

#### **Centre for Self-help Development (CSD)**

-Institute of Microfinance & Cooperative Development

# 32<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL REPORT



# ANNUAL REPORT



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-Institute of Microfinance & Cooperative Development

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BoD(s) : Board of Director(s)

CEO : Chief Executive Officer

CRT/N : Centre for Rural Technology/Nepal

CSD : Centre for Self-help Development

CSR : Corporate Social Responsibility

EDCOL : Environment Development Co-Operative Organization Ltd.

GB: Grameen Bank

GoN : Government of Nepal

GT : Grameen Trust

HIMACOL: Himchuli Agriculture Co-Operative Ltd.

ICS : Improved Cook Stove

JBLBSL : Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

JSLBSL : Jalpa Samudayik Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

MFCs : Microfinance Cooperatives

MFIs : Microfinance Institutions

MLBSL<sup>1</sup> : Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

MLBSL<sup>2</sup> : Mahuli Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

NGO : Non-Governmental Organization

NLBSL : Nerude Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

NRB : Nepal Rastra Bank

SACCOS : Saving and Credit Cooperative Organizations

SWBBL : Swabalamban Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

ULBSL : Upakar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

UNLBSL : Unique Nepal Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

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#### **FOREWORD**

It is unanimously realized that Nepal has been passing through an economic turmoil for the last few years. The economy is getting sluggish and moving in the path of deterioration. At this moment the most adversely affected ones are the people from low economic strata especially the poor and the marginalized families. The gap between the rich and the poor is ever increasing. Poverty and unemployment are the main challenges of the economy. The richest group of people in the country have been making complaints that their businesses are slacking and falling into financial crisis. But the real sufferers are the voiceless people from the lower income group. Neither the government nor any other development agencies seem to be concerned and serious about their plight and have taken any convincing steps to improve things. The youths of the country have strong conviction that they have no future in the country and there is a mass exodus of the youths from the country in their guest of jobs outside the country.

Against this backdrop, microfinance institutions that have cherished the aim of transforming the lives of the poor and the downtrodden also seem to have drifted from their mission. They have given up the philosophy and the principles of true microfinance. Instead, their style of operations and practices have caused more woes and worries to the poor. The facts of their operational performance and end results show that they not only failed to serve the interest of the target group as stated in their charter but by not working in a desired manner they have failed to safeguard their own interest. At this point of time, the microfinance sector is in a troubled situation due to the mission drift and lust of power and pelf among the concerned. Therefore it is a high time for all the concerned to self-evaluate the outcomes of their actions and achievements sincerely keeping in view the true sense of microfinance goals and objectives, and cherished culture, values, and norms.

The most unfortunate thing today in the country's economic scenario is that there is no clear cut economic vision. Neither do we have well set goals and objectives and plans and programs to overcome the pressing problems of the economy such as poverty, unemployment, and difficulties arising out of climate change. The thrust of the government has been to



export manpower to other countries as commodities and raise the inflow of remittances. Its slogan of enhancing employment creation through entrepreneurship development has been just a farce.

Towards redressing the situation, the country should strive to build up a new independent economy that is free of poverty and unemployment, accentuates the problems of climate change, and promote a new civilization that is based on the three zero concept (zero net carbon emission, zero poverty and zero unemployment) as postulated by renowned economist Noble Laureate Prof. Muhammad Yunus. The new economy should be a social economy that suits our needs and geophysical conditions, builds up from the bottom and be based on the foundation of local strengths and resources. A country much smaller than ours like Bhutan has set an example to this effect.

MFIs as mass-based organizations should play a catalytic role in this juncture and move on putting the well-being of the hardcore poor and the youths in the forefront and facilitating to unleash the huge potentials they inherent. The youths are the key assets for rebuilding the economy and as an ice-breaker for this purpose, they should be motivated to get organized into 3 zero clubs as outlined by Prof. Muhammad Yunus.

This will pave an environment that will make them stand on their own feet and not have to leave the place of their birth. MFIs should be the harbinger of this mission and set an example through bold actions that will show a way forward for the government and its agencies. They should make a vow that they will bring down poverty and employment to zero level in their respective area of jurisdiction by the end of the year 2030 through the potent discharge of their services.

Shankar Man Shrestha Chairman

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



The Centre for Self-help Development (CSD) completed 32 years of its service catering to the socioeconomic development of rural communities. In the fiscal year 2022/2023, the Centre geared up its services towards transforming maximum members of MFIs into entrepreneurs. In this respect, CSD organized Training of Trainers (ToT) on Entrepreneurship Development, through the development of master trainers who subsequently trained MFI staff who on their own would build clients into entrepreneurs and improve their socioeconomic status. Additionally, the Centre has been focusing on youth employment encouraging them to stay in the country and participate in economically beneficial activities that contribute to the development of the nation.

I must thank Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha, Chairman of CSD, for setting the vision of the organization and appropriate guidance to dispense the program and activities of the Centre in the right direction. His collaborative approach as well as proactive role in guiding and grooming CSD is truly praiseworthy.

Likewise, I would also like to thank the Governing Board of CSD and the General Assembly for setting proper guidelines and valuable support in the implementation of the programs. It is also my obligation to thank the Government of Nepal (GoN), the Nepal Rastra Bank, founder members, partner organizations, member institutions, and resource persons for their invaluable support to the organization.

Lastly, I would like to thank the CSD team for their hard work and persistent efforts in helping me to carry out my roles and responsibilities effectively. Last but not least, I appreciate the efforts of Mr. Sopan Bista, Assistant Director in bringing this overall report in this shape.

I look forward to seeing the cooperation of all stakeholders as before.

Bechan Giri Executive Chief

#### Vision, Mission & Goal



Be a sustainable institute of microfinance and cooperatives committed to promoting and developing efficient financial and development services to the poor and the disadvantaged communities by fostering self-help culture of development and augmenting social business.



Improve and strengthen microfinance and related services of MFIs and cooperatives through capacity building, training, knowledge dissemination, research/study, consultancy and networking.



Assist in enhancing MFIs and cooperatives to outreach increased number of poor people with high quality services to upgrade them from poverty level and become entrepreneurs and work for building eco-friendly self-help villages.

### **Objectives**

- Conduct quality, practical and demand driven training courses related to microfinance and micro-enterprise,
- Share knowledge and resources that help strengthen the capacity of MFIs to deliver sustainable and viable market-led solution,
- Carry out projects at the local level for poverty alleviation, social inclusion, environment management and other development issues,
- Help create appropriate community organizations and develop human resources to plan, implement and monitor the activities carried out through mobilizing internal and external resources,
- Undertake studies and impact assessment related to the community development and microfinance initiatives,
- Develop eco-friendly self-help communities,
- Carry out business development services to MFIs and micro-entrepreneur clients,
- Equip in-house and external trainers with training skills and microfinance knowledge,
- Appraise and evaluate financial and social performance of MFIs and cooperatives,
- Network with national and international organizations engaging in social and economic development of people



### CSD Principles

- Changing the dependency mindset of the community people,
- Creating poverty free self-reliant society,
- Making benefits of development available to socially excluded and marginalized families, especially women of the deprived families,
- Creating self-help environment through mobilization of internal resources,
- Discouraging the habit of looking for external agencies grant support,
- Networking and advocacy for quality microfinance institutions,
- Cultivating positive attitude and culture of self-help among the target people and other stakeholders,
- Building up internal strength and capacity to deliver required services to members and communities,
- Adhering to principles of good governance and initiating actions for the same to institutional members and their target group.







- Providing Business Development Services to the microfinance institutions and cooperatives.
- Providing Financial Health Check-up service to the microfinance institutions and cooperatives as per demand.
- Provide microenterprise and entrepreneurship development training to the graduated clients of the microfinance institutions and cooperatives.
- Provide consultancy service to the MFIs on demand.
- Formulation and implementation of the community development projects and initiatives for social, economic and environmental improvement.
- Carrying out quality, practical and demand-driven training courses for microfinance institutions, development banks, cooperatives and other institutions.
- Undertaking impact studies related to the community development and microfinance program
- Work as a network for the microfinance and cooperative institutions.
- Advocacy for the development of value based microfinance institutions and cooperatives.
- Launching awareness raising campaigns and forums for the implementation of the 3Zero concept.
- Liaison, support and coordinate with line agencies, microfinance institutions, cooperatives and local governments for initiating and developing environment friendly self-reliant villages.
- Educate young generation for organizing 3 ZERO Clubs.
- Work for developing second generation of microfinance clients.
- Build partnership with rural educational institutions to develop entrepreneur incubation centre for their students.
- Identify unemployed youths and returnees youths from abroad and encourage them for selfemployment in cooperation with MFIs and Cooperatives.
- Encourage MFIs and Cooperatives to identify hardcore poor in their respective areas and provide required support to get them out of poverty.
- Launch campaign to encourage each eminent MF client entrepreneur to develop five other members to become like herself

### Governance Structure

The Centre for Self-help Development is governed by the General Assembly which comprises of 12 individual members and 45 institutional members. The General Assembly is the highest level policy making body of the organization. The individual members are skilled and qualified professionals who represent different sectors such as microfinance, economic development, banking, engineering, technology, agriculture, research and so forth. The institutional members constitute microfinance institutions, mainly 'D' class microfinance institutions, NGOs, cooperatives and are represented by their leaders.

# Boverning-Board

The General Assembly elects the Governing Board and it comprises seven members. They include the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer and other members who oversee the policy formulation and implementation of the organization. The Governing Board members hold office for a term of two years and appoint an Executive Chief who acts at the behest of the Board and conducts the day to day operational activities of the Centre. S/he is the head of the management team and is responsible to the board for the implementation and follow-up of the policies and the programs approved by the Board.

# Board officials



Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha Chairman



Mr. Mahendra Kumar Giri Vice-Chairman



Ms. Shova Bajracharya
Treasurer



Mr. Dambar Bahadur Shah Member



Dr. Sumitra Manandhar Gurung Member



Mr. Chandi Prasad Sharma Poudel Member



Ms. Gita Kumari Yogi Giri Member

#### ORGANOGRAM **General Assembly Governing Board Executive Chief Director Asst. Director Annual Program,** Research/ Account HRD & **Planning &** Study & Group General Training, **Communications Services Operation Group** Group Group

### Focus Areas



#### **CSD's Working Procedure**

- ▶ Design and develop need based, demand driven training and exchange visit programs and deliver such programs in a participatory manner,
- ▶ Promote cooperation and shared learning approach to implement a standard practice of microfinance in the sector,
- ▶ Identify products design and service delivery mechanism to address the financial need and challenges of target communities,
- Create a knowledge pool by disseminating information regarding current microfinance practices, new products and services, upcoming events through various publications and study reports,
- ▶ Strengthen MFIs and help upgrade quality of their services by enhancing their human resource capacity,
- Rally as an unanimous voice of the microfinance sector on various issues and challenges
  faced by the sector,
- ▶ Cultivate the message of self-help and self-development among the member institutions through conferences, workshops, interactions and training programs at the national, regional and field levels,
- Undertake research and impact studies in microfinance and related sectors through the participation of member organizations,
- Provide advice and counsel to the member organizations and other required stakeholders,
- ▶ Develop partnership with communities, local bodies and development agencies.

CSD follows a membership based network establishment to strategically equip and empower the MFIs and Cooperatives and their members.



Team Members of CSD



Staff of CSD celebrating Laxmi Puja

# MAJOR EVENTS OF THE FY 2079/80 (2022/23)

- ❖ 31<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of CSD
- ❖ 31<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of CSD
- Special Training Programs ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Department Heads, Branch Managers and Field Staff of MFIs and MFCs
- Seminar on Emerging Challenges and Paradoxes of Micro-finance Institutions in Nepal
- Participatory Review and Monitoring Program of 'Self-help Eco-village Development' at Dharpa-3 of Sindhupalchowk District
- Workshop of MFIs and MFCs on Self-help Eco-village Development
- \* Provincial Microfinance Members' Summit
- \* Webinar on Eight Point Directives of NRB for Solving the Current Crisis in Microfinance Sector
- \* Training of Trainers (TOT) on Progress Out of Poverty Index (PPI)
- Domestic Exposure Visit
- Youth Entrepreneurship Dialogue Program with Members' Children of MFIs and MFCs

#### **CSD Celebrates its**

# 31 Anniversary



Chairman of CSD, Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha, and other dignitaries during the Anniversary

The Centre for Self-help Development (CSD) which is the pioneer NGO in microfinance sector in Nepal celebrated its 31<sup>st</sup> anniversary on 13<sup>th</sup> August, 2022 (Shrawan 28, 2079). On the occasion, Chief Guest, Former Governor of Nepal Rastra Bank Mr. Dipendra Bahadur Kshetry and Chairman of CSD, Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha jointly released the Proceedings of the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Microfinance Members' Summit which was held on April 11-12, 2022 in Kathmandu.

Speaking in the occasion Chief Guest Mr. Dipendra Bahadur Kshetry expressed his hearty congratulations to CSD for completing its 31<sup>st</sup> years of services towards the deprived and disadvantage section of the population and lately

working as the network of MFIs and MFCs. He said, "For the past 31 years CSD has been working at the grassroots level to uplift the lives of the poor by understanding the actual problems of the poor and implementing programs to raise their economic condition."

Mr. Kshetry suggested that MFIs should focus on the poverty reduction with heart and soul. "After working over 3 decades, we need to update the database of how many poor families have been upgraded from the level of poverty. Just giving loan will not serve the purpose. We have to be serious and honest to our mission and fulfill our duty with integrity and dedication so that we can bring the poverty to zero level."



Former Governor of NRB, Mr. Dipendra Bahadur Kshetry and Chairman of CSD, Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha jointly releasing the proceedings of the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Microfinance Members' Summit

Addressing the gathering, Chairman of CSD, Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha said, "CSD initiated its activities from Jumla and Kalikot, two of the remotest districts of Nepal. I still remember the initial days of CSD where we facilitated the locals in mobilizing savings and other local resources for their own self-reliance. Initially they felt the poor can't save, but later they collected so much savings which could also be used for lending purpose." He said, "Microfinance sector in Nepal is running in crisis at the moment. We are

disbursing loans haphazardly thinking about maximizing profit by overlooking possible harm to the clients as well as the institutions themselves in the future. If we don't realize our mistakes and correct them immediately, a major catastrophe is imminent. Those who think of changing the world, first must change themselves. We are becoming more concern of our own personal benefit, than that of the society."



Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha cutting a cake during the celebration of 31st Anniversary of CSD

In the occasion the Governing Board of CSD, Ms. Shova Bajracharya said, "The way we visualized microfinance in Nepal could not materialize because we are deviating from our mission and philosophy. We are tending to shift out from our paradigm. We are more centered around profit and destroying the poor with over indebtedness. It is in our hands to build a better future for our members and the microfinance sector as a whole."

Speaking on the occasion Chairman of Nepal Microfinance Banker's Association, Mr. Prakash Raj Sharma said "In Nepal microfinance sector has played a major role in alleviating poverty. We need to identify our strengths and weaknesses for improving our services to the poorest of the poor. The real data of the microfinance institutions should be shown in the report of the Nepal Rastra Bank. The problems should be transparent so that there can be a solution rather than just covering it up."

On the occasion, the founder members of CSD, Mr. Ganesh Ram Shrestha and Mr. Lumin Kumar Shrestha expressed their hearty congratulations to CSD for being able to celebrate 31 years of its glorious performance. Mr. Ganesh Ram Shrestha said that he is proud of being a part of CSD family. Both wished for the further success of CSD in the future as well.

The program was attended by the founder members of CSD along with individual members, representatives of institutional members and other dignitaries of different organizations.



Guests during the Anniversary

# CSD Convokes its 3 1st Annual General Meeting



Newly elected Board of Directors

The 31st General Assembly of the Centre for Self-help Development was convoked on Monday, 26th, December 2022 (11th Paush 2079). The General Assembly emphasized on increasing entrepreneurship through the microfinance program and expanding microfinance access to poor families by teaming up with its member organizations, partners and stakeholders to work with priority. In addition, the General Assembly has decided to continue the concept of three zeros (zero poverty, zero unemployment and zero net carbon emissions) and also to prioritize microentrepreneurship and the Eco-friendly Self-help Village Development Program hand in hand.

