of LG representative	22.4%				26%	50%	99.83%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual progress report</li> <li>Evidence documentation</li> <li>Case Stories</li> <li>Endline survey report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Citizens mainly women, youths, Dalits and representative from ethnic minority are willing to be part of capacity building activities</li> <li>Citizens trust their representative organizations (CSOs) and the idea that they will</li> </ul>
		Oc. 2: Number of activities within the gender sensitive Community Action Plans (CAPs) developed by CSOs that are funded by the LGs	11				23	36	51		
		Oc. 3: Proportion of citizens and their representative organizations	0				45%	60%	75%		

		demonstrating confidence to engage with and hold LG accountable											<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• speak the voice of all the citizens</li> <li>• Citizens and their CSOs are willing to take initiative in developing as well as prioritizing their own plans.</li> </ul>
	<b>Output 1.2: Needs and interests of citizens especially poor and marginalized citizens (women, Dalits and ethnic groups) reflected in LG policies, plans and programme</b>	<p>Oc. 1: Number of plans, policies, strategies/ guidelines formulated by the LGs that are responsive to the needs of women, Dalit and Ethnic groups.</p> <p>Oc. 2: Percentage increase in the number of activities within the plans, programmes, and budget focusing on women, Dalits, and Ethnic minorities.</p> <p>Oc. 3: Number of LG officials and thematic committee members who are capacitated on LGOA and have increased confidence to function effectively</p>	45					12	14			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LG Policies, plans and programme</li> <li>• Annual progress reports</li> <li>• Event Reports</li> <li>• Final Evaluation Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capture of elites and selected political parties during the formulation of plans, policies, strategies and guidelines is minimal</li> <li>• LG official are encouraged and willing to be part of capacity building activities</li> <li>• The members of Thematic committee and sub-committees realize their capacity and need seek support to function effectively</li> </ul>
	<b>Output 1.3: Inclusive and improved service delivery and monitoring mechanism established at LG level</b>	<p>Oc. 1: Proportion of citizens (disaggregated by sex, age, disability population group) who have accessed the public services provided from LG level</p> <p>Oc. 2: Number of social audits and public hearings that are conducted through technical support on process facilitation</p> <p>Oc. 3: % of supported Rural/Municipality having functional e-governance system (digital profile, mobile app based vital registration system, citizen charter and online meeting and file sharing between elected</p>	0				55%	65%	75%			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual progress report</li> <li>• Final evaluation report</li> <li>• LG service Delivery Record Register</li> <li>• Palika Action Plans</li> <li>• Event Report</li> <li>• E-Governance portal of the municipality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Citizen are receptive towards maximum utilization of SMART Palika App, and make maximum use of the same</li> <li>• LG officials are willing to get technical support to strengthen the process of social audit and public hearings</li> <li>• Citizens understand and internalize that making</li> </ul>

		representatives)  Oc. 3: % of grievances lodged in LG Grievance Redressal System that are resolved	0					50%	90%		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>compliant is their rights and therefore should file grievances</li> <li>Less political conflict between and among local CSOs and the LG officials</li> <li>Government policy continue to remain favorable to promote and mobilize CSOs for development interventions.</li> </ul>
	<b>Output 1.4: Increased interactions among LGs and Provincial Government (PG) to support well-coordinated and need based development policies, plan and programme in Sudurpachhim Province.</b>	<p>Oc. 1: Number of good practices replicated/scaled up to non-Action Municipalities in Sudurpachhim Province.</p> <p>Oc. 2: Number of provincial Acts, Policies, Plan and Programme formulated by the PG in consultation with the LGs</p> <p>Oc. 3: Number of issues identified/arose under the shared mandates (during baseline) that were resolved in coordinated manner among LG-PG-FG (by end of Action)</p>	0					2	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>End of project report</li> <li>Final evaluation</li> <li>Replication observation report</li> <li>LG Acts, Policies and plan</li> <li>End of project report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LG, PG and District Coordination Committee (DCC) will embrace the overall role of non-state actors and CSOs and are willing to create conducive environment for their operation and partner with them</li> <li>PG officials and respective Ministries are willing to coordinate with the collaborate with LGs for wider developmental impact at the Provincial Level</li> <li>Federal Government (FG) will be positive towards the initiative of bringing LGs and PGs together in a forum for greater synergy building</li> </ul>



