



Annual Report 2020

Nepal



20/06/16

समस्त अनुभव
ए प्रयागी के फल नम
एदि निर्दिष्ट कार्य का अंश है।
नमः शान्ति के लक्ष्ये
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FOREWORD

A year of crisis unlike any in living memory was also a year during which UNDP was able to support the Government and people of Nepal as they coped with, and responded to, the needs of the unsettling hour.

2020 witnessed an unprecedented global crisis and that affected and shaped a significant part of our work at UNDP in Nepal. COVID-19 hit the country in January and it went on to take a huge toll on the country. It disrupted the economy and the lives and livelihoods of tens of thousands of people: daily wage earners, those working in tourism, migrant workers, entrepreneurs, women, elderly, the disabled and others. Like many other countries, Nepal was unprepared for such a crisis. Health systems were overstretched, and existing social safety nets proved insufficiently robust. From agriculture to hydropower, and education to industry, 2020 was by any measure a tough year. Tourist arrivals dropped by over 80 percent. So deep was the impact and so damaging that GDP fell to a mere 0.6 percent from 7 percent the previous year. UNDP's rapid socio-economic assessment revealed that three out of every five jobs in micro and small businesses were lost.

Despite all the challenges, and with the generous support of our longstanding partners, UNDP and the Government of Nepal were still able to join hands to help some of the hardest-hit people cope with the crisis. And as the pandemic's collateral damage became increasingly apparent, UNDP was quick to respond with a comprehensive recovery programme that focused on supporting the most vulnerable

people as they sought to recover their livelihoods.

In response to government requests, we reoriented a significant part of our available resources to COVID-19 health response and socio-economic recovery. That, among other things, led to establishment of over 12,000 green businesses and direct livelihood support to over 154,000 of the most-affected people across the country. And UNDP programmes that worked with cooperatives and farmers supported another 19,000 farmers with tools and technology support.

UNDP continued to help build strong institutions at federal, provincial and local levels through the flagship Provincial and Local Government Support Programme. Building the capacities of local and provincial governments, those on the frontline of the battle against COVID-19, was critical. We provided vital videoconferencing solutions in a context where professional discourse had become an unprecedented challenge. That alone helped to lubricate the wheels of governance at a time when effective, timely communication was essential yet threatened to mutate into posterity. It helped ensure that 753 local governments, seven provincial governments and parliaments and numerous other key institutions were able to continue their work. At least 16 laws and

regulations and procedures related to crucial institutions responsible for the smooth running of provincial and local government were drafted under this programme. The laws, once endorsed, are intended to help implement the process of federalism and realize the visions of the Constitution.

These efforts were carefully designed as part of our longer-term crisis response, through which UNDP focused on helping decision-makers look beyond recovery, towards 2030, by supporting them in making choices and managing complexity and uncertainty in governance, social protection, digital transformation, and green recovery.

Importantly, the green recovery and resilience agenda is a key policy concern for governments the world over. For Nepal, which stands on the cusp of graduation from LDC status, the message from COVID-19 was loud and clear: shock resilience should be built into the development model to ensure that graduation is irreversible. To that end, in 2020 we worked in 16 municipalities and all seven provinces to help local governments understand and manage disaster risks and vulnerabilities. We supported them in designing and delivering policy and action plans to reduce the risks of disaster, increasing resources for disaster and climate risk mitigation and response, and in piloting risk insurance schemes.

For all its shackles and predicaments, 2020 offered UNDP an unexpected opportunity to innovate and explore new areas for support, particularly in health systems. Crucial health supplies, including PCR machines, RNA extractors, and ventilators, were provided to provincial laboratories and hospitals. Through our Accelerator Lab, we partnered with local youth groups and innovators to explore and adopt innovative solutions to urban waste management, COVID-19-related information management, unemployment and sustainable urban mobility. In all these initiatives, our efforts sought to ensure that they ultimately promote gender equality and social inclusion, key aspects that cut across all our programmes.

This annual report captures some of these results achieved in 2020, along with illustrative stories from those that benefited. The results would not have been possible without the support of the federal and sub-national governments, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Parliament, law enforcement agencies, constitutional bodies such as Election Commission, National Human Rights Commission, Office of the Attorney General, the private sector, media and CSOs and that of our international development partners, the UN Agencies and the UN Resident Coordinator, to each of whom we extend our appreciation and heartfelt gratitude.

As we review our efforts during this most extraordinary year, we also look to 2021

with much determination and not a little optimism. A great deal remains to be done as we move forward in the face of ever more complex challenges. These include effective management of the COVID-19 pandemic, stepping in to shield all of us from the virus and to recover from it, and hold our course in the effort to save lives, boost the capacities of provincial and local governments in service provision, and initiatives that seek to reduce disaster risks and build resilience in for instance, catalytic support in managing vulnerable watersheds and promoting people's access to affordable energy. A major focus will remain on promoting inclusive economic growth and addressing unemployment by nurturing sustainable tourism and a green recovery, including through partnership with provincial governments, international financial institutions and the private sector.

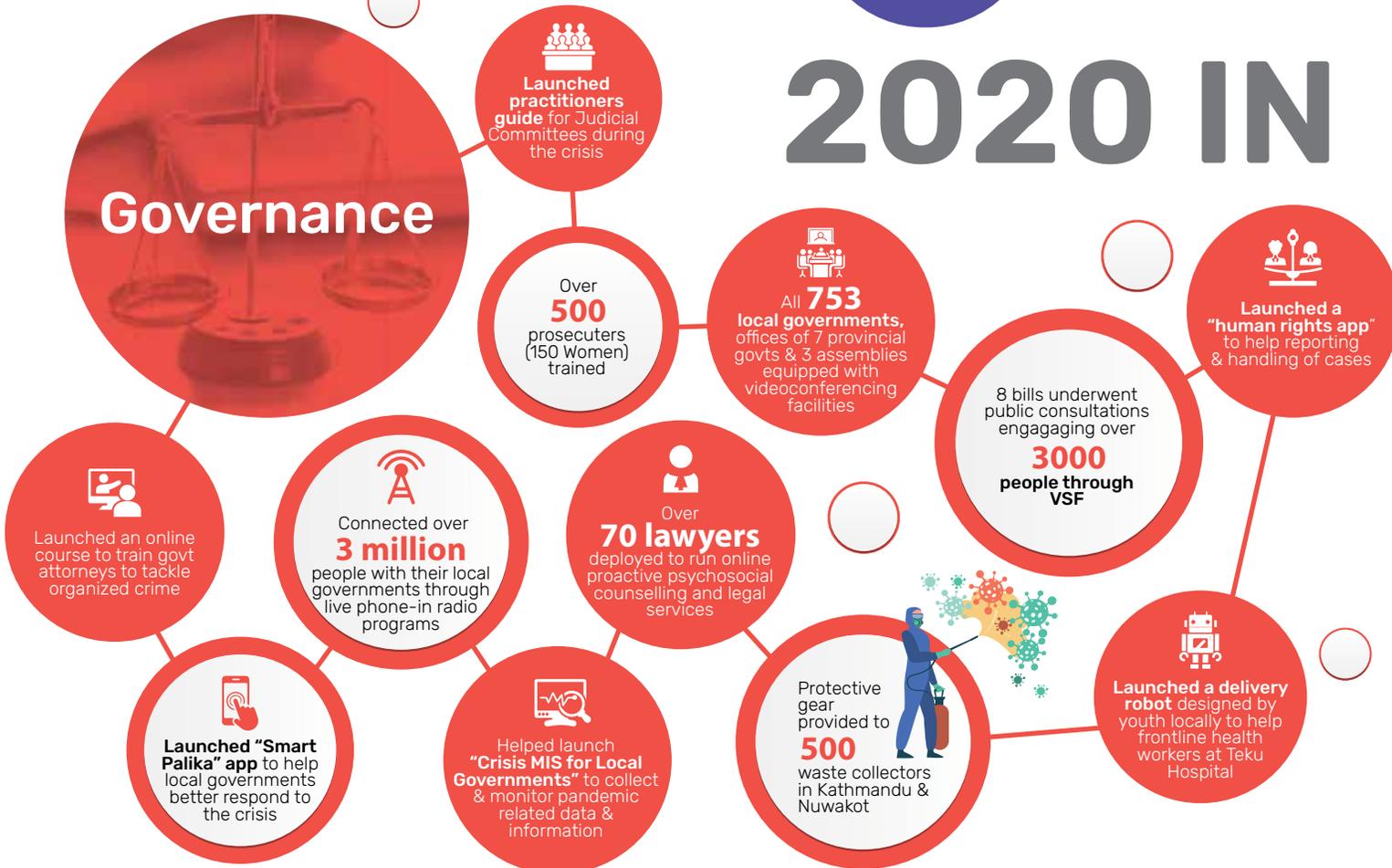
The pandemic serves to invigorate UNDP's resolve to continue supporting the people and the Government of Nepal in their realization of the vision of Prosperous Nepal, Happy Nepali. It is our fervent hope and belief that together we can and will ride out the storm and create a better, more prosperous, more just and more sustainable society.