The Chairman of the Centre and Chairperson of the assembly, Mr Shankar Man Shrestha, presented the annual report of the Centre for the fiscal year 2021/022 (2078/79) and briefed on the income and expenditure statement, conducted activities and also on the proposed program for the fiscal year 2022/023 (2079/80). On this occasion, Chairman Shrestha informed that in collaboration with the

Yunus Center Bangladesh, Nepal Forum was organized on the occasion of 11<sup>th</sup> Social Business Day and World Social Business Summit successfully to open the floor for the debate on social business promotion and building a new civilization. On these forums, microfinance sector leaders, policymakers, microfinance members and other international personalities including Professor Muhammad Yunus were present in one platform where they discussed the current scenario of microfinance and future course of action.

Similarly, Mr. Shrestha informed that CSD has completed 19 online webinars, dialogue series, interactions and workshops on various topics focused on the activities in the field of microfinance and in which 2572 microfinance practitioners had participated. He also mentioned, "CSD has well-versed the microfinance workforces about the best practices in the microfinance sector in the last fiscal year by organizing 3 national and 3 international study/exposure visits to a total of 80 microfinance members

in order to observe the best practices inside and outside the country and to acquaint them with new knowledge and development across the country." He further added, in presence of about 800 people from 75 microfinance and cooperative organizations invited from Mechi to Mahakali, which included microfinance members, managers, officials, employees, experts, policymakers and other stakeholders, the Third National Microfinance Members' Summit was organized successfully where it also formulated a 11 point declaration.

He further added, "10 poor students from Shree Janajyoti Higher Secondary School of Surkhet district were provided with a total of Rs 3 lakhs scholarship and each student got Rs 30,000. Similarly, a total of 20 students of Shree Ram Secondary School Koshidekha, Kavrepalanchok studying in classes seven and eight were provided with 10 chicks per student with the aim to develop entrepreneurship and self-employment among students at the school level. This kind of initiative will make them realize the opportunities of enterprises and self-employment in their own homes and villages.

Mr Shankar Man Shrestha said that the Centre for Self-help Development has been already working on developing an "Eco-friendly Self-help Village" at Dharpa Village of Bahrabise Municipality, Sindhupalchok district and Mashine Village of Chandragiri Municipality, Kathmandu district in collaboration with the Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. and the Mahila Sahayogi Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd. respectively with technical support of the Centre for

Rural Technology Nepal. He mentioned that these efforts are progressing in a positive manner. He said that in the coming days, the Centre plans to focus on various activities related to training, dialogue, study/exposure visits, formation and promotion of the three-zero club, Eco-friendly Selfhelp Village and entrepreneurship development.

On the instance of the policy and program he said, "To work according to the slogan of the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Microfinance Members Summit: 'Let's expand enterprise to each household and reduce poverty to zero", coordination with Microfinance Institutions and Microfinance Cooperatives and other concerning agencies will be made. The Centre will take the initiative to organize microfinance member conference at the province level, organize awareness raising and skill development training to prepare the children of members as second-generation microfinance members for the development of microentrepreneurship, conduct studies/research and training and seminars related to the challenges faced in the microfinance sector."

In the past three decades, the Center has conducted various projects and programs to improve the social and economic conditions of the backward communities. On 1st January 1992 (17th of Poush, 2048), CSD started its work by conducting a community self-reliance development project in a remote region, Jumla district of Karnali, Nepal and in the year 1993 (2049) Swabalamban Banking Program (SBP) was started in Siraha, Saptari and Udaypur in Eastern Terai as a pilot program. After the success of this program,



Glimpse of 31st Annual General Meeting

with the objective of providing financial access to poor and disadvantaged women, the Swabalamban Laghubitta program has been expanded throughout the country. Swabalamban Laghubitta program which started in 1995 has been transformed into Swabalamban Lagubitta Bikas Bank (now Swabalamban Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.) and has now expanded across the country. The Center for Self-help Development is the first institution to receive approval from the Nepal Rastra Bank to run microfinance programs for the underprivileged.

At present, workshops and conferences are also organized at the national and regional levels to develop awareness, ability, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship development. The Center for Self-help Development has been expanding its network by providing membership to MFIs and MFCs to foster microfinance services and also to sharpen the skills/ knowledge of officials of its member organizations.

#### Main Resolutions of the 31st AGM

#### Unanimous decision to appoint members for Governing Board of CSD

The AGM unanimously passed a resolution to elect 7 members for the Governing Board for next two years. They are founder members of CSD, Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha and Dr Sumitra Manandhar Gurung, Mr Mahendra Kumar Giri, Chief Executive Officer of Sahara Nepal SACCOS, Ms Shova Bajracharya, CEO of Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd, Mr Dambar Bahadur Shah, General Manager of Kisan Bahuudeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd, Mr Chandi Prasad Sharma Paudel, Chairman of Chartare Youth Club Nepal and Ms Gita Kumari Yogi Giri, Joint Secretary of Nepal Women Community Service Center.

#### Decision to appoint Chairman, Vice-chairman and Treasurer

Similarly, the meeting of the new Governing Board held immediately after the AGM also elected its officials of the Board. The members unanimously elected Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha as the Chairman, Mr. Mahendra Kumar Giri as the Vice Chairman and Ms. Shova Bajracharya as the Treasurer.

#### Other resolutions

Sujan Kafle and Associates Chartered Accounts was selected to carry out audit of the FY 2079/80.

Mr. Bharat Shah, CEO of Chameli SACCOS, was elected from among the members present in the AGM to sign the minutes of 31<sup>st</sup> AGM along with the Chairman of Governing Board, Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha and Secretary of Governing Board and Executive Chief of CSD, Mr. Bechan Giri.

#### **Entrepreneurship Development Program**

## **Initiating Action Oriented Entrepreneurship Development Program**

The objective of microfinance is poverty alleviation as well as socio-economic transformation in the lives of the poor people. To this effect, the loans from MFIs to their members should be for productive activities such as agriculture, livestock and/or small scale businesses. In order to promote, groom and develop the target members to become entrepreneurs, CSD, with the support from MSC Global Consulting Pvt. Ltd, organized a ToT as a starting point on Entrepreneurship Development. The overall objective of the ToT was to develop skills and knowledge of senior officials of MFIs and MCs to groom as Master Trainers in order to enable them to impart basic entrepreneurship development counseling and coaching skill to branch managers and loan officers of microfinance institutions (MFIs) and microfinance cooperatives (MFCs). It is expected that the branch managers and loan officers in turn will provide technical and management skills to their respective members so that they can initiate, upgrade and/or diversify their enterprises and raise their income. This program on entrepreneurship development is expected to provide training to 4500 members of MFIs and MFCs to upgrade their enterprises and transform themselves into professional entrepreneurs.

Towards this, a first tier-training program was organized for 24 master trainers from MFIs and MFCs including four officers of CSD. The program was conducted at Kathmandu from March 14 to 17, 2023 and facilitated by Mr. Gokul



Mr. Gokul Pyakurel, one of the resource persons, assisting in the group work during the ToT on Entrepreneurship Development Program for Master Trainers



One of the participants, Mr. Chandra Bahadur Thapa, during a group presentation in the ToT on Entrepreneurship Development Program

Pyakurel and Mr. Rajan KC. It focused on topics such as traits and qualities of a good entrepreneur, classification of enterprises and entrepreneurs, methods of identification of opportunities at local level, methods of formulation of business plan with emphasis on calculation of some important indicators/metrics such as per unit cost of final product(s), per unit selling price of final product(s), return on investment and break-even point. They were taught on the preparation of two types of business plan-one for the branch level business plan and the other for the client entrepreneurs. In the business plan for a branch the focus was on annual forecast/trends/growth, number of entrepreneurs to be created, forecast/trend/growth in number of enterprises and activities to achieve the targets by the particular branch. In the business plan for entrepreneurs the participants were acquainted with important metrics such as revenue generated, net profit, upgrading/ diversification in their enterprises and plan activities to achieve their target.

One of the important features of the ToT was field visit where the participants had to collect relevant information from local enterprise on availability and potentials of raw materials, unskilled/skilled manpower, market availability for their products (local, regional, national or international level). The participants also were made to analyze details of loan needs and current trend of loan size over the years



Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha speaking during the ToT for Master Trainers

and their effects in economic status of the members after being involved in the enterprise.

The second tier ToTs were organized by the master trainers who conducted ToT for their branch managers and staff members in their respective institutions. In the second tier, from altogether 348 branch managers and loan officers of 16 MFIs and MFCs were trained on conducting entrepreneurship development training to their client members. Each of these trainees will have to train at least 20 client members and bring them up as microentrepreneurs within one year period. The overall objective of the second tier ToT was to provide necessary skills and knowledge to the staff of MFIs to capacitate them to impart basic entrepreneurial skills to their client members. The participants of the second tier training learned theoretical and practical knowledge on the concept of entrepreneurship, the possibilities of entrepreneurship

development through microfinance as well as to make secured lending to their members. The 3-day training course covered 12 classes including identification and selection of enterprises and entrepreneurs. In every training, the participants were involved in collecting the information and data of the business done by the microfinance members and preparing an overall business plan for the business or service. After the end of the training each of the trained Branch Manager or the Loan Officers will identify minimum of 20 clients to groom or develop as micro-entrepreneurs in their respective branch and arrange to provide skill based practical entrepreneurial training with the support from resource person specialized in the respective enterprise or an experienced and successful entrepreneur. Such training will be mostly organized on the site of the entrepreneurs so that the trainee entrepreneur clients can see things with their own eyes and experience the practice of the enterprise personally.



Participants in a group work during the ToT for Master Trainers



One of the participants providing his feedback on the quality of ToT

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#### First Tier and Second Tier ToT on Entrepreneurship Development

S.N.		Organized Date	No. of Participants				
	Description		Male	Female	Total		
(a)	Training	Training					
1	ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Department Heads of MFIs and Cooperatives	2079/11/30- 2079/12/03 (March 14-17, 2023)	21	3	24		
2	ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Bauddha Grameen Bahuuddeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.	2079/12/28-30 (April 11-13, 2023)	22	2	24		
3	ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Kisan Bahuuddeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.	2080/1/3-5 (April 16-18, 2023)	22	0	22		
4	ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Mahila Sahayogi Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.	2080/1/11-13 (April 24-26, 2023)	5	10	15		
5	ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Jalpa Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.	May 3-4, 2023	18	13	31		
6	ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.	2080/1/19-21 (May 2-4, 2023)	13	6	19		
7	ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.	2080/1/24-26 (May 7-9, 2023)	16	9	25		
8	ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Udaydev Bahuuddeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.	2080/1/28-30 (May 11-13, 2023)	15	6	21		
9	ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Chameli Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.	2080/1/29-31 (May 12-14, 2023)	14	7	21		
10	ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Swarojgar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.	2080/2/1-3 (May 15-17, 2023)	12	8	20		
11	ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Upakar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.	2080/2/2-4 (May 16-18, 2023)	9	11	20		
12	ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Sahara Nepal SACCOS	2080/2/13-15 (May 27-29, 2023)	17	4	21		
13	ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Navapratibha SACCOS	2080/2/21-23 (June 4-6, 2023)	17	6	23		

s.N.	Description	Organized Date	No. of Participants		
	Description		Male	Female	Total
14	ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Swabalamban Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.	2080/2/30-32 (June 13-15, 2023)	17	3	20
15	ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Nerude Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.	2080/3/4-6 (June 19-21, 2023)	19	1	20
16	ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Sreejanshil Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.	2080/3/8-10 (June 23-25, 2023)	16	6	22
17	ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Chhimek Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.	(June 23-25, 2023) 2080/3/10-12	14	10	24



Group photo of participants during the ToT on Entrepreneurship Development for Master Trainers



Resource person of ToT Entrepreneurship Development for Master Trainers Mr. Gokul Pyakurel



Resource person of ToT Entrepreneurship Development for Master Trainers Mr. Rajan K.C.



ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Bauddha Grameen Bahuuddeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.



One of the resource persons, Mr Chandrakanta Pandit, speaking on the ToT for the staff of Bauddha Grameen Bahuudeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.



ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Kisan Bahuudeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.



Participants during the ToT organized for the staff of Kisan Bahuudeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.



ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Mahila Sahayogi Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.



Participants during a field visit as part of the ToT organized for the staff of Mahila Sahayogi Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.



ToT on Entrepreneurship Development for the staff of Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



One of the resource Persons, Mr. Murari Sapkota, during his presentation at the ToT for the staff of Maushi Laghubitta
Bittiya Sanstha Ltd



ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Group work during the ToT for the Staff of Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. facilitated by Mr. Grishma Shrestha



ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Udayadev Bahuudeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.



One of the participants of Udayadev Bahuudeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd interacting with an entrepreneur as part of group exercise for the ToT on Entrepreneurship Development



ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Chameli SACCOS



Participants collecting data as part of group exercise for the ToT organized for the staff of Chameli SACCOS



Participants during the ToT on Entrepreneurship Development organized for the staff of Swarojgar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Participants during individual exercise during the ToT organized for the staff of Swarojgar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Participants during the ToT organized for the staff of Upakar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Field visit to a dairy farm as part of ToT for the staff of Upakar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Sahara SACCOS



Group Work being carried out as part of ToT for the Staff of Sahara SACCOS



ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Branch Managers and Field Staff of Nawaprativa SACCOS



Group work during the ToT organized for the staff of Nawaprativa SACCOS



Participants in the ToT organized for the staff of Swabalamban Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Participants calculating the income and expenditures of an entrepreneur as part of ToT organized for the staff of Swabalamban Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

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Staff of Nerude Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd in the ToT on Entrepreneurship Development



Resource person, Mr. Krishna Prasad Khadka, during his session on ToT organized for the staff of Nerude Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Participants during ToT on Entrepreneurship Development organized for the staff of Shrijanshil Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd



Participants involved in a group work as part of ToT organized for the staff of Shrijanshil Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



ToT on Entrepreneurship Development to Unit Managers and Assistant Unit Managers of Chhimek Laghubitta
Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



One of the groups visiting grill workshop as part of group exercise during the ToT for Chhimek Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

#### **WAY FORWARD**

- As part of the third tier program, each participant who has completed the training course in the second tier will identify and organize skill development training for at least 20 potential entrepreneurs.
- While selecting entrepreneurs, priority will be given to those who have initiated petty enterprise and have the enthusiasm and motivation to scale-up their existing enterprise.
- 3. Each trainee who has received first tier training on Entrepreneurship Development will coach the branch in preparing entrepreneurship development business plan for the target branch.
- 4. Each trainer branch manager and staff will identify, train, groom and develop at least 20 member clients within a year.
- CSD will provide technical assistance to branches and staff in the process of outreaching to the member clients.
- 6. CSD will conduct periodic online review of progress attained by each designated branch manager and/or staff through his/her designated staff.

- 7. Suitable enterprise is prioritized and selected for intervention based on availability of raw materials, market access, growth potential and other parameters based on the specific geographic condition.
- 8. In case of agriculture and livestock related enterprises focus will be given to develop pocket area in specific geographical location based on comparative advantage of producing the goods in that locality.
- 9. Baseline, midline and endline data of members who have received skill development training will be collected based on indicators such as income, sales, profit, employment generated, technology incorporated and assets accumulated with a view to gauge the quality of intervention and to assess the impact of such intervention.
- 10. The members enrolled in the program will maintain records of their expenditure and income and the concerned trainer will help them in maintaining the records.

# Seminar on Emerging Challenges and Paradoxes of Microfinance Institutions in Nepal



The Centre for Self-help Development (CSD) in partnership with the University of New South Wales (UNSW), Sydney, Australia, organized a seminar on the topic "Emerging Challenges and Paradoxes of Microfinance Institutions in Nepal" on September 5, 2022. The objective of the program was to discuss on the emerging challenges and paradoxes in Microfinance Institutions in Nepal and make common understanding on the new way out.

Dr. Chiranjibi Nepal, former Governor of Nepal Rastra Bank was the Chief Guest of the seminar. He inaugurated the seminar by lighting the traditional Lamp 'Panas'. In his remarks, he said, "Microfinance institutions in Nepal have been following profit centric approach and lately deviated from its core objective of poverty alleviation. He also said, "Milton Friedman, American economist and statistician who received the 1976 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences said that the poor are poor not because they are lazy but because they do not have access to finance."

The Chair of the opening session, Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha said, "Microfinance is the tool of poverty alleviation and within the next five years the country will be free of poverty if we work diligently and with right mindset targeting the right people i.e. the poor. The problems in microfinance that we have been facing now are created by ourselves and with our misdeeds. NRB as a regulatory authority of microfinance should take strict measures and enforce strong penalty to those deviating from the course or not complying its policies and guidelines."