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Activities</b></p>	<p><b>Output 1.1.:</b> Activity 1.1.1: Raise poor and marginalized citizens' awareness on the constitution, and structure and functions of three tier government, in coordination with the LG.</p> <p>Activity 1.1.2: Build knowledge and capacity of CSOs representative poor and marginalized group on advocacy, equitable public services, and local level planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring process.</p> <p>Activity 1.1.3: Build media partnership for raising public awareness and promoting best practices</p> <p><b>Output 1.2:</b> Activity 1.2.1.: Orient LG Authorities to the LG Operation Act (LGOA) and support them to formulate inclusive policy, plans, strategies, frameworks and guidelines.</p> <p>Activity: 1.2.2. Facilitate to develop multi-stakeholder platform to influence integration of prioritized community needs into LG' policies, plan and programme.</p> <p>Activity 1.2.3: Technical inputs for thematic committee/sub-committees at LG level for function effectively</p> <p>Activity 1.2.4: Technical support to LG to develop inclusive plans, policies and programme</p> <p><b>Output 1.3:</b> Activity 1.3.1: Support to LGs to established and strengthen e-governance systems.</p> <p>Activity 1.3.2: Work with LGs to strengthen and sustain existing grievance redressal system for improved governance</p>		
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		<p>Activity 1.3.3: Support LGs to organize regular Social audit and public hearing</p> <p>Activity 1.3.4: Strengthen the existing Public Finance Management (PFM) system at LGs</p> <p>Activity 1.3.5: Support LGs to establish and sustain inclusive M&amp;E System.</p> <p><b>Output 1.4:</b></p> <p>Activity 1.4.1.: Organize knowledge and experience sharing workshops on good governance at the Province level among Action supported and other LGs that provides opportunity for scale up</p> <p>Activity 1.4.2: Support to build common understanding on shared mandates and collaboration among the LGs and PG in the presence of Federal Government</p> <p>Activity 1.4.3: Facilitate interactive workshops engaging PG, LGs, and CSOs for formulating Provincial Acts, policies and programme</p>		
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**2.5. Explain how the Action has mainstreamed cross-cutting issues such as promotion of human rights,<sup>2</sup> gender equality,<sup>3</sup> democracy, good governance, children’s rights and indigenous peoples, environmental sustainability<sup>4</sup> and combating HIV/AIDS (if there is a strong prevalence in the target country/region).<sup>5</sup>**

EDC Nepal is the only such a social organization in Doti district, which following the human rights based approach in its policy and working for social transformation, human rights, social justice and good governance by focusing on the marginalized groups from social, economic, political rights.

The actions of the Pariwartan project successfully completed by this organization with the support of the European Union and other campaign-related actions completed within this not only promote good governance at the local level but also contribute greatly to the organizational, political, economic and social empowerment of the poor, marginalized, Dalits, women, persons with disabilities and children.

In the palikas of Doti where the project is implemented, there are people of different castes, although there is a majority of Brhamin and Kshetri in those areas. Due to the tradition of society, most of the man going to India for work, on the one hand, women had to bear all the responsibilities, on the another hand, there were political changes in the country and new constitutions, laws and government structured. In such a context, it was necessary to empower and mobilize civil society organizations and citizens to ensure their participation and rights in the governance process by making citizens awareness raising of the changing context of the country, the new constitution, laws and government structure. For this reason, 36 civil society organizations organized by Dalit, poor, marginalized, disabled and janjati community citizens were selected under the coordination of the local government.