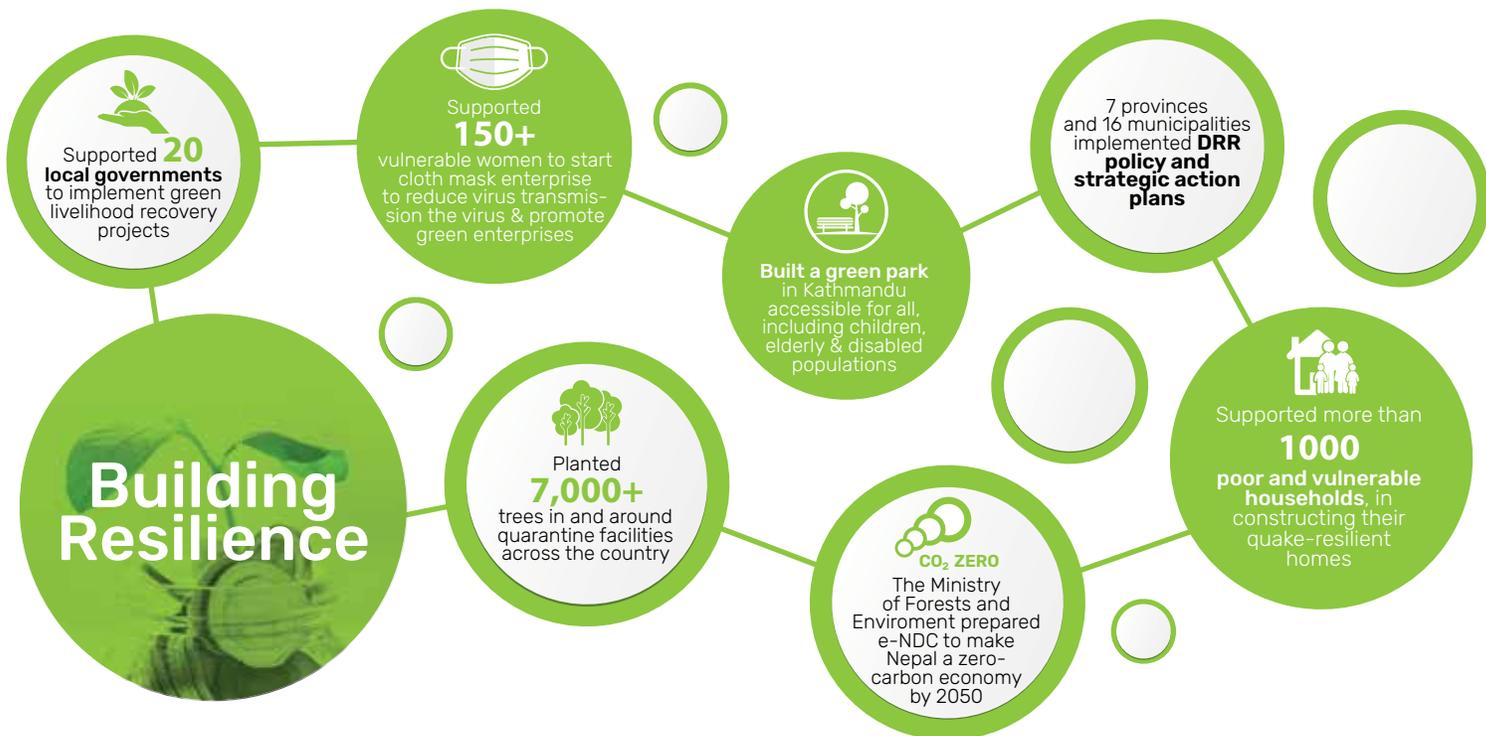


AYSHANIE MEDAGANGODA-LABÉ
UNDP Resident Representative

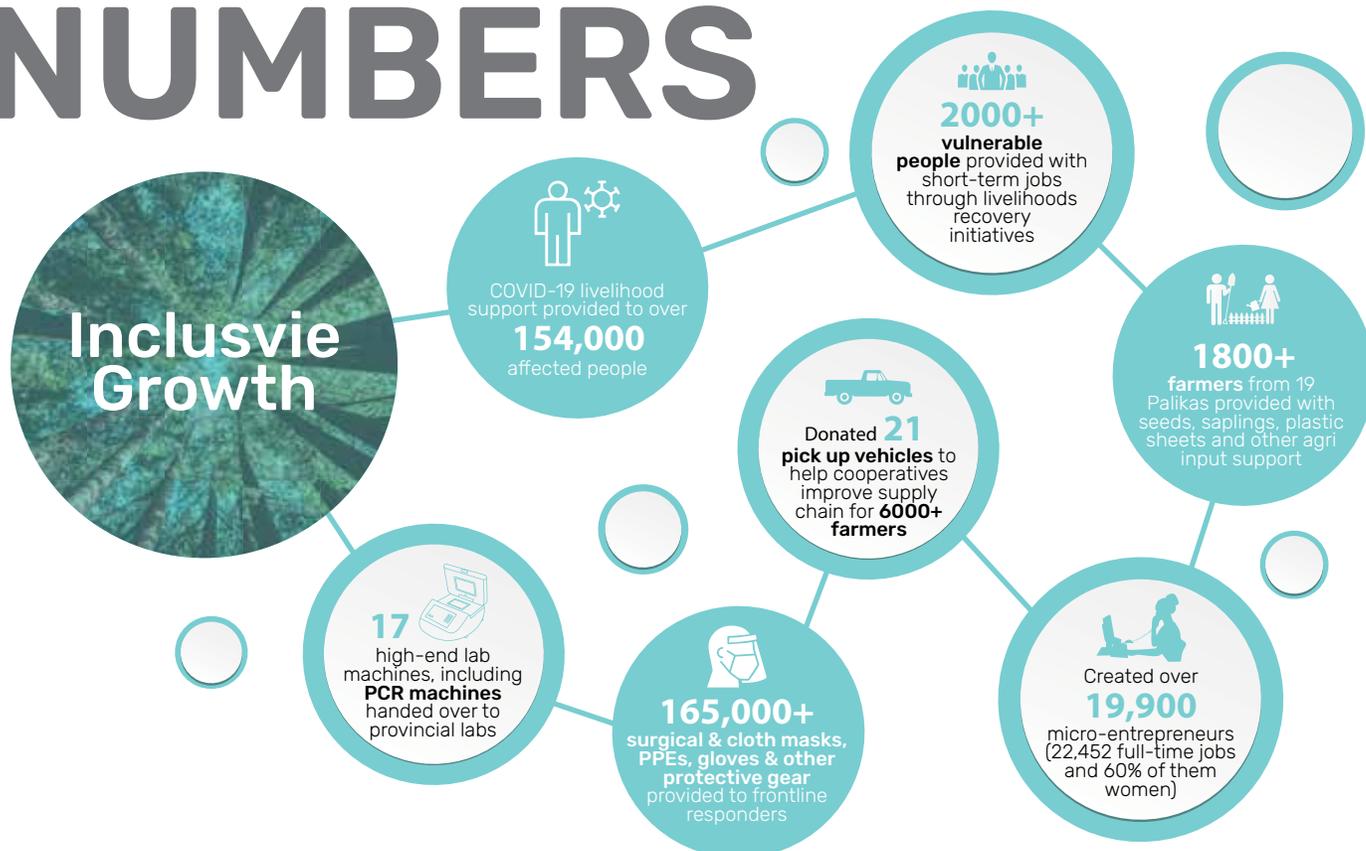


2020 IN





NUMBERS





Promoting Inclusive
Economic Growth



Nearly 17 percent of Nepal's people still live below the poverty line today, according to the SDG Progress Report Nepal, 2020. Most are from historically marginalized groups and are largely concentrated in Province 2, Karnali and Sudurpashim. It is feared that COVID-19 along with flooding, drought and other shocks may have pushed a significant number of people who had managed to climb out of poverty back into poverty. A range of other factors – where they live, their ethnicity, gender, lack of opportunities, and more – may, of course, also play a role in that.

UNDP's efforts to eradicate poverty and promote economic growth in Nepal seek to address the relationships that link those factors and to ensure that the vulnerable are the priority beneficiaries and no one is left behind.

In 2020, UNDP supported the Government to improve economically vulnerable people's access to sustainable livelihoods and income opportunities. The central focus of our intervention was to ensure that the economic growth that Nepal aims to achieve translates into improved lives and the availability of better choices for all its citizens.

With 2020 dominated by the COVID-19 crisis, UNDP prioritized helping Nepal's socio-economic recovery efforts, starting from an initial rapid assessment of the socio-economic

impact of the pandemic. The assessment helped to inform recovery programmes in the 2020/21 national budget. The Government introduced schemes to generate employment for poor and disadvantaged people and, with UNDP's technical support, it expanded the Micro Enterprise Development for Poverty Alleviation (MEDPA) programme in all 753 local governments with major budgetary support (\$19 million) from the national treasury, almost double that of the previous year. UNDP helped to create another 19,911 micro-entrepreneurs, 60 percent of them women.



This is not just about independence or income; it's a special art. I feel proud to be able to make dhaka clothes. I want to continue this work and my education simultaneously. Thanks to UNDP, Kamalamai Municipality and the district MEGA for the entrepreneurship training.

- Beenu Basnet

Creating jobs & livelihood opportunities



Reconstructed **317 community infrastructures** such as agro products collection centres, cooling chambers, drinking water schemes, community buildings, irrigation system and rural roads benefiting over

211,808
people



Provided short-term employment to over

13,500

women and men through community infrastructure development initiatives



More than

107,900

people received **livelihood support** such as skill-based training, enterprise development, improved technologies, tools and agri input, to help them generate stable incomes

Helped

7,400

unemployed people **become micro entrepreneurs** through skills and entrepreneurship development trainings.



A total of

37 Palikas

received the Farmer Relief Fund with a value of **NRs. 100,000 to 190,000** for their immediate distribution of winter vegetable seed and farm equipment like garden pipes, sprayers, vegetable clippers, and crate. UNDP supported 37 palikas for the preparation of Agricultural Plan.

Initiated "**agri ambulances**" – special trucks permitted to transport perishable agro products from farm to market during the lockdown – to rescue farmers' products that would have otherwise gone to waste during the lockdown.

19,331 farmers (9,931 women) gained enhanced access to markets with support for collection centres, mobile market and transportation facilities which also included 28 pick trucks. The farmers sold 8,590 tons of fruits and vegetables worth

\$1,655,290

Another 2,200 farmers (61% women) benefited from support in agriculture productivity-enhancing inputs and harvest management.

Fostered a **unique model of partnership** that saw strong ownership and participation of local government and communities, with municipalities contributing 26% of the cost, local communities 9%, third party donors 14% and UNDP 51% to implement over 390 schemes in 27 municipalities.

Built and brought to operation the Chabahil Satellite Cooperative Market benefiting

16,900

farmers from villages adjoining the Kathmandu Valley



Municipalities **26%**

Local Community **9%**

Third party donors **14%**

UNDP **51%**



Young women entrepreneurs supported by UNDP's COVID recovery initiative are creating jobs for women in Sindhupalchowk.

Assisted GoN in preparation and launching of **Nepal Human Development Report 2020**, National Review of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), SDGs Progress Assessment Report 2016-2019 and SDGs Localization Source Book and Financing Requirement Framework (Policy Costing) of the 15th Plan.



Supported an innovative Skills Mapping survey in Sudurpaschim Province, which showed a **demand for**

51,542

skilled human resources forecasted in various economic and service sectors/occupation in the province in the next three years.

Enabling policy environment

Supported the government in an **assessment of Socio-Economic impacts of COVID-19 in Nepal**.

Supported the government in developing a blended finance roadmap, in line with government ambitions to **increase mobilization of diverse development finance sources**. The roadmap provides concrete recommendations to create an enabling environment for private sector engagement in Nepal and to build government capacity to scale up the use of this financing modality.

Health system support

Complementing the work of specialized agencies to bolster health systems management and capacity, UNDP supported local governments to strengthen their health systems through assessment of quarantine centres and logistics support, crisis communications training and technology support and procurement of much-needed medical supplies, including PCR testing machines, ventilators and protective gear, at the request of the province and local governments. UNDP received a huge list of requests for support for medical supplies, such as masks and other protective gear and has been able to respond to some of them.

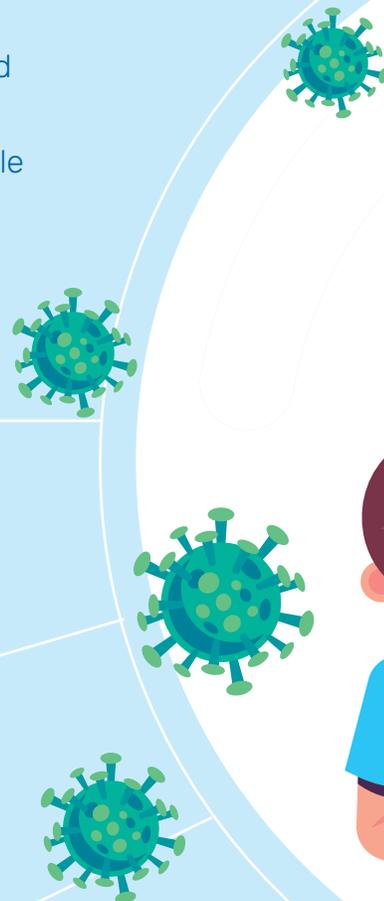
17 high-end lab machines, including PCR machine, RNA extractor, ventilator and robots handed over to provincial labs, which helped increase the testing and treatment capacity of national health facilities.



Supported the Government with **logistics for quarantine facilities**, including through 200 tents, 100 bed set items, 500 mosquito nets, 30,000 water bottles & 20 water tanks.



Protective gear provided to 601 waste collectors, including informal workers and individuals from local governments and cooperatives (such as masks, gloves, sanitizers).





Over 165,000 surgical & cloth masks, PPEs, gloves & other protective gear to health workers, journalists and other frontline responders across the country.



1,000+ migrant returnees (women, children & elderly) **transported to holding centres** from border checkpoints.



Launched **food and medicines delivering robots** designed by youth locally to help frontline health workers at Teku Hospital, Butwal Dhagokarkhana COVID-19 special hospital and KIST hospital.



Over 14,000 units of WASH items and medical supplies distributed.



35 hand washing stations installed.



FEATURES

SUKMAYA'S DAIRY

Sindhuli district has seen a steady fall in the number of women entrepreneurs in recent years. Most had been running small and micro-enterprises and drove economic progress locally. Covid-19 put the brakes on that. UNDP's rapid assessment of the pandemic's socioeconomic impact revealed that three out of every five employees have lost their jobs because of Covid-19. Many business shut down completely.

The challenge was immediate and substantial. UNDP partnered with more than 30 municipalities to bring emergency employment, technology support and skills training to over 10,000 affected communities across the country. That created hundreds of enterprises and with them came some green shoots of recovery.

Trishakti Dugdha Udhog Dairy led by Sukumana Tamang was one of those enterprises. Supported by UNDP and Dudhauri municipality, the dairy has given employment opportunities to more than 65 farming households – full-time jobs for local men and women.

"I feel particularly glad that we have been able to offer jobs to two persons who had recently returned from foreign employment and want to do something in their own country," said Tamang.

The cooperative-run dairy turns over Rs700,000 per month and makes a decent profit. Tamang wants more people to get involved in the dairy industry by encouraging local farmers to buy more cows and buffaloes.

"This is just the beginning," she said. "Our dairy has the capacity for up to 10,000 litres of milk every day."

The mayor of Dudhauri municipality, Ghanashyam Raut, is impressed with Tamang's efforts.