In the session, "How to Manage Competing Demand of Nepalese Microfinance Organizations," Dr. Josh Keller from School of Management and Governance, University of New South Wales (UNSW), Sydney, Australia said, "The dilemma at the policy level could be minor regulation versus over regulation. Overregulation may harm the sector and under regulation may also weaken the compliance mechanism. The paradox mindset is the process of taking these issues simultaneously and mechanism to optimize the solution."

Dr. Nava Raj Simkhada, DCEO of the Sana Kisan Laghubitta Bittiya Santha Ltd. (SKLBSL) said, "SKLBBL provides wholesale loan and Nepal Agriculture Federation provides non-financial services like capacity building and institution development services. Among the shareholders of the Sana Kisan Labhubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd., 44% of the shares are owned by Sana Kisan Agriculture Cooperatives. There is no conflict of interest because if there is high interest rate the shareholders who are also the shareholders of the Sana Kisan Agriculture Cooperatives are going to benefit and if the interest rate is low Sana Kisan Agriculture Cooperatives are going to benefit as they are the recipient of the wholesale loan from the Sana Kisan Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd."

Similarly, Mr. Prakash Raj Sharma, the chairman of the Nepal Microfinance Bankers' Association (NMBA), said that in order to decrease multiple financing NRB should have strict measures for branch expansion and Credit Information Bureau should be functional.



Participants during the seminar on Emerging Challenges and Paradoxes of Microfinance Institutions in Nepal



Participants during one of the sessions of the seminar



Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha and other dignitaries during the Seminar



Chairman of CSD presenting 'Token of Love' to Dr. Josh Keller, School of Management and Governance, University of New South Wales (UNSW), Sydney, Australia

Mr. Mahendra Kumar Giri, CEO of the Saraha Nepal SACCOS, Jhapa said, "There are currently 39,866 cooperatives. Apart from loan disbursement we have been involved in enterprise development and women empowerment." Current issues include, "High default rate, low saving, low loan disbursement, low liquidity and low working capital."

Dr. Prakash Kumar Shrestha said, "Currently the issues in this sector is multiple financing and over-indebtedness. In the period of 10 years credit outstanding has increased from Rs. 1.8 billion to Rs. 3.3 billion but this has not made visible contribution to enterprise development as our export is 10% of our total import." He further added, "There is social banking and profit making paradox. Similarly, we need to use client protection fund for borrowers who are in trouble."

In the session Current Ms. Samjhauta Biswakarma, a client of the Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd., Morang, running a tailoring business suggested, "Besides providing loan, MFIs should provide skill training to their members at village level."

Earlier Ms. Soniya Rijal, PhD Candidate, School of Management and Governance, UNSW, Sydney, Australia highlighted on the objectives of the seminar. She said, "Financial sustainability of particular organization and socio-economic needs of clients can move in tandem if right approach is followed."

In the Seminar there were about 80 participants representing different microfinance and financial institutions, experts, academia, representatives from the Nepal Rastra Bank and other stakeholders.

#### **WAY FORWARD**

- Members of MFIs and MFCs will be capacitated to enhance their skills and transformed into entrepreneurs rather than making them indebted with too many loans.
- 2. A member will be allowed to join a microfinance groups only after assuring that she is not overindebted and while disbursing loan to an individual borrower, the loan celling should not be more than that fixed by regulatory authority and should not be financed by not more than 3 organizations.
- The poverty level of members will be measured by using appropriate tools and the data on existing poverty level of members will be updated periodically by each MFI and a report on this will be submitted to its board annually.
- 4. Borrowers who have defaulted due to shortfall of income should not be forced to pay the remaining installments but the installment plan should be

- re-scheduled to meet their capacity. The regulatory authority should be requested for the approval and necessary directive for this arrangement.
- 5. Hardcore poor who live within the working area of a particular microfinance institution will be approached and assisted for their socio-economic transformation and brought in to the mainstream of microfinance beneficiary groups by utilizing the financial resources from Client Protection Fund and Corporate Social Responsibility Fund.
- 6. MFIs should be capacitated to provide digital services to minimize their operating cost.
- 7. MFIs should make arrangements that their branch managers and area managers make visits to 2 centers and 2 enterprises of their members every working day for monitoring the activities and for effectively making loan utilization check of client.

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## Participatory Monitoring and Review Program on Eco-village Program in Dharpa, Bahrabise Municipality 3 of Sindhupalchowk

### **Environment Friendly Self-help Development Program: Experience of Dharpa**

Environment Friendly Self-help Development Program (EFSVDP) in Dharpa was initiated as a joint project with the support, coordination, and collaboration of the Centre for Self-help Development (CSD), Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. and Centre for Rural Technology Nepal (CRT/N). The objective of EFSVDP is to uplift the socioeconomic status of the poor through entrepreneurship promotion thereby addressing the poverty, unemployment, and other issues endemic in our society. For this, the locals are supported in entrepreneurship development and generating self-employment while addressing the issues of environmental degradation. The program also supports reducing the greenhouse effect and problems associated with environmental issues aggravated through climate change and incorporates actions and remedial measures to counteract the effect. It also incorporates economic, social, environmental, cultural, and geographical issues while selecting activities. It also advocates for bringing into mainstream indigenous technology, skill, knowledge, and local practices.

The EFSVDP was launched in Dharpa, Bahrabise Municipality 3 of Sindhupalchowk District based on the need assessment carried out in the area. Dharpa Village is rich in natural resources and cultural heritage. It is situated in a hilly region with a majestic geographical view and is blessed with clean air and fertile land. It has a rich and exemplary cultural heritage of the Tamang community. The people of Dharpa have not been able to optimally utilize their natural resources and thereby remain poor. It still lags behind in education, healthcare, and employment generation. Due to this, there is a large exodus of local youths for foreign employment. The youths have not been able to modernize the traditional businesses. The majority

of people living in the village are senior citizens, women, and children who have been carrying out subsistence-level agriculture and livestock farming.

Wildlife is abundant in the upper hilly regions of the village. Although water is abundant, the people of Dharpa do not have adequate water for irrigation. The major income source of the village is agriculture farming. About 80% of the people of this region are involved in agriculture and the rest are involved in businesses and foreign employment. In one of the studies carried out by EFSVDP the people living in the high-altitude regions of Dharpa do not have enough paddy fields to produce rice in comparison to those living in the foothills. Maize, millet, and buckwheat are the major crops in the region. In the winter season, most of the land is barren. This is due to a lack of irrigation as well as the exodus of youths. The people of Dharpa also raise chickens, goats, and buffalo. They are all subsistence-level farming. Only limited farmers sell their crops. These crops are sold in the village itself. The people living in higher hilly regions exchange radish, garlic, and green vegetables with rice with those people living in lower foothills where climate and water accessibility induce rice production. If the weather is feasible the farmers have a good harvest of garlic and cardamom. Although there are lots of opportunities the locals are involved in livestock and crop farming at the subsistence level.

The region is also prone to climate change risk. Mr. Dol Bahadur Pakhrin, one of the residents of Dharpa, has seen major changes in the region. He says that the natural resources are depleting. As per Mr. Pakhrin in some years the crops planted give good harvest while in other years



Plastic Pond constructed for rain water harvesting as part of Eco-village program



Delegates visiting the vermin compost site



Villagers of Dharpa using traditional agriculture method before the Eco-village program



Tunnel farming technology used after the Eco-village intervention

it gives poor harvest. Annual rainfall pattern is also changing where the intensity of rainfall has increased but the number of wet days have decreased. There is heavy rainfall in some regions and drought in other places. The winter and summer seasons are slowly changing. This is having a major impact on agriculture productivity. Nowadays farmers have come across various types of pests. Those who are poor and dependent on natural resources are vulnerable to climate change and changes in seasonal rainfall patterns.

Dharpa village is still lagging in infrastructure development. There is a non-existence of government and non-governmental organizations. Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. has provided financial access to the locals of Dharpa village. The locals have been involved in livestock, agriculture, and micro enterprises after getting loans from the MFI. Although the village is accessible by road, it takes about an hour's drive from Bahrabise to reach the village as the road condition is not good which is earthen and rugged. Public transport is also irregular.

Due to various problems faced by the people of Dharpa village, it was seen as an ideal village for EFSVDP intervention. In 2019, there was a tripartite agreement between the Centre for Self-help Development (CSD), Centre for Rural Technology (CRT), and Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. to launch EFSVDP in Dharpa village. Manushi Laghubitta has been providing microfinance services in this area. After the tripartite agreement, a need assessment was carried out in 101 households of Kashingdada, Lamatole, Markinidada and Geshardada. The objective of the survey was to collect information on the social, economic, cultural, and environmental features of Dharpa village. The information gathered from the survey will be used to conduct the needs assessment necessary to implement EFSVDP. The staff of Manushi Laghubitta who took part in the survey were provided one day of training. The staff collected information on education, income, land productivity and ownership, agriculture and livestock, water resources, energy consumption, financial status, and other related information.

The survey focused on activities to be carried out as part of an Environment Friendly Self-help Village to uplift the socio-economic condition of the targeted people. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic field, field-level activities could not be carried out but from Mangsir 2078 various activities were carried out. The priority was focused on agriculture for food security and increase in income level of the targeted community. It also focused on the adoption of new technology so that the targeted community can transform themselves from subsistence level to commercial farming. As part of this approach, 16 members were provided training on tunnel construction for vegetable farming. To prioritize organic farming and fulfill the scarcity of fertilizer, training on vermin compost was provided to 26 participants. Training on liquid fertilizer production and water and waste management was provided to 25 local beneficiary people of Dharpa. The locals constructed a plastic pond during the training as part of their practical group work exercise. The same plastic pond is used in the dry season for irrigation purposes. Similarly, to prioritize clean energy use, locals were trained on improved cook stoves. The improved cook stove will reduce smoke in the kitchen which will minimize health-related issues in women who are involved in cooking. The 137 households were provided with two Sichuan Pepper (Nepali Timur) plants, one Indian Bay Leaf (Nepali Tej Pat) plant, and one avocado plant each. It is hoped that this will help in the promotion of greenery, and carbon sequestration as well as increase the income of beneficiary clients. To sensitize the new generation on ESVDP an orientation program was organized in Kshamadevi Secondary School. Similarly, an art competition was also organized among 41 students studying in class 9.

On December 15, 2022 (Mangsir 29, 2079) participatory monitoring and review program was organized in Dharpa village. All the stakeholders present in the program were acquainted with activities carried out on ESVDP, its impact at the local level, and the future course of action. The locals believed that the activities carried out on ESVDP have had a positive impact on social, economic, and environmental dimensions. They said that the productivity as well as income level of farmers had increased substantially. Previously they were undertaking subsistence-level farming and after the intervention of ESVDP, they were able to commercialize their farming technology.

Regarding the future course of action, they said that activities to further increase productivity, branding mechanisms, fair prices for the farmers, and facilitation of marketing techniques of finished goods were necessary. The locals were also able to share their views with the local government.

The objective of the review program was also to share the activities carried out in the village. The Mayor of Bahrabise Municipality Mr. Balkrishna Basnet and the Chairman of Ward no 3 Mr. Gajendra Bhandari were also present in the review program. The duo expressed the need to integrate the activities in the village with the Municipality and Ward level programs. Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha, Chairman of CSD, Ms. Shova Bajracharya, CEO of Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd., and Dr. Purushottam Shrestha, Executive Director of CRT were also present there in the program. They said that the locals should cultivate environment-friendly habits and carry out activities that advocate for the protection and safeguarding of nature and inhibit activities detrimental to the environment. For this, the locals should emphasize on construction and use of improved cook stoves, and plastic ponds and also promote greenery through tree plantation. These kinds of activities will be carried out in the future based on the needs of local beneficiary people.

The locals were further energized by the participation of relevant stakeholders from various organizations as well as representatives from local government. Similarly, with the active participation of locals, stakeholder organizations, and local government, a future course of action of the program was developed that focused on environment-friendly technology and practices that transform the socio-economic conditions and overall quality of life of the local people.

Present in the program, Ms Durga Devi Thing, a resident of Bahrabise Municipality 3, Sindhupalchowk District said that she has generated a sizable income by being involved in tunnel farming. She sold tomatoes worth Rs 45,000, red cherry pepper chilly (Nepali Dalle Khursani) worth Rs 5000 as well as Luffa Gourd (Nepali Ghiraula). She is

pleased that she can generate substantial revenue from the land that could barely harvest one basketful (Nepali Doko) of maize.

Similarly, Ms Bhimkumari Tamag a resident of Bahrabise Municipality 3, Sindhupalchowk District said that she has cultivated tomatoes through tunnel farming. In the last 5 months, she harvested 1,300 Kg of tomato from the same tunnel. She generated an income of Rs 55,000 from her venture.

Although both Ms Thing and Ms Tamang are involved in farming, this is the first time that they have been able to generate income of this amount. Earlier they would also harvest radish, millet, maize, buckwheat, and various types of vegetables. They would sell the surplus harvest left after household consumption in the local shops in their village. The villages were involved in subsistence-level farming earlier. After the introduction of the Environment Friendly Self-help Village Development Program (EFSVDP), they have transformed themselves into commercial farmers.

Also present in the program, about 18 women of Dharpa village have initiated commercial farming with the support of EFSVDP. They said that the program has also supported them in uplifting their socio-economic status through involving them in environment-friendly technologies. The locals have started using Improved Cook Stove (ICS) to reduce indoor air pollution which has also contributed to preventing excessive use of forest resources. They have also built plastic ponds to collect and store rainwater for irrigation purposes and mitigate the issue of water shortage during the off-season. They have also incorporated tunnel farming for off-season vegetables and generated extra cash after selling vegetables. The locals have produced liquid fertilizers as well as vermin compost for organic farming and have benefitted immensely from this practice. Organic farming has helped farmers maintain the quality of soil, safeguard ecological balance, and encourage sustainable living solutions through supplanting chemical fertilizers. To increase the income level of locals and increase forest area they have decided to plant fruit saplings.



Another glimpse of tunnel farming technology after the intervention



One of the members showing the quality of vermin compost to the visiting delegates

# Three Micro-entrepreneurs Awarded

The Centre for Self-help Development awarded three local members for their outstanding contribution in the Environment Friendly Selfhelp Village Development Program (EFSVDP) in Dharpa, Barabise Municipality-3. The awardees were Ms. Bimala Tamang, Ms Durga Devi Thing and Ms. Bhim Kumari Tamang. Ms Bhim Kumari Tamang and Ms. Durga Devi Thing were present in the training program on Organic Vegetable Farming Training and showed exemplary dedication and commitment in organic vegetable farming and marketing. Ms. Bimala Tamang meanwhile was present in the training program on improved cook stove and showed her commitment in construction and marketing of improved cook stoves.

A cash prize of Rs 2000 each were handed over to all the three awardees in the program on Participatory Monitoring and Review which is one of the activities conducted as part of Environment Friendly Self-help Village Development Program (EFSVDP). The cash prize was handed over to the awardees by Chief Guest and Mayor of Barabise Municipality Mr Balkrishna Basnet and Special Guest and Chairman of CSD, Mr Shankar Man Shrestha.



Ms. Durga Devi Thing felicitated during the Participatory Monitoring and Review Program in Dharpa village for her dedication in production and marketing of commercial organic vegetable farming



Chairman of CSD, Mayor of Bahrabise Municipality, Chairman of Ward No. 3 and other dignitaries in the review program



Dignitaries with the locals and entrepreneurs who were felicitated in the review program

# Workshop of MFIs and MFCs on Self-help Eco-village Development

The Centre for Self-help Development (CSD) organized a 4 day field based Self-help Eco-village Development workshop from January 29 to February 1, 2023 at Dhulikhel Lodge Resort, Kavrepalanchok Distrsict. The main objectives of this residential workshop was to familiarize the participants with concept and components of Self-help Eco-village Development Program and initiate similar activities in their operational area. The workshop aimed to give them first-hand experience on various facets of eco-village system.

In the first day, the participants after their registration at CSD office proceeded to event venue at Dhulikhel and attended the opening program in the evening. They were welcomed by the Director of CSD Mr. Satish Shrestha. He highlighted on the objective of the workshop and role of MFIs in eco-village development, and how the workshop would help them understand the concept as well as the practical application of its component along with microfinance operation.