In those 36 civil society organizations, 97 percent of



Deputy Mayor Ms. Sunita Rawoal, signing as solidarity on 16 days campaign, Shikhar



independently and conduct business.

women, 42 percent of Dalits and 54 percent of other marginalized communities participated and these communities have directly benefited from every actions of the project. As result, not only their participation in planning but also their access to local government resources has increased. Politically, 25 women have succeeded in becoming local representatives, while 159 women are leading various local structures.

82 households have been freed chaughtot. Social and gender discriminations has been reduced such as child marriage, polygamies in the working areas, which has given them the opportunity to raise their voice

<sup>2</sup> Including those of people with disabilities. For more information, see ‘Guidance note on disability and development’ at [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/disability-inclusive-development-cooperation-guidance-note-eu-staff\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/disability-inclusive-development-cooperation-guidance-note-eu-staff_en)

<sup>3</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/toolkit-mainstreaming-gender-equality-ec-development-cooperation\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/toolkit-mainstreaming-gender-equality-ec-development-cooperation_en)

<sup>4</sup> Guidelines for environmental integration are available at: [https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sectors/economic-growth/environment-and-green-economy/climate-change-and-environment\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sectors/economic-growth/environment-and-green-economy/climate-change-and-environment_en)

<sup>5</sup> Please refer to EC Guidelines on gender equality, disabilities, etc.

Furthermore, 987 single women, 91 persons with disabilities and 3075 children have receiving regular allowances from the local government. Apart from this, 621 people have received vital registration and 181 people have received the right of Nepali citizenship.

Therefore, the inclusive participation of marginalized citizens and the social and economic transformation implemented GESI policy by the palikas and the democratic practiced by the civil society organizations and collective actions and campaigns including the development of gender responsive CAPs have greatly contributing to streamlining the issues of crosscutting.

**2.6. How and by whom have the activities been monitored/evaluated? Please summarise the results of the feedback received from the beneficiaries and others.**

In order to measure and update the activities conducted to achieve the objectives set by the project and its achievements, the project team regularly monitored the plans and achievements at various times and continuously implemented the learning and suggestions. Representatives of various stakeholders were mobilized for monitoring in all three palikas and target groups to inform them about the achievements and effectiveness of the project and to get their suggestions and feedback.



Dharma BK from JRM -2, Facilitating community problems on GGS,

At the same time, EDC-Nepal, Municipalities, NGO federation, Journalists, DCC Doti, visiting team of European Union, SWC and

DCA Nepal were monitored at different times, while mid-term evaluation of the project was done once in the work area. The monitoring and evaluation team had been observes the achievements and effectiveness of the project's intervention in the field, as well as the good practices of good governance at the local level, target group. After focused group discussion with civil society organizations and palika's representatives, the following suggestions were given by them.

- From February 18 to 20, 2020, the achievements of the project were monitored in KI Singh, Joroyal Rural Municipality and Shikhar Municipality by the then program manager of DCA, Ms. Malti Maskey. This monitoring helped in the implementation of activities and report writing.
- Vice-President of EDC-Nepal, Vice President of Joroyal Rural Municipality with members ward chairmen of 2, 3, 4 made a joint field visit to Joroyal on September 21 and 22, 2021 to observe and discussed of the good governance school, plans conducted by women and Discussed on effectiveness of the project with representatives of civil society organizations. After this joint monitoring of the achievements of the project in Ward No. 2, 3 and 4 of Joroyal Rural Municipality, the response of the Vice President Ms. Jamuna Bohra has been mentioned as follows.