"Having supported this enterprise, we'll soon be launching a programme to distribute cows worth Rs. 6 million to farmers. We want to encourage more farmers to adopt livestock farming," said Raut.



Fostering Democratic
Governance



Promoting democratic governance – one of the keys to development – is a major priority area for the Government of Nepal and UNDP. UNDP believes that people's lives are better when all institutions of the government function efficiently and are responsive. As Nepal's federal system gains momentum, the national priority has been in building the capacity of its democratic institutions at all levels to make them more efficient, inclusive, participatory and transparent so that people have greater trust in their government. UNDP is walking alongside the government in this journey, providing policy-level strategic support for key institutions and direct implementation of the programmes in the field.

UNDP's governance support spans a wide range of institutions, from the federal and provincial parliaments, National Planning Commission and the Elections Commission through provincial and local governments, to universities, think tanks and civil society organizations across the country.

Notably, the impact of all of these governance programmes spreads across all the SDGs, whether it's climate action through parliament support or poverty eradication and inclusion through livelihood support.

In 2020, UNDP focused much of its resources on helping Nepal handle COVID-19, while continuing its support for federalism, capacity building of national and subnational governments, strengthening electoral institutions, and enhancing service delivery and rule of law, particularly for the most vulnerable people. Encouraging results were

recorded in helping institutions to prepare for, respond to and recover from COVID-19. UNDP's COVID-19 Response Strategy rolled out immediately after the pandemic hit the country in March 2020. It included a range of successful interventions, from helping key government institutions in their business continuity during the pandemic, through online training courses, guidelines and software development, to supporting human rights situation monitoring through a countrywide network of CSOs and providing free legal aid to vulnerable populations.



This was my first experience and I realized that videoconferencing facility can, in fact, be used by the government for multiple works. This technology is very helpful to connect to the districts and get updates instantly.

- Trilochan Bhatta,
Chief Minister,
Sudurpaschim Province



UNDP supported legal aid committees, which provide preventative and remedial legal aid to over

10,000

people, mostly women and vulnerable people.

All **753**

local governments and offices of provincial governments and assemblies were equipped with videoconferencing facilities immediately after the COVID-19 lockdown started, which helped government offices to function smoothly.

200+

local government representatives and others were trained in leadership skills in risk, emergency and crisis communications.

500+

government prosecutors (150 women) enhanced their capacity and skills in handling cases and investigations. With UNDP's support, the Office of the Attorney-General organized special training for government attorneys.



UNDP developed SOPs and a practitioner's guide to help judicial committees work effectively even during the pandemic and increase access for women and vulnerable people to legal services. Over **120 judicial committee members** (91 women) from 26 municipalities were supported in this way.



Improved access to justice and human rights





UNDP launched **'Crisis MIS'** and **'SmartPalika'** apps for local governments to collect and monitor pandemic-related data and information.



UNDP helped to develop **an integrated online reporting system**, along with a mobile phone-based app for legal aid lawyers to improve their work efficiency during the crisis.



UNDP developed SPOs and a practitioner's guide to help judicial committees work effectively even during the pandemic and increase women and vulnerable people's access to legal services.

Over 120 judicial committee members (91 women) from 26 municipalities were supported in this way.

3 million +

people were reached through radio phone-in programmes, which connected the public with their local government representatives to discuss socio-economic issues. Over 20 public service announcements on free legal aid, mental health issues and more were developed and broadcast.

COVID-19

UNDP helped the National Federation of the Disabled to **conduct a rapid assessment of the impact of COVID-19 and lockdown** on persons with disabilities. The findings helped to guide the COVID-19 response, notably for the needs of persons with disabilities.



5
GENDER
EQUALITY



UNDP in partnership with UN agencies – and particularly with UN Women established a 22-bed, women only isolation centre that provides transit and holding space for women, children and their caretakers with asymptomatic COVID-19.



The virtual training on specialized service related laws built our capacity on service related laws, law and human rights including criminal codes and make us technology friendly. Thanks to UNDP and Office of Attorney General (OAG) for this initiation regarding online training during pandemic situation.

- Sur Bahadur Pariyar,
Assistant Government Attorney Dhangadi

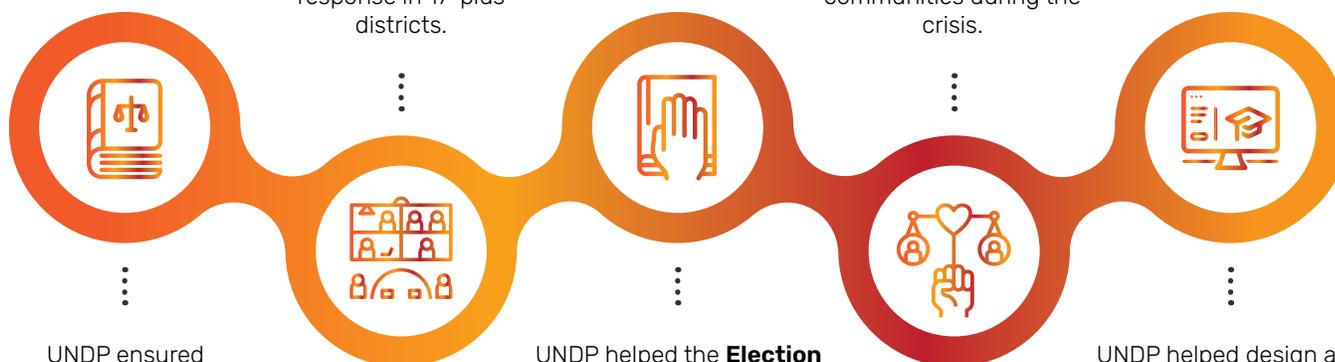


The training on Strategic Plan Formulation, Monitoring and Evaluation gave us hands-on skills in strategic plan formulation and contouring roadmap for NHRC which has helped me to engage in planning process and contribute to draft the strategic plan capturing the voices of the public and beneficiaries to address the human rights needs.

- Manju Khatiwada,
Under Secretary, NHRC

Video conferencing facilities helped provincial parliaments to carry out oversight of COVID-19 and flood response in 17-plus districts.

UNDP assessed **due diligence of business and human rights** in the private sector, and compliance of business communities during the crisis.



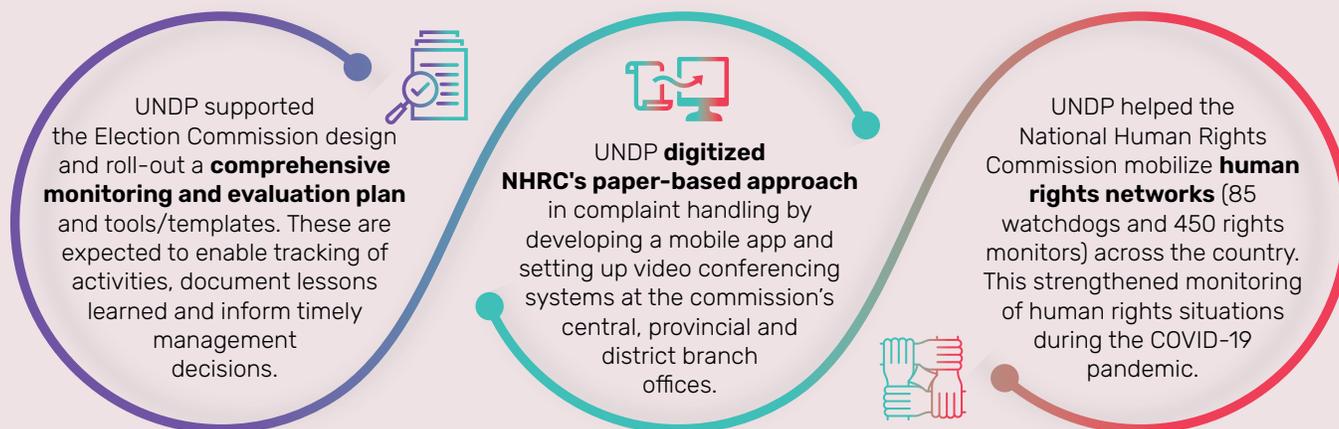
UNDP ensured business continuity of seven provincial parliaments by providing video conferencing facilities that helped provincial parliaments to get the **views of 3,000 people on eight draft bills.**

UNDP helped the **Election Commission to draft three key policies:** Gender and Inclusion Policy, Human Resource Policy, Social Media Policy and a Partnership Strategy. Supported by the Electoral Support Project, these policies aim to further strengthen partnerships with stakeholders and strengthen organizational structures and public outreach and engagement.

UNDP helped design and launch an online course, **Nirwachan Sikchha** (electoral education), through a smartphone application, which provides an interactive platform for secondary school students, teachers, and others to test their knowledge of electoral education.



A series of orientations and mentoring sessions was held on themes such as the multidimensional poverty index, SDGs and their relevance in the context of Nepal federal structure. This helped 365 MPs (51 percent women) to enhance their capacity on effective representation, lawmaking and oversight.



Strong institutions

YUWA in Action

UNDP's Election Support Project conducted a youth webinar series, 'YUWA in Action', in which **youth volunteers conducted virtual and socially-distanced surveys**. Through this, we were able to reach 2,762 people across the country and get a better idea of the impact of COVID-19 on the most marginalized communities. That, in turn, helped policymakers and planners to take action that effectively addressed the identified issues.

Improved Prisons

With UNDP support, the Office of the Attorney General monitored 31 prisons, seven detention centres and seven Juvenile Correction Homes in 33 districts during the pandemic. The monitoring helped in designing and then **adopting a decongestion strategy** for prisons and detention centres.

Federal Process

200 journalists (90 women) improved their **understanding of federal processes and procedures**, parliamentary affairs and relationships with the media.

Mental Health

UNDP conducted psychosocial counselling and mental health training for a total of 181 conflict-affected people (110 women) in seven provinces. Expert support was given to these people to help them prepare an alternative report on UPR.

Fortified provinces and local governments



As a result of UNDP's expert services, MoFAGA **developed a comprehensive planning, monitoring, and oversight system** to be adopted by provincial and local governments.



At least **326 members of Province Assemblies** (165 women) were given orientation in the law-drafting process. UNDP's technical support resulted in development of an online course in the law-making process. The course will be adopted by the Justice Sector Training Centre under MOLJPA.

Supported the **review of 14 laws**, such as those related to GBV, rape and disaster management. The reviews assessed gaps and challenges in the effective implementation of laws.

Helped MoFAGA **revise LISA guidelines for local governments** and Capacity Development Management Information System for the Provincial Centre for Good Governance.





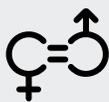
Provided expert services to the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MOFAGA) in **drafting 16 laws, regulations and procedures related to the Provincial Centre for Good Governance (PCGG)**, standards of organizational structures and the positions of employees, and rules to manage the Local Development Regional Training Centre. The endorsement of these draft laws will contribute to the implementation of federalism and the Constitution.



Prepared a **Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) guideline**, including Gender-Responsive Budgeting, for local governments. It also orientated 120 participants from 50 rural/municipalities in planning, monitoring and reporting.

Prepared **monitoring and evaluation guidelines** for District Coordination Committees.

Supported the **development and adoption of a Capacity Development Strategy** for local governments. The strategy aims to improve local government performance in delivering statutory services.



With UNDP help, MoFAGA developed a **GESI Audit directive** whose objective was to localize and simplify the existing GESI Audit to support local governments. This is expected to help local governments develop their own contextualized GESI Audit guidelines to ensure that all their developmental plans, programmes and policies are GESI-sensitive and -responsive.



FEATURES

MERINA'S DREAM COMES TRUE

Merina Dudhraj is young and talented. She is from Gulim and has always dreamed of becoming a lawyer and helping needy and vulnerable people to get access to justice. But like many other young people from her community, she couldn't afford the cost of studying a degree in law. The expenses were simply beyond her parents' capacity. Not wanting to give her parents the burden of paying for her education, she decided to give up on her dream.

But then she was told that her application for a full scholarship had been successful. This would cover her studies with a full stipend and all college fees, thanks to UNDP's Access to Justice project, funded by the Royal Norwegian Government. The Bachelor of Law scholarship programme seeks to increase the number of women

from marginalized communities in the law profession. Merina reclaimed her dream with every last reserve of joyful determination to make a success of it. She was one of more than 20 young people, mostly from marginalized groups, who were awarded the scholarship that would allow them to complete their education and then pursue a career in law.