It was followed by a technical session delivered by Mr. Sanu Babu Pandit and Mr. Farsa Bahadur Tandan, Technical Officers of the Center for Rural Technology, Nepal (CRT/N). They highlighted on the environment and biodiversity conservation of the target village, sanitation and hygiene, and problems of climate change, climate smart activities and also potential components and features of eco-village.

In the second day, the participants visited Dharpa village of the Barhabise Municipality ward 3, Sindhupalanchok, which is the first experimental eco-village implemented jointly by CSD, CRT/N and Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. The participants interacted with the members of the Manushi, who are also participants of the self-help eco-village program. They discussed on the needs as well as the interventions and its relevancy to the local households and the community. They were familiarized with tunnel farming, vermin compost, organic liquid manure and fertilizer, improved cook stoves, plastic water ponds for irrigation as well as impact brought out by these interventions. An interaction program was also organized in the Chhyamadevi Higher Secondary School, especially with the 3 zero club members, students and teachers. Manushi has formed six 3 zero clubs among the students of the school.

The third day of the workshop comprised of a field visit to Bethanchowk Rural Municipality 5 of Kavrepalanchok district, the first area of eco-village launched by CRT/N with 100 participating households. The visiting team interacted with the village committee of the eco-village named Nawa Urjashil Krishi Samuha in their community hall. All the participating households of this village have been adopting clean and renewal energy, sustainable agriculture practices and following environment friendly and sustainable way of living with positive effects on their income sources as well. After interaction, the participants



Mr. Satish Shrestha, Director of CSD, during a field visit



One of the participants sharing his views in the workshop



Dignitaries with the locals and entrepreneurs who were felicitated in the review program

were divided into four groups and visited different households and project sites along with the committee members to observe and learn from their practices. The participants observed improved water mill (panighatta), biogas plant, chilling vat, tunnel farming, drip irrigation, solar dryer, improved cook stoves, induction stove etc. which were promoted for livelihood improvement. The team members also got acquainted with the improved cattle shed and organic fertilizer practiced by the farmers to discourage the use of chemical fertilizer in their farm.

An open discussion session was organized in the last day of the workshop which was prioritized on the sharing and learning from the participants. It was chaired by the Chairman of CSD Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha. It mainly focused on the learning from two field visits and possibilities to replicate the same back home in their own organization. The participants also unanimously agreed to implement such self-help eco-village program at their

working areas of microfinance program and also agreed to submit the action plans prepared in consultation with their board and management within a time frame of 15 days.

In the closing session Chairman of CSD, Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha said that developing self-help ecovillage is a process to make our villages culturally rich, ecologically sound, environmentally sustainable, financially self-sufficient, and live with social harmony.

On the occasion the CEO of the Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. Ms. Shova Bajracharya one of the partners of the Self-Help Eco-village Development Program in Dharpa, shared her experience that the Manushi Laghubitta has been able to build goodwill among the microfinance members, local community and local government after working on the self- help eco-village in Dharpa.

Dr. Purushottam Shrestha Executive Director of CRT/Nepal, which is a technical partner in implementing this program said, "As the program goes hand in hand with microfinance program, it has become a good platform to develop entrepreneurship among the local women. The program will also ensure security, effective utilization and repayment of loan provided to them."

The workshop was participated by the 25 individuals including, Chairmen, Board Members, CEOs, and senior officials of the 15 MFIs.



Participants with school children at the premises of the Kshamadevi Secondary School

### **Provincial Microfinance Members' Summit**

### The First Provincial Microfinance Members' Summit of Koshi Province Concluded with 14-point Declaration



Honorable Minister for Women, Children and Senior Citizen, Ms. Bhagawati Chaudhary lighting the traditional lamp 'Panas'



Guests in the Summit

The First Provincial Microfinance Members' Summit of the Koshi Province was concluded with the vow to make microfinance services civilized, dignified and effective and also decided to dedicate it to its target groups for raising their living standards. The Summit was held on February 12, 2023 in Biratnagar, the capital of Koshi Province. The Summit also passed a 14-point Declaration unanimously.

As with the National Summit, the theme of the slogan was also "Expand Enterprise to Each Household and Reduce Poverty to Zero". The representatives of the participating organizations discussed on the different dimensions of the microfinance including the present situation of the microfinance. They agreed to act together to overcome the current crisis by eradicating the weaknesses seen in the MFIs and cooperatives in the process of the implementation of microfinance service delivery and act urgently to increase the entrepreneurship among the members. The declaration of the summit has stated to formulate a clear action plan and implement concrete programs to protect the members from the excessive burden of loans. Similarly, the declaration has urged MFIs and cooperatives and their employees to increase contact with their members, award employees who have good performance and build relation with members regularly and establish an effective mechanism to listen the grievances of clients. The summit also decided to encourage youths to become self-employed, empower the members by providing financial literacy and skill development training in addition to financial services as well as ensure the effective utilization of the loans by the members.

The one-day Summit was held under the chairmanship of Mr. Sanjay Kumar Mandal, Chief Executive Officer of the Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. The summit was inaugurated by Honorable Minister for Women, Children and Senior Citizens, Ms. Bhagawati Chaudhary.

Addressing the opening session, Minister Chaudhary said, "Microfinance program is a campaign against poverty started for the poor and underprivileged women. They can take credit and become entrepreneurs to raise their living standard. However, the loan should be used for the purpose for which the loan is taken. Microfinance program has played an incomparable role for the empowerment of the deprived women in Nepal and it should be further developed as a clean and service-oriented business for social transformation."

Speaking at the closing ceremony of the conference, Member of Federal Parliament Mr. Yogendra Mandal said, "Microfinance is an effective program of Nepal for poverty alleviation and upliftment of disadvantaged groups with focus on women. For this, microfinance institutions and their members should be able to benefit by working together in accordance with the spirit and fundamentals of Microfinance."



Diginataries and guests during the Summit

While addressing the conference, Guest Speaker Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha, Chairman of the Center for Self-help Development (CSD) said, "There is a mission drift in microfinance and many organizations are not working in accordance with microfinance norms, ethics and values and focusing on profit making without being responsible to the members. The regulatory body Nepal Rastra Bank is also guilty of not taking the right policy." He suggested that in order to solve the current disruptions and the problems among the members, microfinance practitioners should move ahead with the principles and spirit of microfinance and regulating authority should be diligent on the wrong doings and practices of MFIs.

Mr. Bam Bahadur Mishra, Deputy Governor of the Nepal Rastra Bank, stated that the problems arose because the number of microfinance institutions are more than what is necessary in the country. He promised to bring microfinance institutions to the right number in the near future.

Mr. Sanjay Kumar Mandal, Chairman of the Summit Organizing Committee and Chief Executive Officer of the Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. stated that the microfinance is the best program, in which poorest of the poor can have an opportunity to enhance their living standard. He mentioned that recently some vested interest groups have tried to misinterpret this sector for their own benefits. In addition, he said that the Summit has been organized to gear up the microfinance movement, purify the overall system and make it more accessible to the poorest and most deprived group of the country.

On the same occasion, six of the participating members shared their experience on how they could upgrade themselves into entrepreneurs from the daily wage earners and changed their socio-economic status after taking loan from microfinance institution.

In the summit, three thematic sessions on Impact of Microfinance on Women and Rural Areas, Meaning of

> Microfinance, Financial Literacy and Customer Protection as well as the Importance of Microfinance in Nepalese context were discussed. A total of 515 participants including Board Directors, Chief Executive Officers, employees, experts, members of microfinance institutions and other stakeholders of about 21 microfinance a n d microfinance cooperatives had participated in the Summit.



Chairman of CSD expressing his views in the Summit







Cultural Program during the Summit

### Declaration of the 1<sup>st</sup> Provincial Microfinance Members' Summit of Koshi Province -2023

- To execute the slogan of the 3rd National Microfinance Members' Summit and then First Provincial Microfinance Members' Summit "Expand Enterprise to Each Household and Reduce Poverty to Zero".
- 2. As microfinance program is a tool for socioeconomic transformation, the flaws and weaknesses of the micro financing organizations should be corrected and protected from future crisis.
- 3. MFIs should make a well spelled out action plan to enhance the entrepreneurship of the members.
- 4. In order to protect microfinance members from over-indebtedness, both the institutions and the members should be cautious to refrain from likely problems.
- 5. The employees of microfinance and cooperative organizations should frequently visit their members and have regular interaction with them. In addition, every organization should develop an annual reward system for the outstanding employees to boost up their morale.
- 6. Establish grievance handing cells in each organization and handle them effectively.
- 7. The employees of every microfinance and cooperative organization should treat the member well and not behave with him/her badly.

- 8. MFIs and Cooperatives should motivate children of their members to become self-employed in their homestead rather than encourage them for foreign employment.
- Organizations should support to empower members by providing financial literacy and skill development trainings in addition to the financial services.
- Members should make proper utilization of the loans and the concerning organizations should make timely monitoring of their members.
- 11. Organization will provide required financial information to the members regularly and members should repay their loans on time.
- 12. As per the principles of microfinance, members should be given initially small loan amount and gradually increase the size of the loan after they get required experience.
- 13. Members will not be limited to one business. This helps them to diversify to increase their source of income by involving in multiple potential enterprises in their area.
- 14. Members will be encouraged to build their own capital through regular savings and become financially sustainable.

# Webinar on Eight Point Directives of NRB for Solving the Current Crisis in Microfinance Sector



Experts are of the view that the 8-point directive of the Nepal Rastra Bank (NRB) will help to improve the quality of the microfinance sector in long term and support them in adhering to follow the principles, values and culture of microfinance. It will also lead the microfinance sector to the right path. In an online webinar organized by the Centre for Self-help Development (CSD) under the 20<sup>th</sup> web-talk series, they concluded that although the 8-point directives seem to have tightened the scope and operation of microfinance institutions in the short term, it will help to restore the image of microfinance in the long run.

The webinar was organized to clarify the main objectives and spirit of the directives. The key note speaker of the webinar, Executive Director of Microfinance Institutions Supervision Department of the Nepal Rastra Bank Mr. Revati Prasad Nepal highlighted that the directives are very necessary to guide microfinance on the right path and it is expected to help build sustainable development of microfinance in long run. "Recently, there have been many distortions and wrong doings in microfinance. On seeing the weakness, some vested interest groups started an anti MFI movement and the achievements made by the MFIs in the last four decades was ruined instantly. There is an urgency to address the major issues confronting MFIs which have led to this crisis. I hope you all understand and move forward with the values and principle of microfinance and its goal to achieve poverty alleviation. As of now, CEOs are not tired saying that we have worked on poverty alleviating but knowingly or unknowingly they are focusing for their own betterment and not for their members. If what is said differs from what is done, NRB will not tolerate and will bring tighter regulations to control the misdeeds of MFIs," Mr. Nepal said.

On the occasion Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha, Chairman of CSD remarked, "There is a need for strengthening, purifying and refining microfinance operations to bring it back to right track and the eight-point directives of the Nepal Rastra



Chairman of CSD with other speakers in the webinar

Bank will help in this regard. Should this directive have come much earlier, the distortions currently faced by microfinance sector would be avoided. We all know that microfinance has become profit focused and employees and promoters friendly instead of becoming members friendly. The present crisis needs to end." Mr. Shrestha further added, "NRB seems determined to control wrong practices through this directive such as multiple and over financing, pushing the clients to loan trap and excessively dividend oriented culture forgetting the objectives and principles of microfinance. It is said that Nepalese MFIs have followed the Grameen Model, but in practice we have perverted and distorted this model. NRB must ensure that all the MFIs should go through the principles, values and spirit of microfinance."

Chairman Shrestha also emphasized that MFIs should work on entrepreneurship development of the target group. He cautioned that MFIs should not be involved in the clients poaching game to earn more profit because it will give them short term benefit only and will weaken the clients and the microfinance sector as a whole.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman of the Chhimek Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd., Mr. Ram Chandra Joshi said that the microfinance sector did not require any regulation in the past but now needs to be strictly regulated due to their deviations from the principles of microfinance. He also said that the current 8-point directive is very positive and necessary, and this will help to regain the strength of the microfinance sector.

Another speaker of the webinar, Mr. Sanjay Kumar Mandal, Chief Executive Officer of the Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. opined, "There is no need to regulate many things that are in conformity with the principles and not deviating from the basic fundamentals of microfinance. The main problem now is that we have not practiced the Grameen Model as it was envisaged. We have forgotten the spirit of the model we learnt and practiced on the start of the program. We have not been able to move ahead keeping in mind the poor and the disadvantaged communities and work towards their upliftment. Now MFIs have faced more problems in the urban areas. This means that we have forgotten our target group who live in the villages. So we have to focus on the villages for the poor and the disadvantaged group."

Another speaker of the webinar, Ms. Bimala Yogi, Chief Executive Officer of the Jalpa Samudayik



Speakers and Participants during the Webinar

Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. said that the directives of NRB are positive for employees who believe in adhering to the principles and mission of microfinance. She also added that the directive reminds us of complying with the fundamentals of microfinance while discharging our duty.

A total 260 participants from various microfinance and financial institutions had attended the webinar.

### Training of Trainers (TOT) on Progress Out of Poverty Index (PPI)

The Center for Self- help Development (CSD) organized a 3 day PPI Training of Trainers (TOT) to 23 senior officials and branch managers of microfinance institutions in Biratnagar in coordination with the Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. (JBLBSL). The objective of the program was to familiarize microfinance officials with the importance of PPI and acquaint them with the use of formats and calculation of different parameters of the PPI to measure the living standard of microfinance members.

Progress Out of Poverty Index (PPI) is an internationally recognized tool used to gauge the poverty level of the poor. It calculates the number of individuals below poverty line among the total respondents. It helps government and socially affiliated institutions to prepare strategies and programs to support the people living below poverty line. In this training, participants were able to understand the purpose, objectives, features, development and working modality of PPI. They also enhanced their learning through experience sharing, group discussions, lectures and demonstrations using multimedia, power point and field exercises.

The TOT was facilitated by Mr. Sanjay Kumar Mandal, CEO, Mr. Sudip Kumar Mandal, HR Department Chief and Mr. Ramesh Ray, MIS & IT Department Chief of the Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

In the opening session of the training program, on behalf of CSD Ms. Renu Prajapati welcomed all the participants and highlighted on the importance and modalities of the training. In the meantime, she also shared that CSD is playing its role as an umbrella organization to build and strengthen the capacity of member and non-member MFIs and Cooperative Organizations. She also urged all participants to take this opportunity of learning to broaden their knowledge.

Mr. Sudip Kumar Mandal, one of the training facilitators, imparted on the importance of the PPI and encouraged the participants to learn from the training and implement the learning in their respective organizations.

To make the learning of the training more effective, a field visit of members' households and enterprises had also been carried out at the Rani branch of JBLBSL. The participants were divided into four groups to collect data as per PPI format. The participants also tabulated their collected data in excel sheet for PPI report preparation. Mr. Sudip Kumar Mandal acquainted the PPI report verification and reporting process with the participants.

The closing session was chaired by Mr. Sanjay Kumar Mandal, CEO of the Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. He also urged all the participants to use the skills and knowledge acquired in the training in their work. All the participants appreciated the training and committed to roll out the learning of the training in their respective institutions.



Participants during TOT on Progress Out of Poverty Index (PPI)



Participants collecting data from a local member as part of the group work

### **Domestic Exposure Visit**

### West Meets East

### A Practice of Learning from Each Other

In the last two decades microfinance in Nepal has taken a big leap forward in terms of the number of institutions providing loans, volume of loan transactions and the number of client members. In the beginning, microfinance practitioners in Nepal had learned from Bangladesh but now microfinance institutions can learn innovative business practices, client friendly schemes, and other credit plus activities from one another within the country side by side. Towards this end, the Centre for Self-help Development (CSD) has been organizing in-country visits regularly.

This year, CSD organized a high level MFIs officials' study/exposure visit "West Meets East" Program from January 22 to 28, 2023 to observe the good practices of the microfinance members and microfinance institutions of Eastern Nepal and learn from their experiences. A total of 13 representatives of 8 microfinance and cooperative organizations of western part of Nepal including some representatives from Bagmati and Madhesh Province had participated in the visit.

They had begun the visit program from the Mahuli Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. and the Shrijanshil Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. of Madhesh Province. During the visit, the team also observed the clients' businesses of the Nerude Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd., the Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd., the Navodaya Multipurpose Cooperative Ltd. and the Sahara Nepal Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.