*"In terms of addressing the rights and needs of the citizens, the Pariwartan project has assisted to the local government to complete its Plan. This project has helped to make the policies and programs of the local government successful. The governance school has played an important role in enhancing the empowerment of citizens and it has also made us responsible for strengthening the cooperation and relationship between the citizens and the government. Citizens of the community where this project has been implemented have become self-employed and self-reliant, women are able to lead and represent any organization and raise questions about their rights. We have felt that there has been a decrease in violence against women and social and gender discrimination. This project helped women, Dalits and marginalized communities as well as women representatives in capacity development, leadership development and mobilization. In addition to this, this project has been helping in the policy formulation, planning, program and implementation of the palika as well as building a smart palika App, promoting the transparency and accountability of the palika. Therefore, we request to the European Union DCA and EDC to continue this project and extend it to other municipal wards, Joroyal Rural Municipality is ready to cooperate at all times for this work."*

- On 31 Aug, 2022, an EU visitors including DCA representative was monitored in Joroyal Rural Municipality. During the monitoring, in Ward No. 2 Melkhola of Joroyal, the visitors discussed with DCA's partner organizations, civil society organizations and field observed the goat rearing and vegetable farming conducted by the target group, and also observed the health building and community building being constructed by the Swasthya Shahara Aama Samuh with the support of the local government. Similarly, they also discussed on the project with vice-president and local representatives and employees of Joroyal Rural Municipality.



- Similarly, on January 22 and 23, 2023, a team including the district coordination committee (DCC), journalists and representatives of the palika visited the Community Child care center, Child development Center, Birthing center, goat rearing, free Wi-Fi and the Women friendly building built by civil society organizations and discussed the achievements of the project with the target groups and local representatives. In the final learning and experience sharing program at the district level of the project, the coordinator of the DCC Mr. Laxman Singh explained the results of the monitoring. He stated that the Pariwartan project has been successful in improving the political, social and economic condition of the target community along with promoting good governance, and emphasized that the local government should continue the achievement of the project.



- During the monitoring in 2023 Jan 21, the team of the Social Welfare Council (SWC) discussed the achievement and effectiveness of the project with the palika's vice-president and the target groups in Joroyal Rural Municipality and field observed the goat sheds, community health center and women's community building built by the civil societies.

## 2.7. What has your organisation or any actor involved in the Action learned from the Action and how has this learning been utilised and disseminated?

In the context of political instability, governance system, government structure and new constitution, policies and laws have been changed, the Pariwartan project has been milestone to governance of the local government, increase the awareness of the citizens and increase their involvement in the governance.

In Nepal, where the transitional political situation and unstable government are being practiced, there is still a need for programs like the pariwartan project to strengthen the governance system of the local government and to make the citizens the fellow travelers of the government. Which the representatives of the local level of Doti have also been expressed in every program of the project. Similarly, the main lessons learned during the project implementation have been mentioned as follows.

- During the implementation of the project, since the representatives of the ward level are generally literate and mostly illiterate, this project would have been more effective if we have focused on developing the capacity of the ward representatives and policy implementation.

- Multi-stakeholder platform has become a very useful forum for discussion and dialogue between citizens and the government. It helps the government to collect the feedback and suggestions of the citizens towards the government and helps to improve the governance process and inclusive service delivery.
- CAP has proven to be the most useful means to address the demands and needs of the target community, to institutionalize the participatory planning process and to increase citizens' access to government resources. This has been followed not only by EDC but also by other civil society organizations in Doti. In addition, third party support is a means of support for the economic empowerment of women, poor and marginalized communities, so this type of support is also necessary.
- Good governance school is not only for civic education but also useful means for women's leadership development and social transformation. Which not only produced female leaders but also contributed to the transformation of society.
- With the aim of increasing citizens' access to information and services by developing applications including e-governance system in the palikas, e-governance system were developed and handed over to the Palikas with the technical support of the vendor-CellApp Company which is mentioned in the project document. But if the responsibility of vendor selection was given to partner organizations in the preamble itself, this task would have been completed within the stipulated time and its practice would have been done by the palikas.
- Any project is for a fixed period, but the scope and duration of those projects are extended according to the effectiveness and need of the project. Regarding this project, the palikas and especially the civil society organizations of the working area were sure that its duration and working area would be extended and expected more support. However, in the mid-term evaluation of the monitoring and evaluation conducted at different times, EU's visit and SWC also suggested that the project was effective and needed more support, but the project period could not be extended or a new project could be implemented. Which has confirmed the statement of the government stakeholders that the project will be completed for some time. It does not matter much to the government, but with the help of the project, it has greatly affected the communities who have learned to claim rights, facilitate livelihood and lead the society and are deprived of resources and services. Therefore, even though there is no same project, it is necessary to exploration for alternative projects to institutionalize and expand the achievements of the community.