"I dedicate this achievement foremost to my parents. I am forever indebted to UNDP, Access to Justice, UN Women and all my donor agencies, teachers, colleagues, seniors for their constant guidance and unwavering belief in me," said Merina, who is now working on her LLM.



Building Resilience



Within its narrow confines, Nepal is home to exceptional diversity in geography, topography and climate. But the country's unquestioned visual appeal belies fragility and danger. Its diversity and climactic conditions make it vulnerable. Globally, it ranks fourth, 11th and 30th in vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, earthquakes and floods, respectively.

It is home to one-tenth of the world's potentially dangerous glacial lakes. And as climate change becomes ever more tangible, so Nepal's vulnerability also grows. The risks to the nearly 70 percent of its population that depends on largely rain-fed agriculture are self-evident. UNDP works to mitigate those risks and reduce people's exposure to their worst impacts.

In 2020, major achievements were made in helping provincial and local governments access, analyse and map disaster risks and vulnerabilities, including those associated with earthquakes, floods, droughts, fires and landslides. This contributed to making their development efforts resilient to disasters. UNDP's support in risk analysis and expert mobilization resulted in the development of e-NDC (nationally determined contributions under Paris Agreement on Climate Change) to make Nepal a zero-carbon economy by 2050, and helped formulate risk profiles at provincial and local levels. These activities have also enhanced national and subnational

governments' understanding and knowledge of disaster risk reduction and adapting to climate change. UNDP also invested in building the capacity of national institutions to access climate finance, promoting renewable and affordable energy for people living in rural areas, implementing national commitments under the Sustainable Development Goals, and monitoring the progress and providing technical support in formulating policies on financing biodiversity conservation. A significant part of the resources were invested in helping local government prepare for, respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Enhanced Disaster Preparedness and Response

Seven provinces and 16 municipalities **implemented DRR policy and strategic action plans** by increasing resources for DRR and response, risk mitigation and piloting risk insurance. These activities supported provincial and local governments in enhancing their understanding and knowledge on DRR and climate change adaptation.

In partnership with local governments in Gorkha, district several communities have been protected from potential risks of landslides through 16 small scale **eco-friendly landslide mitigation measures** implemented with resource sharing from local governments and beneficiary communities.



Published a research-based **Inventory of Glacial Lakes** in Nepal, India and Tibet Autonomous Region of China to inform risk mitigation and adaptation plans, including future glacial lake lowering interventions.



Building on existing **"Bipad DIMS"**, an online platform was created to monitor progress and resource allocation against Sendai DRR targets and develop municipal risk profiles.

500

person-days of mason's training were conducted in Gorkha to **build the capacity of local masons** on earthquake-resilient construction, correction and retrofitting, extension, alternative technologies, etc.

Helped develop a **system for generating Disaster Profiles of all the administrative boundaries** from local to federal levels. The profiles generated by the system will be very useful in studying disaster trends, frequency and potential impacts, and contribute to efforts of understanding disaster risks. The system is being fed into the DIMS of Nepal (i.e. BIPAD Portal).



Assisted NDRRMA with a **cloud-based system** on storing data, analysing them and monitoring progress against targets of National DRR Strategic Action Plans (2018-2030) in line with the Sendai Framework for DRR at global level.



Originally prototyped and implemented in Kathmandu Metropolitan City, UNDP helped expand the **electronic building permit system (eBPS)** in 4 new municipalities: Tulsipur, Bhimdatta, Madhyapur Thimi and Changu Narayan municipalities.



UNDP in partnership with DUDBC and Institute of Engineering (IOE) established a research facility at IOE to **demonstrate retrofitting solutions for over 1 million non-engineered houses.**

In line with the UN Socio Economic Recovery Framework, UNDP supported

20 local governments

to **implement green livelihood recovery projects** to generate immediate employment and support long term recovery; and mobilized 60 youth volunteers to help identify green business ideas, funded by local government.



With UNDP support, the Ministry of Forests and Environment prepared e-NDC to make Nepal a **zero-carbon economy by 2050**.



Advanced **fire fighting trainings** provided to 75 firefighters, municipal police, scout members in Bharatpur, Lalitpur and Bhimeshwar.



Strengthened systems for better disaster preparedness for response through formulation of **Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan for local levels**, establishment of Municipal Emergency Operation Centres and Resilience Funds.



Mapped disaster risks and vulnerabilities in core urban pockets of Bhimeshwar, Bharatpur and Lalitpur.

800+

units of **Light Search & Rescue** equipment and more than 3000 units of rescue/relief equipment provided for monsoon preparedness and response.



Three Municipal Emergency Operation centres are established and functional in Bharatpur, Lalitpur and Bhimeshwar municipalities with EU Humanitarian Aid support.

Through the EU Humanitarian Aid project, communities at the risk of disasters in four municipalities in Sindhupalchowk and Dolakha districts benefited from 35 risk mitigation measures.

11,330

people benefited from these mitigation activities against landslide, lightning, drought for safeguarding the critical structures and agriculture lands.

Trainings on Search & Rescue, First Aid and firefighting, initial rapid assessment to

439

Community Emergency Response Team members.

2000

buildings structurally assessed using **Rapid Vulnerability Assessment digital tools** in Bharatpur, Lalitpur and Bhimeshwar.



“I used to be terrified before whenever I saw fire breakouts. But the training from UNDP helped me erase some common misconceptions regarding different types of fires in our community and provided me both skills and confidence to deal with them effectively,” Santa Basaula.



Although the task of rebuilding seemed quite daunting to me at first, I was able to complete the reconstruction of my house within eight months with the assistance from NHRP team. I very happy that my house is earthquake resilient and my family will be safe from future shocks

- Parbati Gurung,
A house owner in Gorkha



Urban disaster preparedness is very crucial and urgent in Nepal. We are happy to see local communities, especially women, in Bharatpur take ownership of such initiatives to strengthen systems at all levels to effectively respond to disasters in the urban pockets and save lives.

- H.E Nona Deprez, EU Ambassador



Supported Karnali province to **prepare Risk Sensitive Land Use Plan** and Waling municipality to **develop an urban resilience roadmap**. Three municipalities built capacity in urban risk governance with risk maps and DRR plans, emergency preparedness and response plans, setting up EOCs and resilience funds, and readying 261 volunteers for immediate deployment in disasters for need assessment, SAR, firefighting, first aid and early recovery.

Supported more than 1000 households in Gorkha, mostly the poorest and vulnerable, in **constructing their quake-resilient homes through hands-on technical and administrative support**, including in designing house maps and accessing housing grants. Since 2018, UNDP's Nepal Housing Reconstruction Project funded by India has supported 25,100 earthquake affected households construct their safe homes.



Supported **organic farming** on 25 ha land benefiting 290 farming families (610 men and 637 women).



Undertook policy and institutional review of the **Biodiversity Finance landscape**.

Linking Livelihoods with conservation



Active initiation and lobbying from Center for Public Health and Environmental Development, UNDP/GEF-SGP grantee resulted into formulation of a policy on banning use of mercury in hospitals and adoption of “**mercury free dentistry curricula**” by Kathmandu University.

Constructed two check dams (300m in length) in Banda Tal and planted 5000 culms of bamboo around Banda Tal to **strengthen the check dams**, which have contributed to **conservation of natural wetlands**.



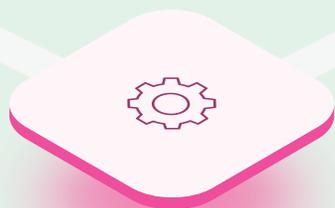
Supported **conservation of two natural wetlands** (Rhino Tal in Chitwan and Banda Tal in Kanchanpur) with total area of 50ha and formation of artificial Chepe tal (2 ha) in Dang with co-funding support from Ghorahi Sub-Metropolitan City.



We have engaged the people in plantation in quarantine centres in positive and constructive activities at a time when they are subjected to stigma. These trees will be an asset to schools and can even support to their income, besides contributing to a greener environment.

- Nirp Bahadur Odd,
Mayor of Dhangadhi Sub Metropolitan City

Supported construction of a water harvesting dam (18.5m) for water storage in Sarlahi, which **aided in irrigation in 25 ha and benefiting 200 households.**



Developed a **comprehensive framework for assessing the biodiversity expenditure** of government, private, conservation partners and community institutions and conducted assessment of forest user groups, protected area related community institutions, local government and private sector investment on biodiversity.



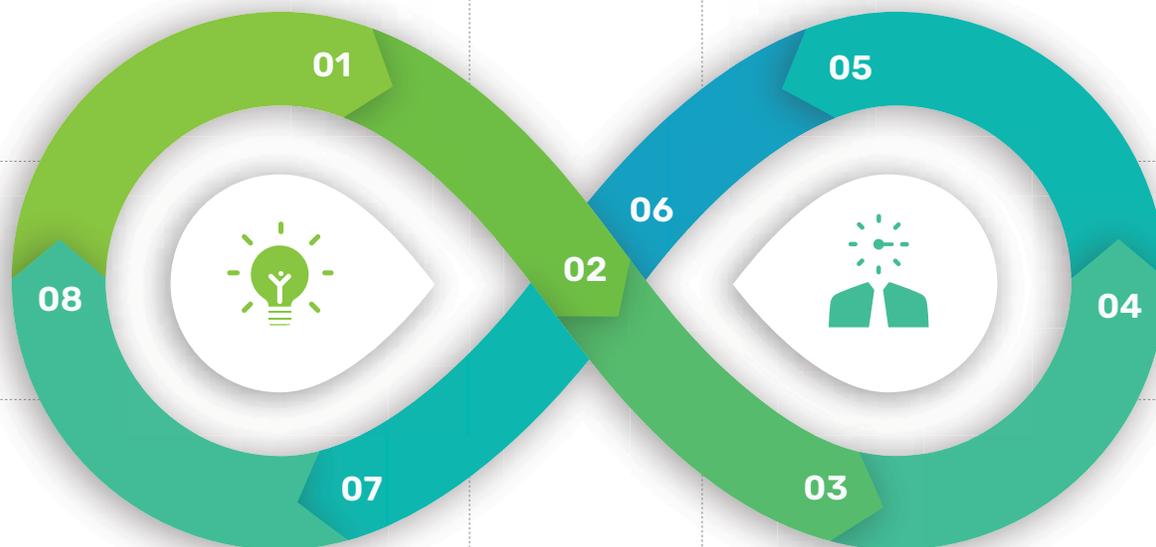
2 biodiversity information centres, one bird rescue centre, one seed bank and two Matribhumi Improved cook stove demo/ research and training centres established.

Prepared guidelines for Feasibility Study of **Solar Mini Grid Projects**.

Power Output Testing of 200kW Giri Khola Mini Hydropower Project **benefiting 2,023 households**, 568 belong to the Disadvantaged Group (DAG) as defined by Government of Nepal.

Milk chilling centre operated by the 100 kW **Gutu Solar Mini Grid** at Gutu Bazar, Surkhet benefiting more than 1600 people.

Launched a **tourism recovery project** in partnership with Nepal Tourism Board to create 1,600 green jobs in the sector for the COVID-affected populations and develop a National Tourism Recovery Strategy.



The 150 kW Thabang Solar Mini Grid (TSMG), Thabang Rural Municipality of Rolpa district and the 50 kW Hilepani Solar Mini Grid (HSMG), Manebhanjang, Okhaldhunga district were successfully installed. These SMGs **provide electricity to 365 and 233 households, respectively, 94% (565 HHs) of whom belong to disadvantaged groups (DAG)** as defined by the Government of Nepal.

Planted 7,000+ trees, including fruit trees, in and around quarantine facilities across the country.

2000 smart prepaid meters installed in 380kW Tara Khola, Baglung and 200kW Simrutu Khola Rukum Mini Hydropower Projects, which help consumers to reduce the cost of billing and tariff collection and avoid meter tampering and electricity pilferage and enhancing administrative efficiency.

Supported municipalities in Nuwakot & Kathmandu for **sustainable waste management and recycling systems**.

Green Recovery

House wiring training for 32 community people including 12 women in Khatyad Khola Mini Hydropower Project, Mugu and Giri Khola Mini Hydropower Project, Jumla.

Launched Campaign to promote **cycling through gamification** that incentivize cycle-commuting.