In Jhapa the Sahara Nepal SACCOS has been instrumental in developing pocket area for raising enterprises in various sectors such as livestock, dairy, bee-keeping and providing not only financial support but also technical services through its own technical staff. It has also made arrangement for the marketing of the products so that members could get fair price for their products. Sahara has aimed to make Jhapa district self-reliant in meat, dairy and honey production.

During the discussion with the Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. (JBLBSL), the participants got acquainted with the use of digital technology in microfinance. In his presentation Mr. Sanjay Kumar Mandal, CEO of JBLBSL explained that JBLBSL has been conducting major official work such as reporting, record keeping, documentation, monitoring of staff and centres through digitalized system. JBLBSL has online customer care, real time grievance handling mechanism and digital technologies like Jeevan Bikas Digital App, GPS, Human ATM etc.

The visiting team also got information on Human ATM under Biratnagar Rani Centre of JBLBSL. Under this project, JBLBSL has formed a digital member who can provide loans, collect installments and savings as well as provide utility payment services digitally like an ATM with the account code that members have. The members also can do all their debit and credit transactions physically with the digital members via their own account. All records of



Orientation program for visiting team of 'West Meets East' program



Exposure visit team at one of the centres of MFIs

Human ATM will be processed at real time and all of the transactions by the digital member have been tracked in the digital system. The digital member who uses his/her money and account for this service gets paid 0.5 percent of every transaction.

Mr. Mandal expressed that the digitalization has brought transparency, effectiveness of the services, and efficiency of the resources. He also said that JBLBSL has started Progress Out of Poverty Index (PPI) to know the status of the members and provide better services.

The visiting team was also acquainted with various loans such as energy loans, self-employment loans, and technology loan as per the needs of the target group. The team also observed the credit plus programs for the

members and various supports MFIs and Cooperatives have been providing under the corporate social responsibility requirement of the MFIs and Cooperatives in the eastern Nepal. Currently the MFIs and Cooperatives are supporting on health, education, settlement of the poor families and other social activities for the senior citizens, cultural preservation, and disaster management, for which they are collaborating with INGOs, NGOs and Community Based Organizations in coordination with local governments.

During the review program, the team members said that the visit helped them a lot to learn about the innovative program of the MFIs and Cooperatives. In addition, the team formulated a 13-point way forward and uniamously agreed to implement them.



MFI officials during 'West Meets East' exposure visit



One of the members of Sahara SACCOs briefing on her enterprise to the 'West Meets East' exposure visit team

#### Way forward of the West Meets East Program

- 1) Keep updated profiles of employees in every branch with photos.
- 2) Create a PDF file of the organization's policies and procedures and incorporate them in Core Banking System (CBS).
- Arrange CCTV cameras and Biometric Attendance in all branches.
- 4) Implement Progress Out of Poverty Index (PPI) process to measure the state of clients.
- 5) Start evaluation of employees in the Core Banking System and reward 3 employees in every 3 months.
- 6) Pinpoint center meeting place in GPS system and upload it in the Core Banking System.
- Educate the staff on the formation of Three Zero Club among students and children of the members.

- 8) Implement entrepreneurship development program as a campaign.
- 9) Encourage to form group based enterprises and support them technically and financially.
- 10) Set up a grievance readdressing unit and make necessary arrangements for its free and fair operation.
- 11) Implement Environment Friendly Selfreliance Village Development program with priority.
- 12) Conduct loan appraisal and utilization checks effectively through online system or manually.
- 13) Address the relevant issues raised by the Struggle Committee of the clients in time.

### Youth Entrepreneurship Dialogue Program

MFIs Initiate Dialogue with Children of Members for Developing them as Entrepreneur

The Centre for Self-help Development (CSD) has been encouraging Microfinance Institutions (MFIs) and Microfinance Cooperatives (MFCs) to initiate motivational training for the school graduate children of their members to create local potential micro enterprises and to groom them as independent entrepreneur instead of just looking for opportunities abroad.

Under this program, 9 dialogue events had been conducted with 189 youths from 9 different districts across the country in the FY. Altogether 70 young males and 119 young females had participated in the dialogue events. The dialogues events were conducted in collaboration with 9 microfinance institutions and microfinance cooperatives.

Present in the dialogue events were the CEOs, staff members of concerned MFIs/MFCs and entrepreneurship development officials of the participating microfinance organization and resource persons of the CSD. During the dialogue, the interests, hobbies as well as future plans of the youths were discussed. They were also motivated to upgrade, modify as well as diversify their parents' enterprises. They were also acquainted with the merits of self-reliance, self-employment and opportunities at the local level and demerits of working abroad as a laborer. In addition, participating youths were encouraged to utilize their efforts, skills and resources within the country.

The dialogue events were initiated by the Kisan Bahuudeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd., the Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd., the Udaydev Bahuudeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd., the Swarojgar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd., the Chameli Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd., the Upakar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd., the Sahara Nepal SACCOS Ltd., the Nawa Prativa Bachhat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd. and the Swabalamban Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

Most of the participating youths were found interested to be involved in innovative business in their homestead if they get financial assistance and other necessary support from financial institutions for their startups and up-gradation as well as through local market friendly policies and initiatives from the local, provincial and national government.

In the first dialogues held in collaboration with the Kisan Multipurpose cooperative Ltd. of Kailali district, participants shared their business ideas such as modernizing the current agriculture techniques, manufacturing of sanitary pad with local available materials targeting the schools girls, information technology and local based online/digital marketing of their local products. To turn these ideas into tangible results, they intended to receive support for initial investment, subsidies and conducive policies by the concerned authorities and stakeholders that encourage local microenterprises.

A total of 23 youths participated in the dialogue event held in Nawalparsi District in association with the Nawaprativa Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd. As students of education faculty, most of them had future plans of being school teachers. The CEO of Nawaprativa Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd., Mr. Ram Prasad Kafle also a well-known entrepreneur in his area shared his journey of becoming a successful entrepreneur from a fruit seller in the highway bus stand in his initial days. His massive transformation from early days in his life to his current position motivated the participants to become entrepreneurs when they grow up. They later shared that they would be interested to expand and diversify the business held by their parents.

The dialogue initiated by the Swarojgar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. were participated by the 20 youths who had a dream to go abroad for their further study. After the interaction they shared their interest in entrepreneurship development and said that they would initiate their entrepreneurship goal from small scale enterprise which they would systematically and gradually expand them.

In the dialogue program held with the children of the members of Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd., most of the participating youths shared that firstly they

would complete higher studies but would not go abroad. However, few of them had plans to go abroad for further study. Some of them had plans to involve in the hotel business as well as become Dance Jockey. After the interaction, they were highly inspired and shared that they will be engaged in their parents business from now on and support their parents to scale up their business. They were also motivated to earn for their pocket money now and later rise to become a successful entrepreneur.

In the Dialogue program held in the Chameli Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd., majority of the participating youth were found to be interested in migration for employment and for further study. After the interaction they were later convinced to try to be self-employed within the country.

The Youth Entrepreneurship dialogue held in the Sahara Nepal SACCOS was participated by the 51 youths. In the interaction program, Mr. Matrika Subedi, Training and Entrepreneurship Development Unit Chief and also a successful entrepreneur from Sahara Nepal, shared his practical experience of working as an employee and becoming an entrepreneur and also suggested the participants to be a job creator and not job seeker. After getting inspiration from Mr. Subedi most of the participants were motivated to be self-employed.

In the interaction program on youth entrepreneurship with children of clients of Udayadev Bahuudeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd majority of the youths wanted to complete higher secondary level education and go for foreign employment, earn money and return home and invest the amount in some enterprise. Most of the youths wanted to be involved in organic farming as a part time job. Some wanted to pursue their career in IT and promote e-commerce to market local products such as organic vegetables as well as local art and crafts.

Mr. Ganesh Chand, CEO of Udayadev Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd said, "Udayadev is providing scholarship to 5 students who have completed SLC/SEE to study JTA. Similarly, in order to support entrepreneurs, particularly rice farmers, it provides paddy seeds to its members for plantation, buys the grains from its members after being harvested and sells the processed rice in the market."

In the program with children of clients of Upakar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd, most of the students were studying agriculture as elective or major course and were planning to be involved in agriculture (majority in vegetable farming) and livestock. There is higher secondary wing (i.e. after SEE/SLC) in the school premises of Jaya Janta Secondary School in Nepalgunj where this interaction took place and most of the students wanted to major in agriculture. Some students aim was to be veterinary doctors and others wanted to become medical doctors and open up a clinic in the local area. Some said that they wanted to be involved in organic farming (replace chemical fertilizer with organic fertilizers with priority on vermin compost).

The scenario was quite different while having interaction with the children of clients of Swabalamban Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd (SLBSL), where majority of the youths wanted to complete higher-level secondary education and go to foreign countries. The youths said that if the political and economic condition of the country improves they may change their decision. The staff of CSD and SLBSL needed to convince the children that foreign employment may not uplift their economic status as envisioned. The facilitators present in the training program said that there are instances where people after toiling in foreign soil for a long time still may not earn enough to support their family. If similar efforts are put in our own country we will earn much more and be well of financially in comparison to foreign employment.

For the youth entrepreneur development initiation to be successful, resource persons present in the dialogue events suggested to implement three tasks, which are: to conduct dialogues rigorously with the youths and support them in their pursuit of financial access, incorporate their ideas and assist them in marketing their products by the local authorities and other stakeholders. In addition to this, they also suggested to make the youths aware on the local opportunities and resources that can be harnessed to build and expand local enterprises.

### **Progress of Workshop/Seminars**

S.N.	Workshop/Seminars	Date	Male	Female	Total
1	Online review on the Action Plan of 'Entrepreneurship Skill Development (SIYB)' Training	2079/7/25 (Nov. 11, 2022)	24	2	26
2	Online review on the Action Plan of 'Progress Out of Poverty Index (PPI)' Training	2079/11/10 (Feb. 22, 2023)	25	3	28
3	Online review on the 'State of the 11 Point Declaration of the 3rd National Microfinance Members' Summit'	2079/11/15 (Feb. 27, 2023)	38	5	43
4	Online review on the Implementation of the Action Plan of the 'Eco-village Development'	2079/12/5 (March 19, 2023)	33	5	38
5	Online review on the Action Plan Implementation of the 'Entrepreneurship Development ToT'	2079/12/20 (April 3, 2023)	33	5	38
6	One day Interaction with members' children of Kisan Bahuuddeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd. on 'Entrepreneurship Development'	2080/1/5 (April 18, 2023)	4	4	8
7	One day Interaction with members' children of Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. on 'Entrepreneurship Development'	2080/1/27 (May 11, 2023)	15	8	23
8	One day Interaction with members' children of Udaydev Bahuuddeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd. on 'Entrepreneurship Development'	2080/1/31 (May 14, 2023)	8	8	16
9	One day Interaction with members' children of Swarojgar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. on 'Entrepreneurship Development'	2080/1/31 (May 14, 2023)	9	11	20
10	One day Interaction with members' children of Chameli Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd. on 'Entrepreneurship Development'	2080/2/1 (May 15, 2023)	4	9	13
11	One day Interaction with members' children of Upakar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. on 'Entrepreneurship Development	2080/2/5 '(May 19, 2023)	4	14	18
12	One day Interaction with members' children of Sahara Nepal SACCOS on 'Entrepreneurship Development'	2080/2/16 (May 30, 2023)	15	36	51
13	One day Interaction with members' children of Nawapratibha SACCOS on 'Entrepreneurship Development'	2080/2/20 (June 3, 2023)	7	13	20
14	One day Interaction with members' children of Swabalamban Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. on 'Entrepreneurship Development'	2080/2/29 (June 12, 2023)	4	16	20

### **Pictorial Highlights**

on One day Interaction with Members' Children of MFIs and MFCs on 'Entrepreneurship Development'



One day interaction with members' children of Kisan Bahuuddeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.



Interaction with members' children of Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. on 'Entrepreneurship Development'



Interaction with members' children of Udaydev Bahuuddeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd. on 'Entrepreneurship Development' program



Interaction with members' children of Swarojgar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. on 'Entrepreneurship Development' program



Members' children of Chameli Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd. present during 'Entrepreneurship Development' program



Interaction with members' children of Upakar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. on 'Entrepreneurship Development' program



One day interaction with members' children of Sahara Nepal SACCOS on 'Entrepreneurship Development' program



Children of members of Nawapratibha SACCOS on 'Entrepreneurship Development' program



Children of members of Swabalamban Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. during the interaction program



Children of members of Swabalamban Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. during the interaction program



Children of members of Swarojgar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. present in the interaction program

# **Progress of**Training Programs

LEARNING

KNOWLEDGE EXPERIENCE

COMPETENCE

COMPETENCE

GROWTH

S.	Name of the Training	Venue	Organized	Particpants	Numbe	r of Parti	cipants
N.	Traine of the Training	venae	Date	r ai tiepaints	Male	Female	Total
1	Internal Resource Mobilization and Management	Kathmandu	Aug. 21-23, 2022	Branch Managers of different MFIs and MFCs	20	10	30
2	Entrepreneurship Skill Development	Kathmandu	Aug. 29- Sep. 2, 2022	Branch Managers of Swabalamban Laghubita Bittiya Sanstha Ltd	30	0	30
3	Online Orientation Program on Progress Out of Poverty Index (PPI)	Kathmandu	November 8, 2022	Senior Officials and other Staff of MFIs and MFCs	19	2	21
4	Internal Resource Mobilization and Management	Kathmandu	Nov. 27-29, 2022	Branch Managers and other staff of MFIs and MFCs	17	6	23
5	ToT on Progress Out of Poverty Index (PPI)	Biratnagar	Jan.17-19, 2023	Senior Officials and Branch Managers of MFIs and MFCs	21	2	23



Participants during the training program on Internal Resource Mobilization and Management



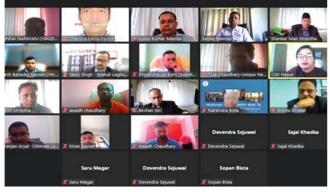
Chairman of CSD sharing his views in the training program on Internal Resource Mobilization and Management



Chairman of CSD speaking during the training on Entrepreneurship Skill Development



Participants during the training program on Entrepreneurship Skill Development



Participants during the orientation program on Progress Out of Poverty Index (PPI)



Chairman of CSD speaking during Online Orientation Program on Progress Out of Poverty Index (PPI)



Participants in the training program on Internal Resource Mobilization and Management



Participants during a group exercise



Participants collecting data from a local member as part of the group work for the ToT



Participants during field supervision of a village as part of the group work for the ToT

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# **Progress of**International Exposure Visit

S. N.	Particular	Date	Male	Female	Total
1	Vietnam	2079/4/28-2079/5/4 (Aug. 13-20, 2022)	11	-	11
2	Bangladesh	2079/5/18-25 (Sept. 3-10, 2022)	11	-	11
3	Bangladesh	2079/6/8-15 (Sept. 24-Oct. 1, 2022)	11	2	13
4	Bangladesh	2079/12/5-13 (March 19-27, 2023)	8	2	10
		Total	41	4	45



Exposure visit to Vietnam (Aug. 13-20, 2022)



Exposure visit to Vietnam (Aug. 13-20, 2022)



Exposure Visit to Bangladesh (Sept. 3-10, 2022)



Chairman of EDCOL Mr. Chandra Lal Acharya presenting the 'Token of Love' to IDF on behalf of CSD (Sept. 3-10, 2022)



Exposure visit to Bangladesh (Sept. 24 - Oct. 1, 2023)



Nepali team visiting one of the centres of Grameen Bank in Madaripur District, Borisial, Bangladesh (Mar 19-27, 2023)

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Exposure visit to Bangladesh (Mar 19-27, 2023)



Nepali team visiting one of the centers in Bangladesh (Sept. 24 - Oct. 1)

### Research/Study/Publication

S.N.	Particular Particular	Completion Date
1	Quarterly Newsletter (Glimpse)	September 2022, December 2022, March 2023, June 2023
2	Proceeding Report on "12th Social Business Day, Country Forum of Nepal" in Nepali	September 2022
3	Swablamban Sambad (Half Annual Bulletin) Fifth Issue	October 2022 (Asoj 2079)
4	CSD Annual Report	December 26, 2022 (2079/9/11)
5	CSD Members' Institutional Profile	December 26, 2022 (2079/9/11)

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# Snapshots of Publications





### Progress made on Two Year Action Plan formulated on the occasion of



As per the action plan MFIs had to collaborate with rural high schools to establish 20 enterprise incubation centers for students, a total of 9 enterprise incubation centers have been established. Similarly, 186 success stories of micro-entrepreneurs have been written and published against 20 planned and 100 study/exposure visit programs of microfinance clients were organized against 25 planned. It was also envisioned to conduct an entrepreneurship development training program for 1000 children of MFIs clients to groom them as entrepreneurs but it was possible to enroll only 888 children of MFIs for the training program. The 2-year action plan was targeted to create separate funds for the skill development program, and an endowment of Rs 2.1 million was collected. It was expected to prepare an inventory of returnee migrants and their skills for encouraging them to undertake microenterprises for self-employment and in line with this, an inventory of 187 returnee migrants and their skills have been prepared by MFIs.