**2.8.** Please list all materials (and number of copies) produced during the Action on whatever format (please enclose a copy of each item, except if you have already done so in the past).

*Please state how the items produced are being distributed and to whom.*

**2.9.** Please list all contracts (works, supplies, services) above € 60000 awarded for the implementation of the Action since the last interim report if any or during the reporting period, giving for each contract the amount, the name of the contractor and a brief description on how the contractor was selected.

### **3. Beneficiaries/affiliated entities and other Cooperation**

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**3.1.** How do you assess the relationship between the beneficiaries/affiliated entities of this grant contract (i.e. those having signed the mandate for the Coordinator or an affiliated entity statement)? Please provide specific information for each beneficiary/affiliated entity.

We implemented the project in Doti in coordination and facilitation with DCA by partnership with the European Union. In coordination with the three palikas of Doti, EDC selected four wards of each palika and started the project activities. In the first phase, a kick-off program of the project was held in the three palikas and district. Along with the district level kick-off program, a tripartite agreement had been signed between the CellApp company, EDC and the palikas for the develop e-system. Which created an environment for the new representatives to cooperate positively with this project. After that, with the coordination and support of the wards, local civil society organizations were identified and 3 civil society organizations were selected in each ward with a majority of women, Dalits, janjati and marginalized. After the selection of the civil society organization affiliated to the palikas, a Good governance school was formed so that at least 60 percent of the marginalized community have participate from these civil society organizations, in which 99 percent women have been participated.



A close relationship with the palikas was developed due to continuous meetings, visiting and discussions and multi-stakeholder platform meetings, trainings, seminars, and the contribution made by the organization in the promotion of good governance. It had also created an environment for addressing the demands of the community and cooperating in planning. Due to good relationship with LGs, palikas had been convinced to do recourses sharing in the Household survey for e-system development, CSO's CAPs, third party support and Free-Wi-Fi installed.

The representatives of the palikas, who understood the project well and seen the positive results of the project in the community that's why they have given appreciation letter to EDC, DCA and the European Union along with awarded also the project team by a token of love with Dosalla in the final meeting of the project.



DCA and the European Union along with awarded also the project team by a token of love with Dosalla in the final meeting of the project.

In this way, the wards provided great support in running the governance school. In order to operate the Good Governance School continuously and systematically, they formed and mobilized the Good Governance School Management Committee under the coordination of women ward members. At various times, they were helped by monitoring the governance school and facilitating it as per the need. Civil society organizations and good governance schools: 36 civil society organizations helped to ensure the participation of their members in the without dispute good governance schools. Using GGS as a school, they were able to share their experiences and acquire knowledge. The relationship between the team and the community became like a family relationship due to the project team's mobilization, facilitation and support that led them to various tasks.



Likewise, Radio magazine, jingles and talk-shows were conducted in agreement with Doti's Radio Tribeni FM to increase the awareness of the citizens by mobilizing the media and making the local government accountable. Radio Tribeni honored EDC-Nepal as an excellent organization in its annual general meeting due to the important contribution of the Pariwartan

project in increasing citizen's awareness and participation in local governance and promoting accountability and transparency in administration.