In collaboration with Lalitpur Metropolitan city, WWF and Vrikshya Foundation, a prototype **wheelchair friendly green pocket park** was developed and handed over to the local government.





FEATURES

TURNING FEAR INTO CONFIDENCE

It started with a flame. Laxmi Paudel, a 43-year-old resident of Bharatpur-2, Aaptari–Milan tole, went to her neighbour in Gaidakot as a wedding guest. She did not expect that it was going to be a day that tested her fire safety skills.

During the ceremony, a fire broke out in the kitchen. Several women were in there, busily frying snacks on a high heat. They lost control of the gas stove. People fled, fearing a great fire. Laxmi heard the commotion and ran to see what was happening. She calmly turned off the gas regulator, then sealed the pan's lid. That prevented the fire from getting even worse.

Laxmi is one of the many Community Emergency Response Team volunteers in Bharatpur who recently received training on firefighting and kitchen fire safety through UNDP, thanks to support from EU Humanitarian Aid.

"I had no idea how to respond to a kitchen fire. The thought of it used to terrify me. But the training gave me the skills to know what to do and the confidence to deal with fires effectively," said Laxmi.

Laxmi is also the Vice-Chairperson of a mothers' group in Milan tole, a poor area of Bharatpur. The settlement is at a very high

risk of fire. A risk assessment carried out by UNDP had pointed to an urgent need to enhance community understanding of fire risks in the area.

"There was a fire in my community in 2018. It completely destroyed three houses and injured three people," Laxmi recalls.

The Urban Disaster Preparedness project reached out to more than 200 women like Laxmi through training and awareness campaigns on fire safety and preparedness. This is part of a larger initiative that aims to help local governments identify and manage disaster risks and vulnerabilities. In 2020, at least three municipalities were supported to map and address their vulnerabilities, particularly those in urban settlements.

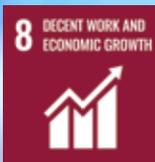




Gender Equality
and Social Inclusion



Despite notable progress in human development, achieving gender equality and social inclusion is one of the most persistent challenges facing Nepal. The payoffs of development spread unevenly across gender, ethnic and minority groups and geographic location.



Kamala Damai, one of the local artisans working for Hatemalo Women's Group, is happy to get back to business after a few months of recession due to COVID-19. In 2020, UNDP provided over 20,000 vulnerable people with livelihood support, including skills training, technology support and market linkages to help cope with the crisis.



Certain groups, including Dalits, Muslims, indigenous peoples, gender and sexual minorities, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups are pushed into greater vulnerabilities than others. Due to COVID-19, Nepal faces even tougher challenges in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Continued effort from all three tiers of the government (federal, provincial, and local) and other stakeholders is key to empowering women and other marginalized groups in Nepal.

In 2020, UNDP Nepal continued to work across different ministries, civil society organizations, federations, academia, media and bilateral organizations, and different UN agencies to advance gender equality, inclusion, and women's empowerment. Special attention has been given to individuals facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination due to caste-based discrimination, ethnicity, disability, or indigenous belonging. Notable results were achieved in helping key institutions, including the National Human Rights Commission, Election Commission

and federal, provincial and local governments understand and integrate gender equality and social inclusion into their policies, programmes, and everyday practices. Concrete results have been achieved in empowering women and marginalized communities through enterprise development and gender-responsive COVID-19 recovery framework developed in consultation with more than 1,200 individuals through 35 different consultations, particularly with women, vulnerable and marginalized groups. Some of the key results are highlighted below:

Economic empowerment of women and vulnerable populations



With UNDP support, **gender and ethnic disaggregated data were published** in Integrated Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Annual Report, Factsheets, Infographics. The availability of the disaggregated data helped to develop GESI-friendly policies, plans and strategies at federal, provincial and local levels.



Supported over

6,249

women (out of total supported), most of them from vulnerable to become successful micro-entrepreneurs through skill training and enterprise development support.



1,340+

female farmers (60% of 2,200 farmers supported) received agriculture input support through UNDP's value chain programme funded by KOICA.



Seven women's cooperatives received vehicles and cooling chambers, **directly benefiting over 6700 women farmers**. And 10 collection centres were built in 10 women-led cooperatives, which address the special needs of women and persons with disabilities.



UNDP supported building of **over 19 infrastructures such as vegetable collection centers, market centres and community buildings** that are all gender and disable-friendly. These have directly **benefited over 730 persons with disability**.



Youth webinar series, organized by UNDP Electoral Support Project with UN Resident Coordinator's Office and UN Volunteers, allowed me not only to learn about a myriad of issues at the grassroots, but also to bring forth our own issues as part of gender and sexual minorities in the context of COVID-19.

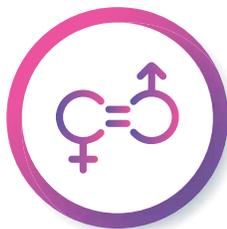
- Anik Rana Magar

Promoting human rights access to justice



482 people (234 women) **benefited from the legal aid provided by lawyers.** UNDP provided financial support to the Nepal Bar Association (NBA) in mobilizing lawyers for legal aid and assistance to women, needy and vulnerable people during the pandemic.

Conducted gender equality assessment at NHRC and institutional gender equality and social inclusion policy at NHRC developed.



Supported 110 conflict affected (women) victims to gear up and raise their voice in advocacy and lobby underscoring the issue of mental health through psychosocial counselling.



UNDP **conducted an induction to 3,500 people**, including journalists, local level leaders, social workers and teachers and MPs, on problems faced by persons with psychosocial disabilities.



UNDP worked with Nepal Television in broadcasting programmes on the **rights of women and minorities in national languages.** Support was also given to reviewing laws on GBV, rape and sexual assaults and also on the PWD.



5 GENDER
EQUALITY



As part of the COVID-19 recovery support, UNDP provided **livelihoods support to over 284,789 vulnerable people (51% of them women)**.

Building inclusive institutions



Supported MOFAGA to **develop a model Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI) guideline for local government**. The guideline is expected to help institutionalize and mainstream GESI locally to ensure that institutional arrangements, development programmes, structures and overall processes are GESI-sensitive and inclusive.

Supported ECN to conduct **interactions on "Gender Based Violence in Elections,"** to mark the spirit of the 16 Days of Activism.



UNDP helped **enhance the knowledge of over 77 federal MPs, 41 of them women**, for their work in governance and sustainable development, including oversights to address GBV in line with UNSCR 1325 and 1820.

UNDP Electoral Support Project provided **technical input to update the Election Commission's Gender Inclusion (GI) Policy**.



GESI Audit working procedures

have been developed to contextualize the existing GESI Audit to help local government ensure that the programmes, plans and policies of local government are GESI-sensitive and responsive.



UNDP provided a platform by organizing numbers of interactions for some 255 women mayors, deputy mayors and vice-chairs for sharing experiences of the COVID-19 pandemic. This also provided a better understanding of local contexts that helped UNDP, UN agencies and other stakeholders to **prioritize health, management of quarantine, relief distribution and socio-economic/livelihood efforts.**

Helped NHRC to carry out an **assessment of the organization's current status on gender and social inclusion.**

The study report recommends NHRC to take all efforts into account to make changes for much better implementation of GESI within the organization.



Supported the Parliamentary Committee on **Human Rights, Law and Justice to conduct a study** on implementing the untouchability and caste-based discrimination (Prevention and Punishment) Act.





Our local communities in core urban areas are being equipped with important knowledge and skills on fire-related risks to coordinate and support us during emergencies, thanks to the series of UNDP initiatives on urban DRR.

- Devendra Regmi, Fire Chief, Fire Brigade, Bharatpur Metropolitan City



Initially it was quite hard to grasp the technicalities of masonry, but slowly with practice, I learned new things through the training.

- Samjhana Sunar, A Mason in Gorkha

Towards inclusive resilience



Trained over 430 women as Community Emergency Response Team volunteers on fire preparedness and response for kitchen fire in urban pockets of Lalitpur, Bhimeswhor and Bharatpur. Besides personal initiatives, they will also be supporting local fire response mechanisms in coordination with the fire brigade during emergencies.



54 women masons were trained on earthquake-resilient construction in Gorkha to mainstream their engagement in the construction sector, which is largely male dominated.



Supported the National Planning Commission to **produce SDG progress reports, National Review of SDGs Progress (VNR) and Nepal Human Development Report (NHDR)** with detailed analysis on GESI aspects.

EMPOWERING YOUTH

In 2019, UNDP Nepal partnered with a number of youth-led organizations in creating several meaningful opportunities for young people to learn and exchange ideas, innovate and actively contribute to the SDGs. The youths actively participated in debunking myths and misinformation related to COVID-19 and carried out a number of surveys that helped UNDP's programming.



A team of

1000+

youths across the nation

contributed in fighting misinformation, raising awareness on COVID-19, fighting mental health stigma

A team of 1000+ youths across the nation contributed in fighting misinformation, raising awareness on COVID-19, fighting mental health stigma, and supporting behavioural change to help people adapt to the new normal. UNDP, UNV, WHO, UNICEF and UNRCO came together and launched #CopingwiththeNewNormal campaign which reached over 20000 people.

A total of 141 youth volunteers surveyed a total of 2762 respondents from 72 districts to find the issues faced by vulnerable populations in the context of the pandemic. The consolidated report from this survey helped to plan post-covid interventions.

An initiative by the UN Youth Group (UNDP, UNV, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA) provided nine trainings in three clusters

A total of 141 youth volunteers surveyed a total of

2762

respondents from 72 districts to find the issues faced by vulnerable population in the context of pandemic

to 199 (93 male, 65 female, 29 youth with disabilities, 12 LGBTIQ) young people from all seven provinces who seek to pursue their career as development practitioners.

As part of educating on the electoral process, UNDP's Electoral Support Programme launched a mobile application named 'Election Education' in collaboration with Election Commission of Nepal and over 100 youths were trained to use it.

UNDP trained 588 youths, 200 of them women, to design and install Matribhumi Improved Cook Stove, an innovative technology which makes smokeless and efficient cooking possible.

During the training, the young people installed 9481 improved cooking stoves and earned Rs 4.3 million. The improved stoves was developed with the support of UNDP.

UNDP trained 588 youths,

200

of them women, to design and install Matribhumi Improved Cook Stove, an innovative technology which makes smokeless and efficient cooking possible





HOUSE BEING RETROFITTED IN GORKHA.

NEW SOLUTIONS TO OLD PROBLEMS

How UNDP is promoting innovation in Nepal

RETROFITTING HOMES

UNDP's Nepal Housing Reconstruction Project, funded by the Government of India, developed an innovative solution to retrofit quake-affected and other unsafe houses. The technology, which uses GI wire as the main integrating element, has been adopted by the Government of Nepal and used to retrofit over 40 houses in Gorkha. There are around 3.3 million houses in Nepal that are highly vulnerable to earthquakes, as they were built before building codes become mandatory and are below approved safety standards. Most of these houses could be retrofitted using this technology to save time and cost of reconstruction while also making lives safer for 16 million people living in those houses.

DISASTER PROFILES

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) has inherited a rich dataset comprising over 40,000 records of incidents reported from across the country dating back to 1973. "Disaster profile" is a quick solution developed by UNDP to leverage these data and generate illustrative disaster profiles in Nepali or English, for any administrative jurisdiction, from national to provincial or palika to district levels. This profile depicts in a few (six to eight) pages the primary hazards, their frequency, impacts, trends over a certain time period, and occurrence calendar. These profiles could be a powerful tool for policymakers to quickly grasp and address vulnerabilities of any area.



SISTER ROBOT AT TEKU HOSPITAL.

SISTER ROBOTS

Together with the Robotics Association of Nepal, UNDP's Accelerator Lab has developed and deployed three remotely operated robots, called Sister Robots, in hospitals handling COVID-19 patients in Kathmandu and Butwal. These robots can perform non-clinical tasks, such as delivering medicine, food and general information to COVID-19 patients in isolation wards. A tablet allows the health worker to interact with the patient as and when required. The robots have helped mitigate some of the risks that frontline health workers face daily when dealing with COVID-19 patients.

MAPPING AND MATCHING SKILLS

UNDP's Accelerator Lab, in partnership with CellApp Innovation, has designed and deployed a mobile application, Sipshala, that uses artificial intelligence to match the skill sets of returnee migrants with opportunities available in Nepal. This system has been tested so far in Waling Municipality, Biratnagar Metropolitan City and Birendranagar Municipality. UNDP also supported to carry out a detailed skills mapping exercise in Sudurpashchim Province, which forecasted a market demand for 51,542 skilled human resources in various sectors for the next three years. The federal government is now replicating the model in the remaining six provinces.