Each MFI was also expected to create a hardcore poor cell to oversee the inclusion of the hardcore poor and marginalized families under its service and currently, 13 such cells have been created in MFIs.

As per the 2 year action plan, each MFI had to survey to identify the most deprived families under their jurisdiction within six months and conduct training, organize them into groups, and provide a package of required services. Till now 1896 most deprived families have been identified and have been enrolled in the services of MFIs. MFIs had to initiate 20 green shops under the ownership of the members as social businesses to support the marketing of

members' products. Till now 11 green shops have been initiated under the ownership of the members. As per the action plan, it was also envisaged to develop 20 Eco-villages, and as per the latest updates 11 Eco-villages around the country have initiated MFIs and MFCs.

MFIs have created 502 Three Zero Clubs as per the plan of MFIs to motivate local youths to form such Clubs against the target of 100 Three Zero Clubs and connect them with national and international networks. Promoting the concept of "Three Zeros," the goal was to conduct a total of 4 workshops as part of the initiative, and a workshop was conducted by 1 MFI towards this target. Rural Energy Technology Education was also introduced to 11 rural schools in collaboration with the Centre for Rural Technology/Nepal against the plan for 10 rural schools. Similarly, each MFI had to launch a campaign of fruit tree plantations through its rural members and at least 31,698 fruit tree plantations have been reported to have been planted by the MFIs and MFCs.



Progress made in the FY by the member MFIs and MFCs of CSD

						Activities						
Organization	Incubation Centers	Success Stories	Skill Development Funds (Rs.)	Inventory of Returnee Migrants	Hardcore Poor Cell	Deprived Families	Green Shops	Eco Village	Three Zero Clubs	Promotion of Municipality	Rural Energy Education	Fruit Trees Plantation
JBLBSL	3	50	0	72	1	624	0	2	368	0	0	6631
UNLBSL	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
JSLBSL	1	25	0	0	0	200	2	1	0	0	0	14500
HIMACOL	0	16	500,000	10	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Chameli	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	31	0	0	0
Chhayanath	0	15	0	47	1	65	3	0	15	0	9	200
EDCOL	2	13	1,000,000	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	0	0
NLBSL	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
$MLBSL^{1}$	1	5	0	0	0	0	1	1	8	1	1	434
$ m MLBSL^2$	0	0	600,000	0	1	57	0	0	10	0	0	1993
Kisan COOP	0	5	0	0	0	0	3	1	27	0	4	1940
Mahila Sahayogi	1	9	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Nawaprativa	0	4	0	25	0	200	0	1	61	0	0	0
SWLBSL	0	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Udayadev	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0009
ULBSL	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Sahara	0	0	0	33	0	750	0	61	0	0	0	0
Total	6	186	2,100,000	187	4	1896	11	11	468	1	11	31698

### Brief Description of 3 Zero Clubs in Context to Nepal



The 3ZERO Club is an initiative towards achieving the Nobel Peace Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus's vision of creating a world of three zeros — zero net carbon emission, zero wealth concentration for ending poverty, and zero unemployment by unleashing entrepreneurship in all.

This initiative of setting up a global network of 3ZERO Clubs is undertaken to make young people familiar with the goal of three zero world and ways to achieve this goal with the creative initiatives of young people. Each Club is a self-formed, self-contained mini-club of five members with self-chosen tasks to play a role in creating a three-zero world. Each Club empowers itself by connecting with other such Clubs, having a larger range of common features. The Clubs become exponentially powerful as they link themselves up with each other. This networking expedites, in a systematic way, the process of reaching the goal faster.

Each 3ZERO Club is formed with a fixed number of five young persons between the ages of 12 and 35 years. The age difference between the oldest and youngest members within a Club cannot be more than seven years. Each Club is headed by a person with the title of Key Person and assisted by a deputy known as Deputy Key Person. Members at the time of the registration are known as Founding Members, the Key Person as the Founding Key Person, and the Deputy as the Founding Deputy Key person.

There are so many things a 3ZERO Club can do to turn the world around. A Club may start with a very broad area of interest, such as achieving a world of three zeros. To make it manageable, the Club has to find a narrow area within the broad subject. This needs intensive discussion among the Club members. They can see what other 3ZERO Clubs are doing and the common interest among the members of their Club. The focus decided by the Club becomes a part of the name of the Club. For example, if the Club chooses 'environment' as the core issue, it will be known as "3ZERO Club for Environment".

The activities of a 3ZERO Club can be as diversified as the members making it up. Each Club is its own decision-maker within the framework of the mission of the Club. It will decide on the focus of its attention. It can narrow down its attention to a very specific aspect of a large agenda. It will all depend on the aptitude, special interest, experience, and orientation of the Club members. A Club may begin with the objective of learning – to learn from members of other Clubs. But sooner or later it has to start a program around a particular subject on which

it will focus. The focus area can be changed any time later by notifying the 3Z Global Centre that is responsible for keeping all records. 3ZERO Clubs set up a process of learning from each other, inspiring each other, and finding strength from each other.

Clubs can form a "Network". The Network doesn't need any common denominator. For any convenience, Clubs can form Networks. Networks have Network Centres with Network Navigators and Deputy Navigators. The common goal for all Clubs would be to connect with each other for more power to create more impact.

A Yunus Social Business Centre (YSBC) is an academic center located in a university that undertakes research and action research and offers courses on social business. YSBCs may offer informal affiliation to 3ZERO Clubs to help them organize their programs, guide them to implement programs, connect university faculty and students, monitor the activities of the Club, offer training facilities, undertake action research, conduct design competitions, connect them with resource persons, and give them technical assistance.

As a token of affiliation, the YSBC will issue a certificate of affiliation to a 3ZERO Club. A YSBC may withdraw its affiliation to any Club without assigning any reason. Similarly, a Club may decide to discontinue its affiliation with a YSBC. In both cases, it has to be done through 3Z Global Centre. If a Club is not affiliated with a YSBC, it would be deemed to be affiliated with 3Z Global Centre.

Organizations that are willing to provide any kind of assistance to Clubs may be registered with 3Z Global Centre as 3Z Support Organisations. Clubs, Circles, and Networks can approach the 3Z Global Centre to get connected with appropriate 3Z Support Organisations. There will be choices of programs offered to Clubs, and Circles, such as design competitions, workshops, field visits, events, etc. Some 3Z Support Organisations may aim at the specific type of Clubs, Circles, and Networks, and others may offer services to all Clubs, Circles, and Networks.

Individual persons can provide support to 3ZERO Clubs in the same way as the support organizations do. However, they'll have to be registered in the same with 3Z Global Centre. Nepalese MFIs have created 502 Three Zero Clubs as per the plan of MFIs to motivate local youths to form such Clubs against the target of 100 Three Zero Clubs and connect them with national and international networks.

### Governing Board Report to the

32<sup>nd</sup>

### Annual General Meeting

Presented By Chairman, Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha

#### Respectable Members and Guests,

On behalf of the Governing Board and myself, I would like to welcome all the distinguished members and guests present here at this 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting of CSD.

On this occasion I firstly would like to present a brief scenario of the microfinance sector in Nepal, then a nutshell of the Centre's progress and achievements, the financial statements of the FY 2022/23, and lastly the program highlights and strategy to be taken for the FY 2023/24 as approved by the Governing Board of CSD.

### 1. Scenario of Microfinance in Nepal

The microfinance program which originated about three decades ago by serving a small segment of poverty-stricken families covering limited districts has now spread all over the country. At its peak, there were once 91 MFIs licensed by NRB but after mergers and acquisitions currently there are 42 national level, 11 provincial level, and 4 district level with a total of 57 MFIs spread all over 77 districts of the country. They have served a total of 6,016,000 members (217,000 male and 5,799,000 female) through 5073 branches. Out of them, a total of 2,984,000 members comprising 98,000 male members and 2,886,000 female members are currently borrowing from these MFIs. The figures provide ample evidence that these members are engaged in multiple borrowing. The latest study conducted by NRB shows that 1 million households in the country are involved in multiple borrowing.

As of the end of this fiscal year, the commercial banks and the wholesale lending organizations have disbursed loans amounting to Rs 163 billion to retail MFIs which they have also collected savings amounting to Rs 165 billion from the members. They also have Rs. 432 billion with their members. Besides, more than 100 Microfinance Cooperatives (MFCs) are also providing

microfinance loans to their members. The overdue loan amount in this FY has increased by 20% as compared to the previous FY. This is mainly due to rampant overlapped disbursement of loans with the sole purpose of increasing profit in a short period of time. This kind of practice has posed a serious concern in the sustainability of the sector.

There has not been any significant change in the lives of the poor and the deprived families even when such a large number of MFIs have been in operation for providing loan services to them. Recently microfinance members have been organizing protests and demonstrations in different parts of the country charging that MFIs have pushed them into loan traps and are forcing them to live a life in tension. This has been the result of the distortions in the practices of the MFIs.

On the other side, the rural youths who are considered to be the strength of the country also seem to be very much frustrated for want of a job in the country. The youths who have completed their secondary level education feel that they do not have any future in the country. No organizations of microfinance have data to show how many households they served have been uplifted out of poverty after joining the microfinance program. The priority of MFIs seems to be to increase the number of members, size of loan portfolio, and amount of profit at any cost. Due to this tendency to amass the maximum profit in a short period of time, they have ignored the fundamental principles, values, norms, and ethics of microfinance.

All the stakeholders of MFIs should abide by the principles, values, norms, and ethics of microfinance in order to solve the issues endemic to their operations. We believe that MFIs can bring socio-economic transformation to their members and contribute to the overall progress of the country if they go by true standards of microfinance, follow best practices, and move ahead with strong commitment.

The overall objective of microfinance is not just to lend to the members but also to raise them to entrepreneurs such that the entire family members are self-employed and uplifted from poverty and deprivation. This can only be possible by providing financial and non-financial services to the members and transforming them into entrepreneurs.

### 2. CSD's Progress in the Fiscal Year 2022/2023

In the FY 2022/2023, the Centre conducted training, webinars, workshops, seminars, and exposure visits programs for top management and middle-level staff and practical orientation programs for field-level staff of MFIs and MFCs through online Zoom as well as through inperson participation.

### A) Training, Online Webinars, Interaction/ Workshops, and Exposure/Study Visit Programs

As per the annual plan of CSD, it had to organize 15 training programs. A total of 21 training programs were conducted with physical participation as well as through a virtual platform. Similarly, the Centre conducted 19 online webinars on various thematic subjects of microfinance and interactions and workshops on related issues. A total of 1299 participants (697 male and 602 females) had attended the programs.

In addition to that, the Centre also conducted a three-tier entrepreneurship development program in partnership with microfinance institutions.

The first-tier training program was organized for 24 senior officials from a total of 18 MFIs and MFCs. Each participant who had completed the first tier training program had to organize training for 20 field-level staff. At the end of the FY, a total of 365 trainers have been trained who will in turn be training the microfinance members to build up their skills as entrepreneurs.

The Centre also carried out exposure/study visit programs to acquaint the participants with best practices and other development activities of prominent domestic and international microfinance institutions.

The Centre organized one domestic exposure visit and four international visits. Officials and staff members of MFIs and MFCs comprising 51 male and 7 female members participated in these programs.

### **B) Promotion of Environment Friendly Self-help** Village

In the FY 2022/23 the Centre has promoted two Environment Friendly Self-help Eco-village Program in partnership with Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. at Dharpa Village in Barabise Municipality of Sindhupalchowk district and Mahila Sahakari Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Ltd at Masine in Chandagiri Municipality-1 of Kathmandu district in technical collaboration with the Centre for Rural Technology/Nepal (CRT/N). Various activities like plantation of fruit saplings, construction of improved cook stoves, rearing of goats and production of organic fertilizers, and cultivation of vegetables in tunnel sheds have been carried out in the villages. Similarly, initiatives have been made for the promotion of 3 Zero Clubs and the 'Learn and Earn' program for secondary class-level students. The results of these initiatives have been very impressive. One hundred and thirty seven families have participated in the program.

### C) Implementation of Two Year Action Plan of Social Business Day Country Form of Nepal

As per the action plan MFIs had to collaborate with rural high schools to establish 20 enterprise incubation centers for students, a total of 9 enterprise incubation centers have been established. Similarly, 186 success stories of micro-entrepreneurs have been written and published against 20 planned and 100 study/exposure visit programs of microfinance clients were organized against 25 planned. It was also envisioned to conduct an entrepreneurship development training program for 1000 children of MFIs clients to groom them as entrepreneurs but it was possible to enroll only 888 children of MFIs for the training program. The 2-year action plan was targeted to create separate funds for the skill development program, and an endowment of Rs 2.1 million was collected. It was expected to prepare an inventory of returnee migrants and their skills for encouraging them to undertake microenterprises for self-employment and in line with this, an inventory of 187 returnee migrants and their skills have been prepared by MFIs.

Each MFI was also expected to create a hardcore poor cell to oversee the inclusion of the hardcore poor and marginalized families under its service and currently, 13 such cells have been created in MFIs.

As per the 2 year action plan, each MFI had to survey to identify the most deprived families under their jurisdiction

within six months and conduct training, organize them into groups, and provide a package of required services. Till now 1806 most deprived families have been identified and have been enrolled in the services of MFIs. MFIs had to initiate 20 green shops under the ownership of the members as social businesses to support the marketing of members' products. Till now 11 green shops have been initiated under the ownership of the members. As per the action plan, it was also envisaged to develop 20 Ecovillages, and as per the latest updates 11 Eco-villages around the country have initiated MFIs and MFCs.

MFIs have created 502 Three Zero Clubs as per the plan of MFIs to motivate local youths to form such Clubs against the target of 100 Three Zero Clubs and connect them with national and international networks. Promoting the concept of "Three Zeros," the goal was to conduct a total of 4 workshops as part of the initiative, and a workshop was conducted by 1 MFI towards this target. Rural Energy Technology Education was also introduced to 11 rural schools in collaboration with the Centre for Rural Technology/Nepal against the plan for 10 rural schools. Similarly, each MFI had to launch a campaign of fruit tree plantations through its rural members and at least 31,698 fruit tree plantations have been reported to have been planted by the MFIs and MFCs.

#### D) Provincial Level Microfinance Members' Summit

One day Provincial Microfinance Members' Summit was organized by MFIs and MFCs having their head offices in Koshi Province on the request of CSD at the provincial headquarters Biratnagar on February 12, 2023. The objective of the Summit was to bring officials, staff, policymakers, practitioners, experts, and other stakeholders under one roof and share

experiences on issues and the latest developments as well as chalk out future courses of action. It also desired to orient the members to be efficient, and sustainable and encourage them to follow the tenets and principles of microfinance for their development and the sustainability of microfinance. A total of 515 participants comprising policymakers, practitioners, officials, and other stakeholders of microfinance (162 male and 353 female) participated in the Summit. A 14-point declaration was also passed by the Summit.

#### E) Research/ Impact Studies and Publications

In the FY 2022-23 the Centre published four issues of the Quarterly newsletter, "Glimpse", two issues of the bi-annual newsletter "Swabalamban Sambad" and the Annual Report of CSD. Similarly, the Centre also published a proceeding of 12<sup>th</sup> Social Business Day, Country Forum of Nepal in Nepali language.

#### 3. Expansion of Institutional Membership

In the FY 2022/23 institutional membership was awarded to Chhayanath Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd, Chhayanath Rara Municipality, Gamgadhi, Mugu on October 10, 2022.

### 4. Governing Board

A total of 11 Board Meetings were held during the FY 2022/23 which provided necessary policy directives and guidance to the Centre's management for effectively delivering programs.

