

PROJECT OVERVIEW



SAMBODHAN

ADDRESSING SOCIO-ECONOMIC
VULNERABILITIES THROUGH TEMPORARY
BASIC INCOME IN NEPAL



2022-2026

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BACKGROUND

The economic disruptions brought about by COVID -19 are projected to continue for a prolonged period. After months of pandemic induced lockdown, these projections are alarming for the most vulnerable segments of the population in Nepal for whom the severity of the socio-economic vulnerability continues to exacerbate daily. The crisis continues to choke the livelihoods of informal workers, particularly women and daily wage workers, internal migrants and seasonal migrants to India, who are excluded from any social protection measures, exacerbating social and economic inequalities. While the current crisis has exacerbated pre-existing socio-economic challenges for the country at large- the pre-existing conditions of inequality, poverty, informality, vulnerability is the most severe for women. Women, half of the country's population, continue to struggle across all socio-economic groups. And various statistics indicate that women across Nepal have been disproportionately and severely impacted by the crisis.

Considering this evolving and deepening crisis, the provision of temporary basic income (TBI) in the form of emergency cash transfer to these women was explored as an international best practice and was piloted in few local government units of Nepal through an initiation plan from January 2021- July 2022. Based on the lessons learned from the initiation plan and as guided by the impact study, the initiation plan was transformed to multiyear project document- SAMBODHAN that will be initially implemented from August 2022-July 2026 for period of 5 years.

OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this project is to support local government in addressing socio-economic vulnerabilities of vulnerable women from marginalized and excluded communities through provision of Temporary Basic Income in Nepal and allow them to be able to meet survival needs. Along, the provision of TBI, the project works closely with local governments in linking the vulnerable women to sustainable livelihood, income generation and bringing them in access to social protection.

TARGET GROUPS AND BENEFICIARIES

The project plans are mainly targeted to the most vulnerable women from marginalized and excluded communities. The project identifies the beneficiaries through a rigorous and scientific approach by conducting socio-economic vulnerability assessment in project locations. For an assessment, project partners with academic institution- University to conduct a neutral, academic and research-based study. Through the scoring method of each beneficiary under each indicator, ranking is done and those who scored highest from top-bottom are considered as project beneficiaries.

PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS

The project collaborates and partners with government, financial institutions, universities, Non-Government Organizations, Private Sectors and community-based organizations.

DELIVERABLES

The project mainly delivers the unconditional cash "Sambriddhi Nagad" as means to allow project beneficiaries gain freedom, dignity, and confidence to meet their survival needs to progress from vulnerability to prosperity. This happens by opening the Sambriddhi Bachat Khata (a dedicated bank account for vulnerable people) of the project beneficiaries and thus bringing the unbanked people as shareholder of local economy. Besides, the beneficiaries are sensitized on financial literacy to educate them on savings, expenses, investment, and risks of their income. The project also supports local government's capacity to identify vulnerable people, respond by bringing them to access to public services and deliver to bring under radius of social protection through digital tool called "Socio-Economic Vulnerability Information Management System (SEVIMS)". One of the important components of project is the linkages of beneficiaries to sustainable income generation opportunities through local government programme and enroll them in social health insurance packages. The project also works with academic institutions to build knowledge management and develop evidence on approach of addressing socio-economic vulnerability.

PROJECT LOCATIONS