SMART METERS FOR RURAL AREAS

People in rural areas whose houses are powered by mini/micro hydropower plants can now pay their electric bills through prepaid smart meters that are connected through a web-based monitoring system. The technology was introduced for the first time in over 2,000 houses in Tara Khola micro-hydro in Baglung and Simrutu Khola micro-hydro in Rukum. The meters were established with technical assistance from UNDP through the Renewable Energy for Rural Livelihoods programme and funding from the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC), Off-grid Component.



RAINWATER HARVESTING FACILITY FOR FIRE FIGHTING (WITH UNDER GROUND WATER TANKS) INSTALLED AT PATAN.

RAINWATER FOR FIRE FIGHTING

UNDP's urban disaster preparedness project has introduced a unique solution to make rainwater available for urban fire fighting through rainwater harvesting facilities and underground tanks in strategic locations. This is expected to assist fire fighting in urban pockets where emergency vehicles like fire trucks have limited access due to narrow roads and alleys. The rainwater harvesting system will also capture surface runoff that often leads to inundation during the monsoon. The underground water tanks will benefit over 1,000 households over five clusters in urban pockets and will also serve as refill points for Light Portable Pumps (LPP) and fire hydrants.

SCALING OF E-BUILDING PERMIT SYSTEM

UNDP developed the electronic building permit system (e-BPS) as a web-based application software suite to assist municipalities to improve their building permit process and to maintain a robust building database. This is an effective, transparent and efficient system to ensure compliance to the National Building Code and Building Bye-Laws. The system also allows citizens to submit their applications online and to track their status. The electronic system has great potential as the database of the buildings could be linked with property tax and other municipal services in future, and remote engagement of the structural engineers for its upscaling in medium scale urban municipalities.



PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERS CONNECT WITH DISTRICTS USING VIDEO CONFERENCE FACILITY DURING COVID-19 LOCKDOWN.

FARMERS' ACCESS TO MARKETS

For the first time, Nepal has fully functional fruits and vegetable satellite markets in Chabahil and Lalitpur that are run entirely by cooperatives, thanks to the Cooperative Market Development Programme, a joint initiative of UNDP and the Government of Nepal. The cooperative-run markets have gone online. These markets, connected to 71 primary cooperatives in six districts around the Kathmandu Valley, benefit around 16,900 farmers.

ATTENDING MEETINGS VIRTUALLY

While videoconferencing is widely used around the world, Nepal's government offices still lack access to reliable broadband internet connections, required technology, and operating regulations and guidelines. At the request of the government, all 753 local governments, offices of provincial governments, the federal parliament, and provincial assemblies were equipped with modern videoconferencing facilities, allowing them to continue their business even during COVID-19 restrictions.

HUMAN RIGHTS APP

During the pandemic, both reporting and handling the cases of human rights abuse was challenging. To address this problem, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and UNDP jointly developed and launched a mobile-based human rights application that helped enhance accessibility for victims, especially those with physical and sensory disabilities, to legal information and services. It also eased rights monitors to reach out to victims and carry out their duties. The app has substantively digitised the NHRC's paper-based approach of complaints by developing an online portal, an SMS system, and upgrading existing digital systems.

SDG LOCALIZATION

As part of the COVID-19 Response package, UNDP co-invested with 18 municipalities to design and implement over 100 interventions in some of the hardest hit areas across the country. Funded under UNDP's core resources, these interventions were all based on local community's needs and demands and aimed to provide immediate recovery support to the economically vulnerable populations, such as unemployed women and men, migrant returnees and the daily wage workers who

lost jobs to COVID-19. Initially launched to help local governments accelerate the achievements of the SDGs, these small demonstration projects, which made for impressive results in 2019, were quickly re-designed and re-oriented in 2020 to help selected municipalities with their COVID-19 response. Implemented through local NGOs, these initiatives directly benefitted over 11,800 COVID-19-affected people, many of them unemployed youth, Dalits and returnee migrants.





DISCLAIMERS:
The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations

1. Commercial Vegetable Farming, Dhankuta Municipality

PARTNER: Poverty Alleviation and Rural Development Programme (PARDEP)

2. Riverbed farming and Livestock Support, Ganeshman Charnath Municipality, Dhanusha

PARTNER: Community Improvemnet Center (CIC)

3. Income Generation and Employment Support to Migrant Returnees, Gaushala Municipality, Mahottari

PARTNER: Community Development & Advocacy Forum Nepal (CDAFN)

4. Multi-layered Agroforestry, Harion Municipality, Sarlahi

PARTNER: Gramin Swayam Sebak Nepal (GSSN)

5. Recovery through Agroforestry, Parwanipur Municipality, Bara

PARTNER: Rural Region and Agroforestry Development Centre (RRAFDC)

6. Recovery through Micro Enterprise Support, Dudhauri Municipality, Sindhuli

PARTNER: Sahakarya Nepal

7. Recovery through Micro Enterprise Support, Bakaiya Rural Municipality, Makawanpur

PARTNER: Women Empowerment and Poverty Alleviation Group Nepal (WEPAG)

8. Agriculture for Livelihood Improvement, Pokhara

PARTNER: Good Neighbour Service Association Nepal (GONESA)

9. Livelihoods Recovery Project, Waling Municipality, Syangja

PARTNER: DIYALO

10. Livelihood Recovery Project, Putalibazar Municipality, Syangja

PARTNER: Suryodaya Club

11. Youth Employment Project, Tansen Municipality, Palpa

PARTNER: Rural Economic Development Association [REDA]

12. Sustaining Progress towards the SDGs, Sainamaina Municipality, Rupandehi

PARTNER: Seto Gurans Child Development Service Rupandehi (SGCDSR)

13. Commercial Potato Farming, Tillottama Municipality, Rupandehi

PARTNER: Progressive Multipurpose Cooperative Pvt.

14. Commercial Vegetable Farming, Birendranagar Municipality, Surkhet

PARTNER: Interdependent Society Surkhet (ISS)

15. Commercial Vegetable Farming, Guras Rural Municipality, Dailekh

PARTNER: Women Empowerment Action Forum Nepal (WEAF Nepal)

16. Employment generation trough commercial vegetable farming, Bheemdutta Municipality, Kanchanpur

PARTNER: National Environment and Equity Development Society (NEEDS)

17. Employment generation trough commercial vegetable farming, Bedkot Municipality, Kanchanpur

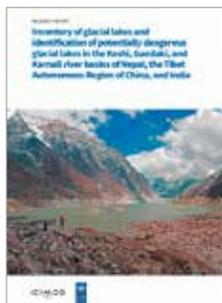
PARTNER: SWEET Nepal

18. Livestock and Vegetable Farming, Alital Rural Municipality, Dadeldhura

PARTNER: SEEDS Nepal

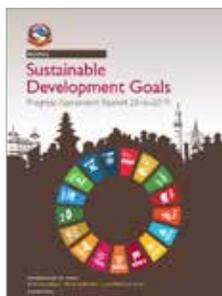
RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS 2020

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Inventory of glacial lakes and identification of potentially dangerous glacial lakes in Nepal, TAR China, and India

Together with ICIMOD, UNDP Nepal have prepared this comprehensive inventory which provides an update on the status and changes in the number and area of glacial lakes in the three basins - the Koshi, Gandaki, and Karnali (including Mahakali) - along with a detailed methodology for the identification of critical glacial lakes in remote and inaccessible mountain terrain using remote sensing tools and technologies.



SDG Progress Assessment Report

The report reveals macroeconomic stability during the period with about 6.8 percent annual economic growth, reduced income poverty to 16.7 percent. This achievement is following the periodic plans that are focusing on promoting growth, employment, infrastructure, human development and resilience. The 15th Plan (2019/20-2023/24) has been fully aligned with the SDGs and provides a clear roadmap towards prosperity over the next 25 years.



Nepal Human Development Report 2020

The Nepal Human Development Report 2020: Beyond LDC Graduation: Productive Transformation and Prosperity focuses on how Nepal could meaningfully advance towards sustainable human development at a faster pace. It focuses on the present status of human development at both the national and provincial levels, exploring a transitional strategy to graduation after assessing the likely implications of LDC graduation on international trade and development finance, and evolving pathways.



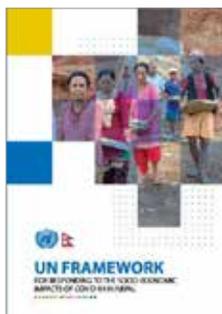
A Light in the Heart: Faces of Nepal

United Nations celebrated 75 years of its establishment in 2020. As part of the celebration, UNDP in Nepal organized a virtual exhibition of photographs of seventy-five people born with the United Nations, who are featured in this book. This book of photographs shines a light on people from all walks of life and reflects Nepal's rich diversity. Moreover, young poets also have adorned the photos with their poetic expression which promotes intergenerational solidarity.



Open Space

In order to make the best use of the public spaces, UNDP Accelerator Lab Nepal explored and mapped the available open spaces of Kathmandu Metropolitan City, Lalitpur Metropolitan City, Kirtipur Municipality and Bhaktapur Municipality using ArcGIS in 2020. These maps can help visualize the general features, conditions, and utilizations of the public spaces to explore further possibilities on their best utilization.



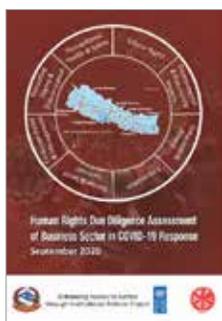
UN Framework: For Responding to the Socio-Economic Impacts of Covid-19 in Nepal

The United Nations in Nepal has designed the framework for responding to the Socio-Economic Impacts of COVID-19 in Nepal. It is anchored in government priorities, as articulated by planning and budgeting documents at the national and provincial levels. It aims to complement and build on the government-led response. The framework builds on short-term recovery and resilience activities managed by the humanitarian country team.



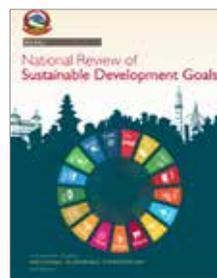
Rapid Assessment of Socio-Economic Impact of COVID-19 in Nepal

Based on a painstaking survey of 700 businesses and 400 individuals, and consultations with over 30 private sector organizations and government agencies, UNDP conducted an assessment during the first phase of lockdown in Nepal. The report reveals that COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted supply chains, shut or threatened the survival of small and informal enterprises, and made people highly vulnerable to falling back into poverty through widespread loss of income and jobs.



Human Rights Due Diligence Assessment of Business Sector in COVID-19 Response

UNDP Nepal and Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, in collaboration with the Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry, initiated an assessment of human rights due diligence with an objective to assess the human right compliance situation in the business sector during the COVID-19 pandemic and to develop strategic approach for necessary intervention. The assessment provides evidence-based analysis on occupational health and safety, labor rights, environmental and community impacts etc.



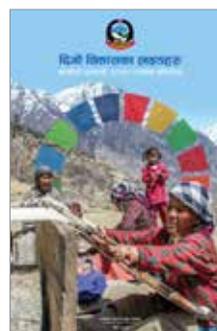
National Review of SDGs

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a blueprint of peace and prosperity for people and the planet with a commitment that no one will be left behind. Five years after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, National Planning Commission bring forth the second voluntary national review, which was prepared through collaborative efforts engaging all relevant stakeholders showcasing progress on mainstreaming the development aspirations of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in all tiers of the government.



Parliamentary Oversight on Implementation of SDGs: A Handbook with Checklist

This handbook is a guiding document for MPs to oversee the implementation of SDGs. The book provides a set of thematically divided checklist to scrutinize the multiple areas of SDGs including resources, legal frameworks, mechanisms, and reporting. It also provides a set of graded questions with relevant data as a basis of argumentation. Aimed at strengthening the role of parliamentarians in implementation of SDGs, this knowledge product is useful for parliamentarians and the policy stakeholders at the sub-national levels.



SDG baseline report

In 2020, UNDP supported in the publication of provincial baseline report of province namely Province 2, Bagmati, Sudurpaschim and Karnali. The report will help to fulfill the gap by localizing the SDGs and aligning the national and provincial level goals in the local context. It also provides a frame for monitoring and evaluation, and help to engage all stakeholders in planning, designing and implementation process.