### 5. Financial Status of Various Funds Established by the Centre as of the end of FY 2022/2023

(in Rs)

s.n.	Name of Fund	Principal	Interest	Total Amount
A	Entrepreneurship Development Fund	2,400,000/-	191,080/-	2,591,080/-
В	Study/Research Fund	904,326/-	340,595/-	1,244,921/-
С	National Microfinance Members' Summit Fund	6,500,000/-	1,587,434/-	8,087,434/-
D	Shankar Man Shrestha Microfinance Award Fund	3,750,111	600,933/-	4,351,044/-

#### 6. Financial Statement of FY 2022/23

Respectable Members,

I would now like to share briefly the Financial Position and Income & Expenditure Statement of the FY 2022/23.

In the FY 2022/23 the Centre had made an income of Rs. 2,974,000 from training programs, Rs 12,576,150 from exposure visits, Rs 875,000 from workshops, Rs 446,700 from the sales of reports of the Microfinance Members'

Summit, Rs 1,748,602 from MSC Global Consulting P Ltd. with the support of MetLife entrepreneurship development program, Rs 1,5456,069 as interest income, Rs 368,684 as interest from Shankar Man Shrestha Laghubitta Award endowment, Rs 164,871 from Citizen Investment Trust deposit, Rs 12,754,447 as dividend, Rs 53,500 as membership fee, Rs 18,584 as other income and Rs 917,150 as right back of provision made for deposit made in the Capital Merchant Finance. The total income received was Rs 48,353,757 while the total expenditure was Rs 29,361,393. The incomes from endowment funds have been shown as income of that respective fund.

After deducting the total expenditure and provision for the taxes, the total leftover amount was Rs. 11,926,958. The main source of income was cash dividends on CSD's share investment and interest on fixed deposits made out of earlier surpluses. However, if the Centre's expenses were deducted from the income received from its program activities only, there was a deficit of Rs. 10,740,941. This is due to the reason that the majority of the programs were carried out online without charging any fees to the participants.

There has been an increment in the General Reserve Fund by Rs. 11,926,958 as of the fiscal year-end.

The details of the Balance Sheet and Income and expenditure Statement of the FY 2022/23 are in the Auditor's Report.

### 7. Proposed Programs for the FY 2023/24

This year the Centre plans to conduct a total of 33 trainings mainly on Internal Audit and Fraud Management, Leadership Development, ToT on Entrepreneurship Development, ToT on Basics of Enterprises, Skill Development Training for Members, Digital Literacy for Microfinance Members, ToT on 3 Zero Club Promotion and Development, and Microfinance Staff Motivation and Development.

Similarly, the Centre plans to conduct 6 interaction programs on Youth and Members' Children on Entrepreneurship Development, 3 webinar programs on contemporary issues of microfinance, 2 international online talk programs, and 6 interaction programs on various subjects. In this FY initiative will be taken to organize provincial-level Microfinance Members' Summit in 6 provinces.

A total of 2 Domestic Study/ Exposure Visits will be conducted for the officials of microfinance institutions and

one exposure visit for the officials of organizations who have been implementing the Environmental Friendly Selfhelp Eco-village Development Program and microfinance programs side by side.

Similarly, a total of 7 International Study/Exposure Visits will be conducted in Bangladesh, Malaysia, the Philippines, and India. Meanwhile, a team of Bangladeshi microfinance officials is also expected to visit Nepal.

Research/impact studies will be carried out after conducting field-level studies on issues and problems endemic in the microfinance sector. Similarly, continuity will be given to regular publications of newsletters like Glimpse and Swabalamban Sambad.

#### 8. Future Strategies:

CSD will initiate the following strategic initiative towards developing the socio-economic well-being of the communities.

- Facilitate Regional Summits with the slogan Ghar Ghar ma Udhyam Failau, Garibilai Sunya Banau -Let's Expand Enterprise to Each Household and Reduce Poverty to Zero- as a campaign and plan activities so that each entrepreneur member will join a campaign to groom five members and transform them into entrepreneurs like herself
- Promote 3 Zero Club among youths to increase awareness of the environment and to create self-employment through entrepreneurship development
- Intensify awareness campaign for the poor and deprived communities vulnerable to the effects of climate change and equip them with the necessary tools to combat the hazards of climate change by involving them in Environment Friendly Self-help Village
- Identify training programs based on the needs of MFIs and MFCs. Pre-assessment and post-assessment of participants will be carried out to assess their knowledge and skills gained in the training. Similarly, action plans endorsed in the training programs will be monitored to gauge their progress
- Enhance awareness-raising and skill-generating activities by organizing training for the members and their children to create a second generation of microfinance members
- Continue to implement the "Clean Microfinance Campaign" effectively and reward staff members and clients who have made exemplary contributions to this campaign

- Conduct research/study on issues prevalent in the microfinance sector
- Carry out international study/exposure visits to familiarize Nepali microfinance practitioners with the policies, working modalities, and innovative practices of foreign MFIs
- Prepare a profile of exemplary MFIs and MFCs as well as their members
- Encourage MFIs and MFCs to implement programs for youth self-employment targeting the children of microfinance members and those who have returned from foreign employment
- Inspire and motivate MFIs and MFCs to carry out targeted programs for the ultra-poor
- Monitor the progress on declarations and action plans endorsed by the Third National Microfinance Members' Summit, Social Business Day, Country Forum of Nepal and other workshops/seminars/ conferences to be held in the future
- Facilitate interaction among MFIs, MFCs, and other stakeholders to find solutions to the problems and challenges faced by the microfinance sector

#### 9. Vote of Thanks:

Dear Members,

It is my duty to extend my sincere thanks to all those who have given us valuable suggestions and feedback to improve our programs over time. I look forward to your kind support and cooperation in the coming days as well.

I would also like to thank the Government of Nepal, Nepal Rastra Bank, Yunus Centre, Bangladesh, and all the national and international organizations as well as well-wishers for supporting CSD in its endeavour. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our esteemed members, eminent resource persons, trainers, facilitators, and speakers for their invaluable contributions as well as organizations that have been regularly cooperating with CSD.

I would also like to place in record my thanks to our Auditor R.K Associates, Chartered Accountants for the timely completion of auditing of our accounts for the FY 2022/2023.

I would like to acknowledge Mr. Shyam Kumar Khatri for providing legal advice to the Centre as and when required.

It is also my pleasure to express thanks to the honest and hardworking staff of CSD who have carried out their tasks in a responsible manner.

I wish all the best to all our valued members.

Thank you!

#### Shankar Man Shrestha

Chairman Governing Board

Date: 10/12/2023

### Auditor's Report & Financial Statements



Anamnagar Kathmandu, Nepal Email: info@rkassociates.com.np

### Independent Auditor's Report To the Members of Centre for Self-Help Development (CSD)

#### Report on the Audit of Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Centre for Self-Help Development (CSD), which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at Ashad 31, 2080 (July 16, 2023), Income Statement, Cash Flow Statement, Statement of changes in fund for the year then ended on that date and notes to the financial statement including summary of significant accounting policies.

#### Opinion

In our opinion, and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the accompanying financial statements present fairly in all material respects, the financial position of the Centre for Self-Help Development (CSD) as at Ashad 31, 2080 (July 16, 2023) and the result of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with Nepal Accounting Standards.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Nepal Standards on Auditing. Our responsibilities under those provisions and standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of Centre for Self-Help Development (CSD), in accordance with the Code of Ethics issued by The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nepal, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with this code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Management responsibilities

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Nepal Accounting Standards and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.

#### Auditor's responsibilities

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with NSAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these documents.

As part of an audit in accordance with NSAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We are also:

Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the statement, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence

that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

CA. Rabin Kumar Shrestha Principal

R. K. Associates
Chartered Accountants

Date: 2080/07/24 Kathmandu, Nepal

UDIU: 23 1121 04 00 349 pc Yha.

#### CENTRE FOR SELF-HELP DEVELOPMENT (CSD) Kathmandu, Nepal

#### Statement of Financial Position As at 31st Ashad, 2080 (corresponding to 16th July, 2023)

Figur		Figures in NPR	
Particulars	Note	As at 31st Ashadh 2080	As at 32nd Ashadh 2079
	and the same of th	Assisted 2000	reminds 2073
ASSETS	1 1		
Non-Current Assets	1 1	1	
Fixed Assets	3	35,817,429	35,747,926
Investment in Equity Shares	4	23,892,100	23,892,100
Investment in Term Deposit	5	10,000,000	
Total Non-Current Assets		69,709,529	59,640,026
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	6	11,325,317	12,255,062
Sundry Receivables	7	1,646,940	244,720
Advances, Prepaids and Deposits	8	2,182,878	2,004,661
Investment in Term Deposit	9	155,650,111	164,350,111
Inventories	10	330,343	85,933
Current tax assets	17	3,830,166	2,903,989
Total Current Assets		174,965,755	181,844,476
Total Assets		244,675,284	241,484,502
FUND AND LIABILITIES			
Fund Balance			
Funds	11	26,450,270	25,848,836
General Reserve	12	200,197,137	188,270,179
Other reserves	13	12,632,885	12,634,134
Total Fund		239,280,292	226,753,149
Liabilities		Į	
Non-Current Liabilities	1 1	1	
Deferred Tax Liabilities	18	4,561,439	
Total Non-Current liabilities		4,561,439	
Current Liabilities		1	
Short Term Borrowings	14	- 1	13,600,000
Sundry Payables	15	2,590	85,272
Other Current Liabilities	16	830,963	1.046.081
Total Current Liabilities		833,553	14,731,353
Total Liabilities		5,394,992	14,731,353
Total Fund and Liabilities		244,675,284	241,484,502

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

Bechan Giri Executive Chief Shankar Man Shrestha

Caritachor de

Dambar Bahadur Shah Member

Gita Kumari Yogi Giri Member

Governing Board

Sumitra M. Gurung

Chandi Prasad Sharma Member

er our report of even date

umar Shrestha Principal R.K. Associates

Chartered Accountants

Date: 2080/07/24 Place: Kathmandu

#### CENTRE FOR SELF-HELP DEVELOPMENT (CSD)

#### Kathmandu, Nepal

Income Statement

For the year ended 31st Ashad, 2080 (corresponding to 16th July, 2023)

Figures in NPR

As per our report of even date

Principal

R.K. Associates Chartered Accountants

	Figures in NPR		
Particulars	Note	For the year 2079-80	For the year 2078-79
Direct Income	19	18,620,452	15,441,017
Indirect Income	20	29,733,305	23,560,905
Total Income		48,353,757	39,001,922
Personnel Expenses	21	7,964,824	7,146,050
Training, Exposure and NMMS Project Expenses	22	16,781,286	12,879,916
Office and Administrative Expenses	23	3,902,513	4,056,400
Depreciation	3	598,195	585,668
Interest Expenses	24	114,575	553,781
Total Expenditure		29,361,393	25,221,815
Surplus before Income tax		18,992,364	13,780,107
Income Tax Expense			
Current Tax	25	1,571,294	811,387
Deferred Tax	25	4,561,439	
Surplus for the year		12,859,631	12,968,720
Appropriations			
Shankarman Shrestha Laghubitta Puraskar		276,513	170,279
Interest Income on NMMS Fund		390,373	213,736
Training Support Program (TSP)(Micro Save)		142,134	•
Staff Gratuity Fund		71,964	-
Provision for Staff Leave Fund		51,689	*
Transferred to General Reserve		11,926,958	12,584,705

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

**Executive Chief** 

Shankar Man Shrestha Chairman

Gritarilar de

Shova Bajracharya

Dambar Bahadur Shah Member

Gita Kumari Yogi Giri Member

Governing Board

Mahendra Kumar Giri

Vice-Chairman

Sumitra M. Gurung Member

Chandi Prasad Sharma Member

Date: 2080/07/24 Place: Kathmandu

#### CENTRE FOR SELF-HELP DEVELOPMENT (CSD) Kathmandu, Nepal

#### Statement of Cash Flows For the year ended 31st Ashad, 2080 (corresponding to 16th July, 2023)

Figures In NPR Particulars For the year For the year 2079-80 2078-79 CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES 13,780,107 Surplus for the year 18,992,364 Adjustments for: Depreciation on fixed assets 598,195 585,668 Interest Expenses 553,781 114,575 Dividend Income (12,754,447) (10,183,260) Working capital adjustments: (Increase) decrease in Sundry Receivables (1,402,220) (34,783)(Increase)/ decrease in Advances, Prepaids and Deposits (556,352) (178, 215)(Increase) decrease in Inventories (244,410) 66,605 Increase / (decrease) in Sundry Payables (134,179) (82,682) Increase / (decrease) in Other current liabilities (215,118) (2,198,796) Cash generated from operations 4,828,043 1,878,791 Income Tax Paid (2,497,471)(2,158,243) NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES 2,330,571 (279,452) CASH FLOWS FROM / (USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES Purchase of property, plant and equipment (668,950) (11,220,918) Dividends received 12,754,447 10,183,260 (1,300,000) Proceeds from Sale (Purchase) of Investment (13,450,000) NET CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES 10,785,497 (14,487,658) CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES Borrowing (repaid) / taken (net) (13,600,000) 13,600,000 Finance cost (114,575) (553,781)Change in Other Fund (331,239) 3,572,164 NET CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES IC | (14,045,814) 16,618,383 INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS (929,745)1,851,273 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, Beginning of Year 12,255,062 10,403,789 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, End of Period 11,325,317 12,255,062

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

Bechan Giri Executive Chief

Shankar Man Shreatha

( Britantiar de

Shova Bajracharya

Member

Gita Kumari Yogi Giri Member

Governing Board

Vice-Chairman

Sumitra M. Gurung Member

Chandi Prasad Sharma

As per our report of even date

Principal R.K. Associates

Chartered Accountants

Date: 2080/07/24 Place: Kathmandu

## Looking Forward: Programs for the FY 2023/24

The Centre strives to make conscious contribution to the microfinance sector through various programs and activities that revolve around relevant topics and themes in the microfinance and cooperative sectors

In the Year ahead, CSD will collaborate with national and international authorities and organizations to organize conferences, workshops training programs and study visits. Impact studies and research will be carried out with the aim of disseminating and sharing knowledge and findings among concerned stakeholders of microfinance.

#### Training Programs:

- Internal Audit and Fraud Management
- Leadership Development
- ToT on Entrepreneurship Development
- ToT on Basics of Enterprises
- **Skill Development Training for Members**
- Digital Literacy for Microfinance Members
- ToT on 3 Zero Club Promotion and Development
- Microfinance Staff Motivational Training

#### **Domestic Study/Exposure Visit**

- o Eco-village Promotion and Development
- o Entrepreneurship Development of Students
- o East Meet West
- West Meet Fast

#### **International Study/ Exposure Visit**

- Bangladesh
- Malaysia
- Philippines
- India

### Inbound Study/Exposure Visits of International MFIs Delegates

Bangladesh









#### Workshop/Seminar:

- o Interaction on Leadership Development & Management
- o Interaction with Youth and Members' Children on Entrepreneurship Development
- o National Webinar Talk Program on different topics related to Microfinance Sector
- o International Talk Program on different topics related to Microfinance Sector/Social Development
- o Provincial Microfinance Members' Conference
- o Crisis Management in Microfinance
- o Review on "Entrepreneurship Development" in Lumbini, Karnali and SudurPaschim Province
- o Review Workshop on "Entrepreneurship Development" in Province No. 1 and 2

## Research/ Studies/Publications:

- Multiple Financing in MFI and Over Indebtedness Causes in View of MFI Members
- Microfinance in Perspective of Staff Efficiency in Nepal
- Quarterly Newsletter-Glimpse
- Swabalamban Sambad
- Institutional Profile
- Annual Report

## STRATEGIC THRUST

Empowering the microfinance community from a top-down approach

Board Officials

**MF** Leaders

Staff

**MF Members** 

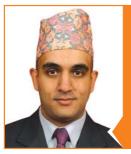




Mr. Bechan Giri Executive Chief







Mr. Sopan Bista Assistant Director

Ms. Renu Prajapati Senior Officer





Mr.
Chandrakanta
Pandit
Media and
Communication
Officer

Ms. Bigya Gyawali Environment and Entrepreneurship Development Officer





Ms. Selestey Badal Account Officer

Mr. Kushum Shrestha Training Officer





Ms. Saru Magar Senior Assistant

Ms. Sujata Khadka Assistant





Ms. Bhawana Sharma Adhikari Trainee Assistant

## CSD's Individual Members

Currently, CSD is a network of 12 individual members and 45 institutional members.