**3.2. Is the above agreement between the signatories to the grant contract to continue? If so, how? If not, why?**

Palikas have promised to implement the above agreement such as the e-governance system agreement, the agreement in the third party cooperation schemes and other agreements between the EDC, civil society organizations because of the palika with the common understanding of the local government and officials.

Child Development Center Health Center, Birthing Center built by civil society organizations with third party support will start from this financial year, while Community child Care Center is already being operated by the Ki Singh RM itself. Likewise, Shikhar Municipality is also operating a community information center (CIC). For the implementation of the agreements with the palikas, civil society organizations themselves have the ability to create pressure and implement them. Therefore, it is believed that the agreements with the palika will continue in future.



Birthing center handover to Palika president by CSO. Ki Sing.

**3.3. How would you assess the relationship between your organisation and State authorities in the Action countries? How has this relationship affected the Action?**

**3.4. Where applicable, describe your relationship with any other organisations involved in implementing the Action:**

• **Associate(s) (if any):**

To implement the actions of this project, we had coordinated and cooperated with Radio FM and journalists, local CBOs, schools, LG's child and women section, networks and other local agencies. In particular, we have collaborated with them to celebrate campaigns, days, and participate in competitions. Similarly, skilled persons of CSOs involved in the pariwartan project were also mobilized for various actions, which not only completed the actions of the plan, but also improved the relationship between the related organizations and this organization.

• Contractor(s) (if any)

• **Final beneficiaries and target groups:**

Since the target group of the EDC-Nepal is the deprived community, all its programs are targeted at that group. In this process, the change project was also conducted especially targeting women, Dalit tribes and marginalized communities. As every program of EDC is targeted for their socio-economic and political empowerment, the pariwartan project also gives them the opportunity to engage in the current political situation and governance process as well as the opportunity for social and economic empowerment. It is found that they believed and support EDC more than local government.

• **Other third parties involved (including other donors, other government agencies or local government units, NGOs, etc.)**



Although 25 to 30 organizations in the working area showed interest in getting 6 third party support under the pariwartan project, 6 civil society organizations were successful in getting third party support.

In order to implement the selected third party support plans, village councils, local government bodies such as live-stock, planning sections, public representatives, technical and civil society organization volunteers and communities had an important role. This gave civil society organizations the opportunity to learn about the government process of implementing the plan as well as the role of the local government and develop relationships. With the third party support, the rural municipality cooperated with the civil society organizations by providing approximately 20 lakhs NPR grant support, land for the building and technical support.

**3.5. Where applicable, outline any links and synergies you have developed with other actions.**

1. Mothers enrolling in schools with their children in Joraya  
<https://epaper.gorkhapatraonline.com/pdf?file=/uploads/file/2023/1/rising-nepal/2023-01-30-12-08-18-trn-pdf-16.pdf>
2. <https://najaranonline.com/3702/>
3. [https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=4737243419695190&id=100002287357144](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=4737243419695190&id=100002287357144)
4. <https://najaranonline.com/665/>
5. <https://tribenineews.com/archives/196>
6. <https://tribenineews.com/archives/115>
7. [https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=142728645009621&id=100078174576953](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=142728645009621&id=100078174576953)

**3.6. If your organisation has received previous EU grants in view of strengthening the same target group, in how far has this Action been able to build upon/complement the previous one(s)? (List all previous relevant EU grants). N/A**

**3.7. How do you evaluate cooperation with the services of the Contracting Authority? ठेक्का**

**4. Visibility**

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How is the visibility of the EU contribution being ensured in the Action?

**The European Commission may wish to publicise the results of Actions. Do you have any objection to this report being published on the EuropeAid website? If so, please state your objections here.**

**5. Location of records, accounting and supporting documents**

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Please indicate in a table the location of records, accounting and supporting documents for each Beneficiary and affiliated entity entitled to incur costs.

Name of the contact person for the Action: .....

Signature: .....Location: .....

Date report due: .....Date report sent: .....