LAUNCHED IN NEPAL

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2020 CALLS ON LEADERS TO REDUCE PRESSURE ON ENVIRONMENT

The Global Human Development Report 2020, a flagship publication of the United Nations Development Programme was launched in Kathmandu on 15 December 2020.

Minister for Foreign Affairs Hon. Mr. Pradeep Kumar Gyawali launched the report in the presence of representatives from the government, development partners, civil society organizations, private sector and the media.

The report entitled "The next frontier: Human development and the Anthropocene" laid out a stark choice for world leaders - take bold steps to reduce the immense pressure that is being exerted on the environment and the natural world, or humanity's progress will stall.

The report argued that as people and planet enter an entirely new geological epoch, the Anthropocene or the Age of Humans, it is time for all countries to redesign their paths to progress by fully accounting for the dangerous pressures humans put on the planet, and

The report was also launched in all seven provinces by the chief ministers of the respective provincial governments. Addressed by over 40 speakers, these eight events were attended by over 1000 people from across the country virtually.

dismantle the gross imbalances of power and opportunity that prevent change.

Member of National Planning Commission Hon. Mr. Krishna Prasad Oli, former Finance Minister Dr. Yuba Raj Khatriwada, Executive Director of Global Climate Fund Yannick Glemarec, EU Ambassador Her Excellency Nona Deprez, UNDP Resident Representative Ayshanie Medagangoda-Labe, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative Bernardo Cocco, Director General, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development Dr. Pema Gyamtsho, Chair of Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal Bharati Pathak, Social Worker and youth leader Sapana Roka Magar joined and spoke at the launch event which was also live cast from Facebook.

Also in 2020, the National Planning Commission, with technical support of UNDP, published the Nepal Human Development Report 2020, which provides a roadmap for the country's non-reversible and sustainable graduation from the current least developed country (LDC) status to a developing country.

PROVINCE 1



PROVINCE 2



BAGMATI PROVINCE (KATHMANDU)



GANDAKI PROVINCE



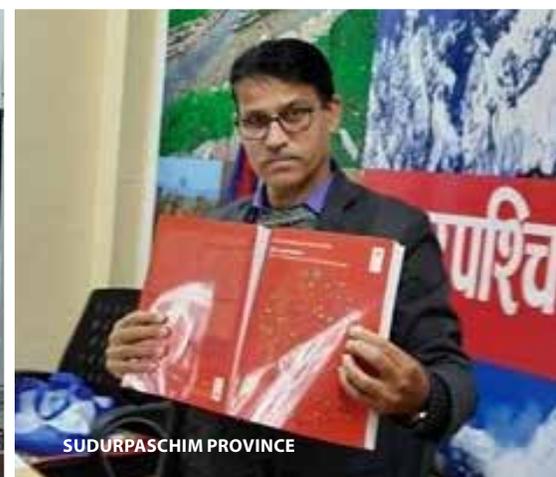
LUMBINI PROVINCE



KARNALI PROVINCE



SUDURPASHCHIM PROVINCE





THE UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTEERS



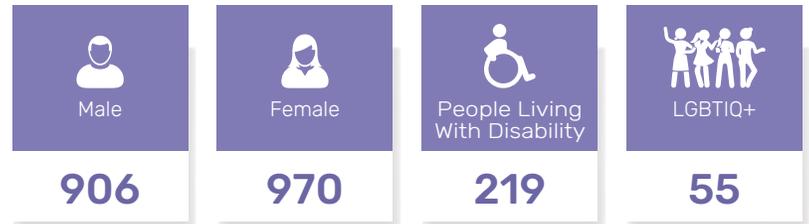
MAJOR PROGRAMME

- South Asian Youth Summit
- Panel discussion on the importance of the National Volunteer Policy opportunities and challenges
- National Youth Conference
- Involvement of young people with disabilities in achieving Sustainable Development Goal by 2030
- UNlocking Skills training programmes
- National Volunteering Award

INTERNATIONAL DAYS CELEBRATION

- International Day for Girl Child
- International Volunteer Day
- International Youth Day
- Global goals week

AT A GLANCE 2020



BREAKDOWN DETAILS



WE ARE INSPIRATION IN ACTION

43.6K

Indirect Reach

2,090

Direct Reach



21K Likes

3K Followers

800+ Followers

PROGRAMME BREAKDOWN



UNDP NEPAL & THE UN SYSTEM



UNDP functions as an integral member of the UN System in Nepal.

UNDP's programming in Nepal is guided by its Country Programme Document (2018-2022) approved by UNDP's Executive Board, and the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) approved by the Government and the UN country Team.

UNDP's country programme focuses in three priority areas: inclusive economic growth; democratic governance, rule of law and human rights; and resilience, disaster risk reduction and climate change. Underpinning UNDP's work supporting Nepal's commitment to development priorities is the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In 2020, UNDP actively engaged supporting UNCT's collective results in a) COVID-19 response, b) SDG implementation, c) LNOB, Human Rights and Gender equality in 2030 Agenda, d) Disaster Risk Reduction, d) Partnerships and e) Business Operations.

UNDP provided the technical lead to timely complete the COVID-19 UN Socioeconomic Framework. Similarly, immediately after COVID started disrupting lives in Nepal, UNDP joined hands with UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, the Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (ACORAB) and its Community Information Network (CIN) to launch a radio show, "Jeevan Rakshya" to help address the immediate socio-economic problems faced by the people during the lockdown. At a time when people did not have access to the relevant authorities due to the restricted mobility, the radio program served as an effective communication means to put forth their grievances to the concerned officials. Within just two months, from April to May 2020, more than 1,500 people were directly connected to their respective leaders and authorities in the local government to resolve their problems.



UNDP provided technical support to the National Planning Commission in drafting the second Voluntary National Review (VNR), which was submitted to the UN High-Level Political Forum in 2020. Drafted through a consultative process, involving all stakeholders, the report recommend paying special attention to reducing inequality and addressing climate and environment risks, while also making available disaggregated data to "Leave No One Behind".

UNDP and UN Women in partnership with AP1 television launched a new TV series called "A Closer Look" to delve deeper into the some of the persistent harmful practices in Nepali society, including gender-based discrimination and violence, rape, witchcraft and how some of the women champions have successfully challenged gender stereotypes and discrimination. In a bid to improve representation of women in newsroom, UNDP in partnership with International Finance Cooperation (IFC) and Society of Economic Journalists trained over 60 aspiring journalists and provided fellowship and mentorship support to hone their professional skills.

The "Immediate UN Response for coherent safeguarding the livelihoods of people made most vulnerable by COVID-19 in Nepal" project, jointly implemented by UNDP, ILO, IOM and UNESCO with funding from the UN COVID-19 Multi-Partner Trust Fund, contributed to mitigating the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 by safeguarded livelihoods of over 2,800 Nepalis made most vulnerable by the crisis. Over 64% of these beneficiaries were from marginalized groups. Of these, UNDP provided direct support to create 626 micro-enterprises and to provide short-term employment opportunities to 250 vulnerable workers in the hard-hit tourism sector.

UNDP in partnership with UN agencies – and particularly with UN Women – established a 22-bed, women-only isolation centre that provides transit and holding space for women, children and their caretakers with asymptomatic

COVID-19. Over 250 women were supported through this facility in 2020. 2020 was also important as – with the technical and financial support of UNDP, UN Women and other agencies – the National Action Plan-II on women, peace and security was finalized and submitted to the government. The Action Plan is pending its endorsement by the cabinet, but once it is endorsed it will pave the way to address the issues and concerns of conflict-related sexual violence.

UNDP and UN Resident Coordinator's Office worked together with National Human Rights Commission and CSOs in developing an alternative report on Universal Periodic Review (UPR) at the UN Human Rights Council and its effective implementation. Crucial support was provided to ensure the effective implementation of the UPR recommendations, including through preparation of a joint post UPR strategy for Nepal. The strategy will also be instrumental in terms of establishing robust oversight mechanisms, monitoring and evaluation systems, data management and coordination and collaboration.

Similarly, UNDP worked together with the UN family in empowering and engaging young people and youth organizations through youth-focused and youth-led activities. Through the UNlocking Skills Programme, an initiative by the UN Youth Group (UNDP, UNV, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA), over 200 youth were trained on report and proposal writing and communications skills. Volunteers for Action against COVID 19 engaged a team of over 1000 youth across the country in fighting misinformation, raising awareness on COVID, fighting mental health stigma, and supporting behavioral change in coping with the new normal. The campaign reached to over 20,000 people through social media messaging and off-line events.

Besides these collaborations on programme areas, UNDP continued to serve the UN system on the financial and administrative fronts, supporting 16 UN agencies, with a treasury transaction of about \$34m in 2020.

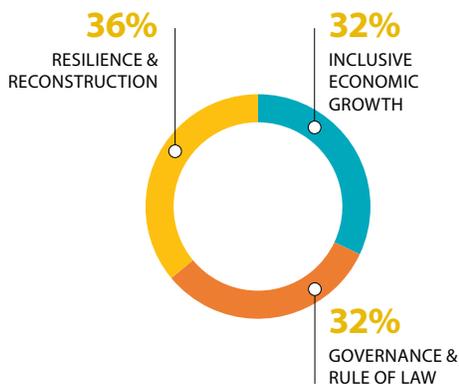
Funding Sources & Partnerships

In 2020, UNDP implemented development programmes across Nepal with a total expenditure of \$17.2 million, of which 45.5 percent was resources from UNDP core funding. The remaining 54.5 percent was mobilized from bilateral and multilateral donors and agencies, Global Environment Facility, Global Climate Fund, and other sources.

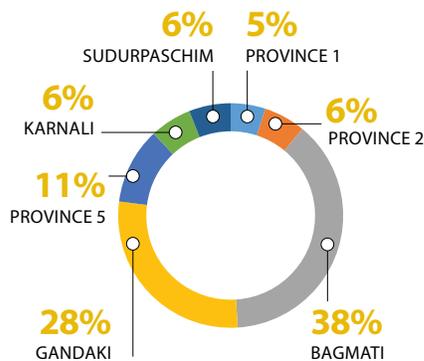
Breaking down UNDP's 2020 expenditure by thematic areas, the greatest investment by value was in resilience and reconstruction at 36% followed by inclusive economic growth and democratic governance, both at 32 percent. More than half of UNDP's total expenditures contributed directly or significantly to achieving gender equality and social inclusion.

EXPENDITURES IN 2020

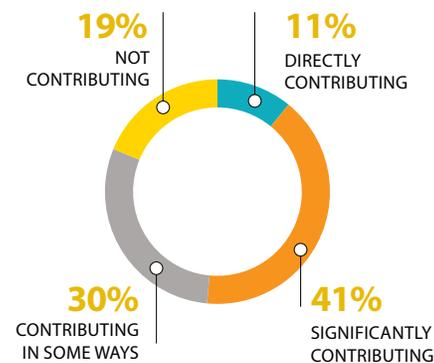
DONORS	IN USD	PERCENT
UNDP	7,860,517	45.53
DFID	351,555	2.04
NORWAY	1,394,411	8.08
INDIA	2,401,134	13.91
NEPAL	1,768,633	10.25
EUROPEAN UNION	896,278	5.19
KOREA	833,525	4.83
THAILAND	389,107	2.25
AUSTRALIA	334,376	1.94
GCF	179,870	1.04
GEF	1,622	0.01
GERMANY	45,970	0.27
NETHERLANDS	286,637	1.66
MPTF	432,925	2.51
OTHERS	86,634	0.50
TOTAL	17,263,194	100.00



EXPENDITURE BY OUTCOME

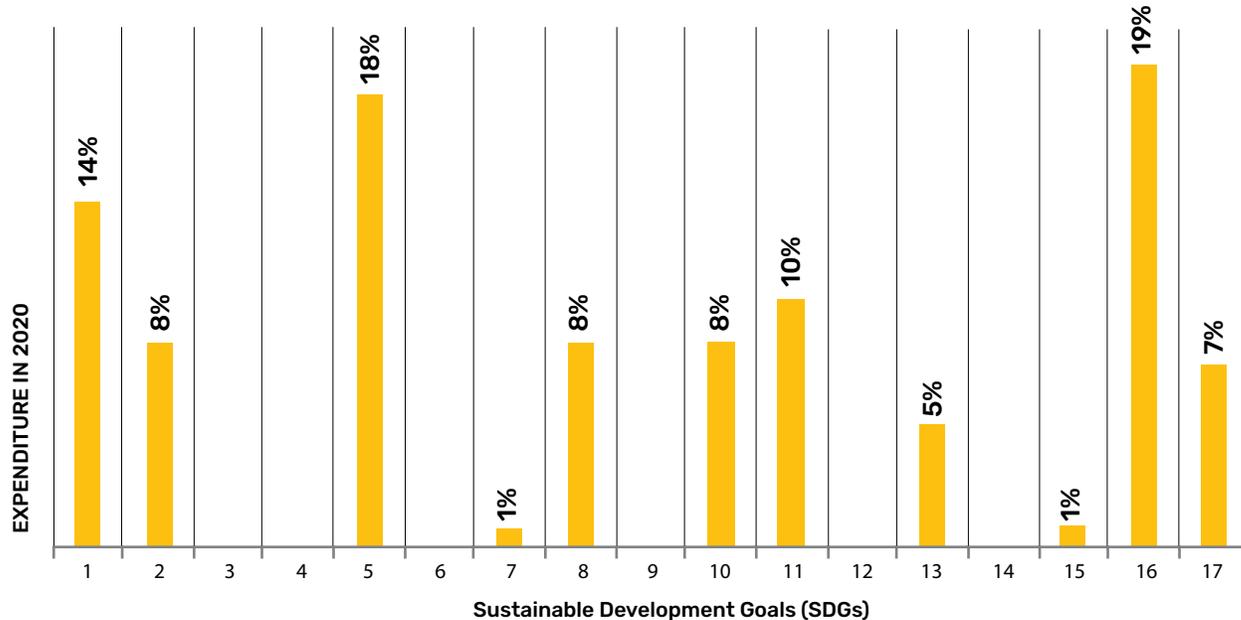


EXPENDITURE BY PROVINCE %



EXPENDITURE CONTRIBUTING TO GENDER EQUALITY & SOCIAL INCLUSION

2020 EXPENDITURE BY SDG



LEGEND

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|
| 1. No Poverty | 6. Clean Water & Sanitation | 10. Reduced Inequalities | 14. Life Below Water |
| 2. Zero Hunger | 7. Affordable & Clean Energy | 11. Sustainable Cities & Communities | 15. Life on Land |
| 3. Good Health & Well Being | 8. Decent Work & Economic Growth | 12. Sustainable Consumption & Production | 16. Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions |
| 4. Quality Education | 9. Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure | 13. Climate Action | 17. Partnerships for the Goals |
| 5. Gender Equality | | | |

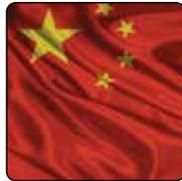
UNDP

Contributing Partners

Note: This list includes bilateral and multilateral donors only.
Please refer to "Funding Sources and Partnerships" for a full list of donors.



AUSTRALIA



CHINA



EUROPEAN UNION



GERMANY



INDIA



NEPAL



NETHERLAND



NORWAY



QATAR



REPUBLIC OF KOREA



THAILAND

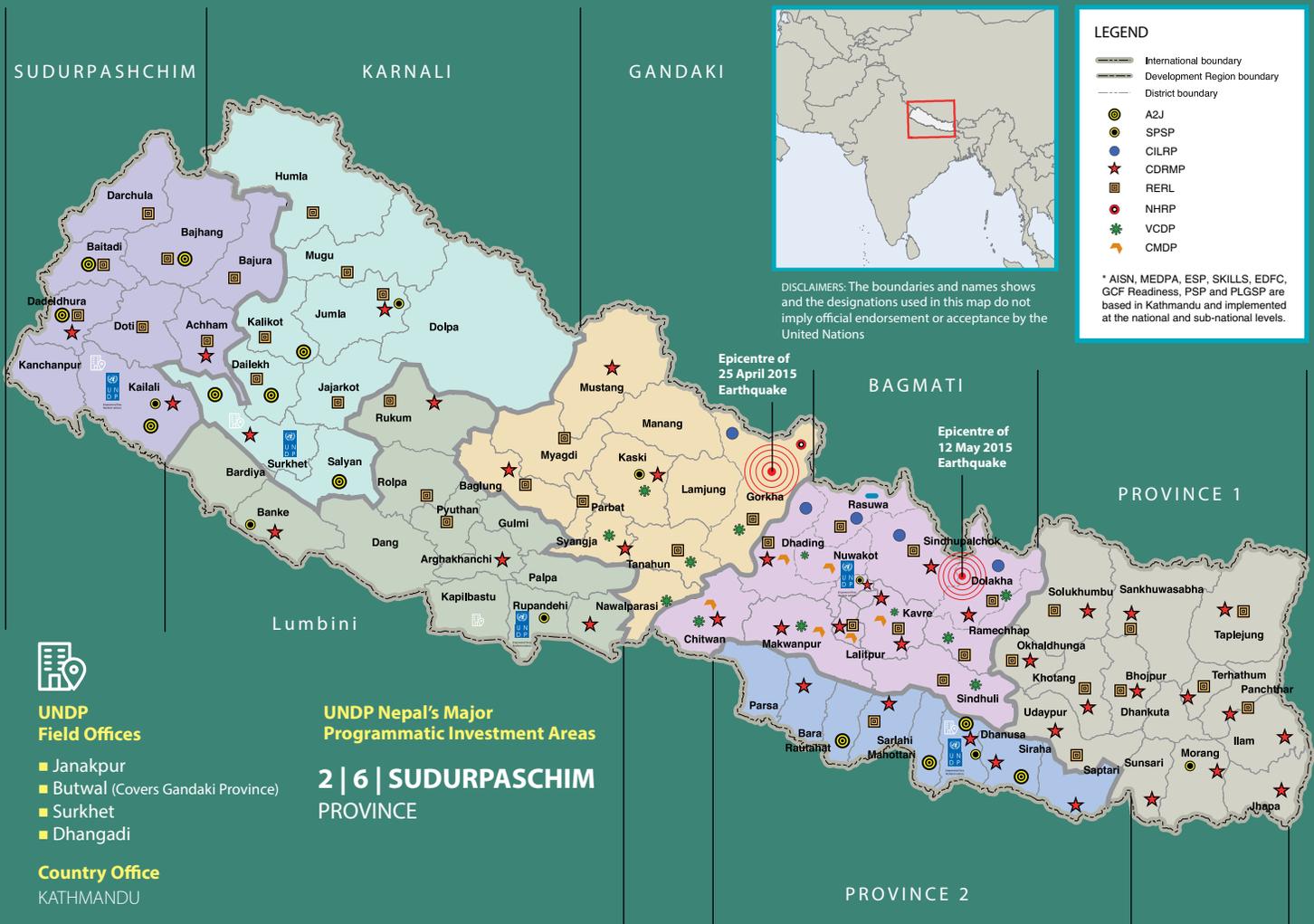


UNITED KINGDOM

UNDP is thankful to all our core donors who have long been providing crucial funding to UNDP at the global level. Many of our core donors are also providing direct funding to UNDP Nepal in addition to their support at the global level. Core donors are those that provide UNDP with regular resources and that is the pillar of UNDP's support to the world's poorest countries to eradicate poverty and inequality, attain sustainable development, and strengthen resilience to crisis. Core resources allow UNDP to enable coordinated, flexible, and rapid responses to development needs and emergencies; provide capability for multi-sectoral and integrated solutions; support countries to leverage financing for the SDGs; and enhance thought leadership, innovation, and quality assurance. The top ten core donors include: United Kingdom, Japan, Sweden, the United States of America, Norway, Germany, Switzerland, Netherlands, Canada and Denmark.

UNDP NEPAL: WHERE WE WORK

AS OF JANUARY 2020



ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AISN	Accelerating the Implementation of the SDGs	MEDPA	Micro Enterprise Development for Poverty Alleviation
A2J	Access to Justice	MoFAGA	Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration
CDRMP	Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management Programme	MoHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
CILRP	Community Infrastructure and Livelihoods Recovery Programme	MoLJPA	Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs
CMDP	Cooperative Market Development Programme	MP	Member of Parliament
COVID	Coronavirus Disease	NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
CSO	Civil Society Organization	NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
DFID	Department for International Development (United Kingdom)	NHRP	Nepal Housing Reconstruction Project
DMGA	District Micro-entrepreneurs Group Association	NPC	National Planning Commission
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction	PCR	Polymerase Chain Reaction
DRRM	Disaster Risk Reduction and Management	PPE	Personal protective equipment
eBPS	Electronic Building Permit System	PSP	Parliament Support Project
ECN	Election Commission of Nepal	RERL	Renewable Energy for Rural Livelihood
EDFC	Effective Development Financing and Cooperation	RNA	Ribonucleic Acid
ESP	Electoral Support Project	SASEC	South Asia Sub Regional Economic Cooperation Programme
EU	European Union	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
GCF	Green Climate Fund	SKILLS	Support to Knowledge and Lifelong Learning Skills
GEF	Global Environment Facility	SPSP	HRC's Strategic Plan Support Project
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion	TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
GoI	Government of India	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
GoN	Government of Nepal	UNSCRC	United Nation Security Council Resolution
HDI	Human Development Index	UNV	United Nations Volunteers
KOICA	Korea International Cooperation Agency	VCDP	Value Chain Development Programme
LGBTIQ	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Queer	VCF	Video conferencing facilities
		VNR	Voluntary National Review
		WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene



This report is a snapshot of the results achieved in 2020. This was possible with the dedication of the entire team including the country office and project team. Here is the UNDP Nepal team in 2020:

Ayshanie Medagangoda-Labé, UNDP Resident Representative

Bernardo Cocco, Deputy Resident Representative

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 Acharya Pradip
 Adhikari Basant Prasad
 Adhikari Chiranjibi
 Adhikari Shiva Prasad
 Ale Ananda
 Amatya Ambika
 Aryal Sudip
 B.k. Laxmi
 Bajracharya Aliska
 Bajracharya Aruna Thapa
 Bajracharya Purnima
 Basnet Nishan
 Basnyat Ayushma
 Basnyat Bijendra
 Bhandari Jyoti
 Bhattarai Krishna
 Bhattarai Raju
 Bhurtel Bibesika
 Bista Aarati
 Bista Amit
 Bista Dinesh
 Bohara Hit Man
 Chand Dhan
 Chaudhary Sajani
 Chaudhary Sajani Kusmi
 Chhetri Sheila
 Cruz Vincent Da
 Dawadi Dharmaraj
 Dhakal Bed Prasad
 Dhakal Sujata
 Dhanchha Shrutina
 Dhungana Kedar Babu
 Dongol Moti Kaji
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 Gautam Satish
 Gautam Sushil
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 Ghimire Ranjit
 Giri Singh Baijanti
 Gosain Bishwaram
 Gurung Abhilasha
 Gurung Bal
 Gurung Kamana

Gurung Rajendra
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 Hart Piper
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 Jovanovska Kristina
 KC Ajay
 Kafle Bhasker
 Kafle Nitisha
 Karki Binita
 Karmacharya Bandana
 KC Deepak
 Khanal Mukunda Mani
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 Kim Gi Un
 Kim Kiyeon
 Kisan Yam
 Kunwar Deepak
 Kushwaha Ramniwas
 Lama Dhan
 Lama Gyan
 Lama Surya
 Lee Hayoung
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 Luitel Indra
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 Maharjan Krishna
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Mishra Ira
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 Paudyal Apar
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 Poudyal Ajaya Raj
 Pradhan Elvis
 Pradhan Sakuntala
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 Prasai Lama Anu
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 Rai Pragyajan
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 Sigdel Kamal Raj
 Singh Randhir
 Singh Umesh
 Singh Vijaya
 Skenderi Petrit
 Sob Surendra
 Subba Santa
 Sunuwar Pushpa
 Swarnakar Dharna
 Tamang Gyanu
 Tamang Krishna Man
 Tamata Tek
 Tamrakar Niranjan Man
 Thapa Akkal

Thapa Aron
 Thapa Govinda
 Thapa Magar Duryodhan
 Thapa Timsina Chhetri Rina
 Thapaliya Bhawani
 Tharu Ram Bahadur
 Timsina Chiranjivi
 Tuladhar Anjali
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