Mr. Shankar **Man Shrestha** 



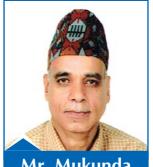
Mr. Ganesh Ram Shrestha



Mr. Lumin **Kumar Shrestha** 



**Dr. Sumitra Manandhar Gurung** 



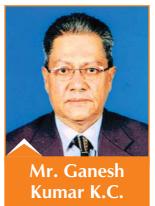
Mr. Mukunda **Bahadur Bista** 



Mr. Janga **Bahadur Khadka** 



**Shrestha** 





Mr. Shanker Nath Kapali







Gurung

# Profile of Institutional Members



The Profiles of Institutional Members are as of Asadh end, 2080 (July 16, 2023).



Jeevan Bikas Samaj (JBS) commenced its operation in the year 1997 with the vision of creating a 'Poverty free Nepal' through its poverty alleviation and empowerment programs for the marginalized sections of the society. JBS through its community development programs focuses on education, healthcare, sanitation, income generation, women empowerment, value chain activities, renewable energy technology and skilled human resources among its members. It has also established subsidiary companies that are involved, among others, in dairy related business and fish farming. JBS has also promoted a 'D' class MFI-Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



In 1995 UNYC Nepal-United Youth Community Nepal was established by likeminded Tharu youths, who came together to create a civil society with respectable standard of living, social inclusion, gender mainstreaming and socioeconomic empowerment of the poorest of the poor. The NGO actively initiated various community development programs targeted at the indigenous ethnic Tharu, Dalits and other minorities in the Bardiya district. It started its microfinance program in the year 2000 and has since been engaged in awareness building, need assessment and sustainable development though people's participation and empowerment. The team at UNYC Nepal is dedicated towards advancing the economic, academic, social and political status of the underprivileged. UNYC has recently promoted a 'D' class MFI-Unique Nepal Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Manushi has been involved in uplifting the marginalized communities, women empowerment and poverty reduction especially in the hills and mountain region ever since its foundation in 1991. Manushi, meaning 'energetic women' in Sanskrit, is devoted to empowering deprived women by partaking skills and providing necessary financial technical support. They have empowered these women and their families through skill development, employment opportunities, business promotion, marketing strategies and promotion of handicraft production. To further support their members, they started their microfinance program in 2002 to improve the quality of life of the locals and promote gender equality for sustainable development. Manushi has recently promoted a 'D' class MFI-Mansuhi Laghubitta Bittiya Santha Ltd.



Chartare Yuwa Club (CYC) Nepal was established in the year 1992 and has a vision of creating a healthy, economically empowered, independent and self-sustainable society by utilizing the best available human resources. It also focuses on public awareness and social development through community education program and public forums. It has also set priorities on women empowerment, financial literacy, environmental-friendly initiatives like sustainable energy and health care program through social mobilization. It carries out its programs through demand based and bottom up approach of planning. The community managed micro finance and banking program, saving and credit schemes, enabling community participation in various social and infrastructure development initiatives through people centric approach are some examples. CYC Nepal has also promoted a 'D' class MFI-CYC Nepal Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Shreejana Bikas Kendra, a non-profit NGO located in Kaski was founded in 1980 that strives to achieve a holistic social development in the region. During its initial days, it played a pivotal role in rehabilitating communities adversely affected by the volatile conflicts in the region. The organization actively promotes programs related to environment conservation, education, health and sports. To provide financial access to its members, it initiated its microfinance program and encourages youth involvement in its various community development programs. Shreejana Bikas Kendra has successfully promoted a 'D' class MFI-Jalpa Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. Jalpa Samudayik Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited (JSLBSL) started joint operation in December 2020 following the merger of two regional level MFIs (viz. Jalpa Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited (JLBSL), operating since March 2019 and Mahila Samudayik Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited (MSLBSL), operating since February 2019).



With the mission to develop equitable society where each member is independent of meeting their basic needs with their own resources, SOLVE Nepal was established in 1989 in the hill district of Dhankuta. This kind of initiative was taken by active youths in the districts who realized the need for local non-for-profit NGO in improving the socio-economic status of the communities. The NGO has successfully implemented various community development programs to empower and enrich its members. Sighting the dearth of organized financial institutions in the area, particularly in the hill regions, the NGO commenced its microfinance program in 2001. SOLVE Nepal has successfully promoted a 'D' class MFI- SOLVE Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. After the successful merger of Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta, SOLVE Laghubitta, and Garibi Niunikaran Laghubitta, the microfinance companies have commenced a joint operation on September 7, 2020 in the name of Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited. Meanwhile, the central office from now on is in Katahari-2, Morang, the same central office of Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta previously.



Established as an NGO in 1993, Grameen Mahila Utthan Kendra (GMUK) has embarked on the primary focus on education rights and socio-economic empowerment of marginalized as well as disadvantaged women and exbonded labor. It also aims to minimize various forms of injustice and prejudices by striving for an equal and a just society. GMUK has an active presence in Dang valley of mid-west Nepal, and has won international accolades for its work in women empowerment. It envisions an equitable, empowered and self-sustainable society keeping at its center the wellbeing of its members. In their effort to alleviate poverty in the region, it started its microfinance program in 2003. Its success stories includes reduction of discriminatory practices prevalent in the region, access to finance, improved education and health, economic development and social security of its members. GMUK has successfully promoted a 'D' class MFI- Aatmanirbhar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



#### Dhaulagiri Samudayik Shrot Bikas Kendra

Upallachaur, Baglung

Dhaulagiri Samudayik Shrot Bikas Kendra was founded by some dedicated local residents of Baglung district to deliver basic social services to the poor, deprived and marginalized communities. It started as a non-profit NGO in 1994. It has implemented numerous community development and financial inclusion programs in the district. It started its saving and credit program in the year 1997 and later in 2001 received license from the Central Bank to operate as a FINGO. The NGO encourages, develops and promotes eco-friendly initiatives like microhydro, bio-mass, solar power and rural water supply programs. It has promoted a 'D' class MFI-Dhaulagiri Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



#### Grameen Swayamsewak Samaj Hariwan, Sarlahi

Grameen Swayamsewak Samaj was established in 1994 as a non-governmental organization. Since its inception, it has been working for the socio-economic empowerment of the rural poor and partaking social, financial, infrastructural and community development programs benefitting its members within its area of operation. It has set its priority on deprived and overlooked population in the region that had been sidelined by community development programs and financial institutions. It started as microfinance program in the year 2005 after obtaining license from the Central Bank to deliver financial services to the households they served. It has promoted a 'D' class MFI-Grameen Swayamsewak Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. Womi Laghubitta and Grameen Swayamsewak Laghubitta after the successful merger has commence its joint transactions in the name of Womi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited from March 16, 2021.

Womi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited has successfully completed merger with Suryodaya Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited. Both the companies have commenced joint operation from April 2, 2022 (Chaitra 19, 2078). After the merger the new institution has operated in the name of "Suryodaya Womi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd." Nepal Rastra Bank provided the consent to both the companies for the merger on February 17, 2022 (Falgun 5, 2078). The merger had been finalized with share swap ratio of 1:1.



Nepal Mahila Samudayik Sewa Kendra, was established in 1993 and is run by a group of dedicated women. The organization mobilizes indigenous skills and local resources to create a self-reliant society. It is situated in Dang district of mid-west Nepal which is also home to local Tharu communities and works for socio-economic development of these communities as well as other deprived communities of the region. Working to achieve an equitable society with empowered women among the local communities, it initiated its microfinance program in January, 2003. Besides its work in social inclusion and financial literacy, it promotes leadership development, gender mainstreaming, civic rights, environment protection, renewable energy promotion and sustainable development. It had promoted a 'D' class MFI-Mahila Samudayik Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. After the acquisition between Mahila Samudayik Laghubitta and Jalpa Laghubitta, the joint transaction had commenced in the name of Jalpa Samudayik Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd from 16th (December 1, 2020) Mangsir, 2077.



Mahila Upakar Manch, an NGO based in Banke district, has been working with the community members for their socio-economic empowerment including microfinance and micro-entrepreneurship development programs to support many of its members and their families. It was established in 1993 as a women-led organization and received license from the NRB in 2007 to initiate its microfinance program. The objective of this organization is to raise the economic and social status of people living in Province 5 as well as to work for poverty reduction. It also works for gender mainstreaming and social inclusion through microfinance as well as other relevant intervention programs. It has also promoted a 'D' class MFI-Upakar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Shrijana Samudayik Bikas Kendra is a byproduct of a team of dedicated and committed young professionals and social workers who envisioned an improved and dignified way of life for the local communities. It was founded in 1992 as a NGO worked for rural community development and aimed to create social justice and empower the vulnerable groups in the Siraha district. Apart from financial service, it has been carrying out activities in areas of health, education, livelihood promotion and social mobilization. It has promoted a 'D' class MFI-Shrijanshil Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Nepal Rural Development Society Centre (NRDSC), established in October, 1993 is one of the pioneer non-governmental organizations of eastern region situated in Biratnagar. NRDSC aimed to develop the socio-economic condition of the ultra-poor and deprived families living in the rural and semi-urban areas. It has been focusing on delivering a number of skill building and capacity building programs to its members to enable them to achieve improved livelihood and engage in income generating activities. It commenced its microfinance program in June, 2000 after receiving license from the NRB. In June, 2007 it promoted a 'D' class microfinance institution, Nerude Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd, and transferred its entire microfinance portfolio to the new institution.



## Kisan Bahuudeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.

Lamki, Kailali

Although Kisan Bahuudeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd. started its microfinance activities from 2007, for the over-looked and under-served population in the district, it had obtained license from the NRB as early as 1997 to conduct limited banking services in the Kailali district. It was established to safeguard its members from malpractices and unreasonable interest rates charged by the village moneylenders. Through its financial and technical services it aims to promote and support the agricultural sector in the district. Over the years, it had made a name for itself as the model cooperative in the region, providing quality financial services in line with latest technologies to better serve its target group like ATM and tablet banking. Although currently confined to 7 districts, it is one of the largest cooperatives carrying out microfinance service and has been able to increase its involvement and size though product diversification and market penetration. In order to promote entrepreneurship to its members it has recruited agriculture specialist who has completed BSc in Agriculture as well as Junior Technical Assistants (JTAs). The recruited staff provide technical assistance on agriculture and livestock related subjects/issues focusing on developing access to different types of fertilizers, quality of seeds as well as conduct soil tests of its members who are involved in agriculture. It has also been accredited by "Smart Campaign, Client Protection Certification."

Data of Kisan Bahuudeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.

Particulars	Units
Total Members	78,682
Total Borrowers	33,975
Total Dropout Members	11,428
Total Staff	291
Total Field Staff	134
Total Loan Outstanding	4,124,013,490.16
Total Savings	3,227,599,058.86
Total Loan Overdue	159,302,061.90
Total Overdue Members	615
Profit / (Loss)	143,102,751.05
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	124%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	124%
Repayment Rate	99.43%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	4.86%
No. of Branches	41
No. of Centers	4059
No. of Districts Covered	7



Established in 1999 with the vision of eradication of poverty in Kanchanpur, Udayadev Bahuudeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd commenced its microfinance program in the year 2007 inculcating the habit of savings among its members and encouraging them to borrow small loan amounts to invest in income generating activities. It focuses on fostering positive changes in the socio-economic level of its members, especially the overlooked Tharus, Dalits, Janajatis and other marginalized communities in its program area. Udayadev is providing scholarship to 5 students who have completed SLC/SEE to study JTA. Similarly, in order to support entrepreneurs, particularly rice farmers, it provides paddy seeds to its members for plantation, buys the grains from its members after being harvested and sells the processed rice in the market. Sighting their contribution to the community, the organization was awarded the 'Best Co-operative' in 2059 B.S. by the National Cooperative Union Ltd., Kathmandu.

i di ticului 3	Office
Total Members	29,732
Total Borrowers	10,433
Total Dropout Members	924
Total Staff	68
Total Field Staff	39
Total Loan Outstanding	1,505,995,259
Total Savings	1,537,931,262.72
Total Loan Overdue	64,757,796
Total Overdue Members	398
Profit / (Loss)	80,241,281.89
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	135%

Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)

Repayment Rate

No. of Branches

No. of Centers

Portfolio at Risk (PAR)

No. of Districts Covered

Data of Udaydev Multipurpose Cooperative Ltd.



#### Sahara Nepal Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.

Charpane, Jhapa

Sahara Nepal Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd. was established in 1996 having working areas at that time in then three VDCs of Jhapa district which were Chairpane, Arjundhara and Ghailadubba. During its establishment share capital of 34,000 was collected from its 34 institutional shareholders. It is currently the largest microfinance cooperative in Nepal. The cooperative aims to provide facilitates to its members in areas such as finance, health and education. It has extended its service in areas like mobile banking, tablet banking, ATM, Cash Deposit Machine and QR Code. It has also provided facilities to its members through Real Time Service. It is currently working extensively in renewable energy, low cost housing and modern technology. It is currently working in 6 district of Nepal which are Jhapa, Morang, Sunsari, Illam, Panchthar and Udayapur. In view of its outstanding performance, it was awarded Top Cooperative Business Award, 2060, by National Cooperative Federation of Nepal, Top Microfinance Partnership Award, 2064, and Top Microfinance Partnership Award, 2065, by RMDC Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. It was also awarded Maximum Biogas Construction Award, 2066, by the then President of Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, Credit Union Microfinance Innovation (CUMI) Performance Award for excellent outreach of the poor by the Association of Asian Confederation Credit Unions (ACCU), Thailand in 2012. It has also been accredited by "Smart Campaign, Client Protection Certification" in the year 2021.

#### Data of Sahara Nepal SACCOS Ltd.

137%

99%

4%

11

287

Data of Sariara Nepai S/16603 E		
Particulars	Units	
Total Members	157,606	
Total Borrowers	77,275	
Total Dropout Members	125,741	
Total Staff	506	
Total Field Staff	340	
Total Loan Outstanding	11,205,577,525.87	
Total Savings	10,979,047,201.28	
Total Loan Overdue	525,922,345	
Total Overdue Members	8,067	
Profit / (Loss)	462,053,173.76	
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	126.44%	
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	121.00%	
Repayment Rate	95.88%	
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	10.21%	
No. of Branches	80	
No. of Centers	10,182	
No. of Districts Covered	6	



Birendranagar-8, Surkhet

The organization was established in March 2003 with vision to construct corporative based sound, professionally equipped and self-dependency cooperative in the far-west hills district of Surkhet. In the year 2007 it started its microfinance program and later expanded to the neighboring districts of Dailekh, Jajarkot and Salvan. The cooperative believes in serving farfetched areas as well as over looked population with sound and sustainable services through its various community development programs. It provides microfinance facilities to the poor and marginalized women who do not have access to banking and financial services. It has also created successful women entrepreneurs. It has helped uproot social barriers of women and helped them to rise in decision-making positions such as school administrators and community forest coordinators. Now it has become a well known matured and successful organization by involving in projects that focus on social inclusion and deprived communities and working as per the will of ordinary people and its members. As a result, women are transformed into successful entrepreneurs with the support of microfinance. Similarly, there is drastic change in women empowerment through various trainings and facilitations provided by the organization. The organization is the recipient of the first 'Laghu-Udhyamsheelta Bikas Puraskar' initiated by CSD in recognition of their outstanding contribution in the developing and grooming microentrepreneurship in its operating areas.

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#### Nawaprativa Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.

Madhyabindu-10, Arungkhola, Nawalparasi

With the vision of creating self-sustainable and prosperous society, Nawaprativa Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd first carried out its activities with just 27 members. It first commenced its activities in the district of Nawalparasi in December, 1997. Nawalparasi comprises of terai, inner madesh and hill regions in its topography. Similarly, it has presence of people from various ethnic groups and cultures. The cooperative encourages the use of local skills and resources to generate self-employment opportunities for its members at the grassroots. As a community based cooperative, it has been providing financial and social services along with safe and sound savings and credit mobilization. It initiated its microfinance program in 2001 and extended its services in 2004 to better serve its target group. Currently it is operating in Bagmati, Gandaki and Lumbini Provinces as well as Nawalparasi (Bardaghat Susta East and Bardaghat Susta West), Rupandehi, Palpa and Chitwan.

#### Data of Environment Development Multipurpose Cooperative Organization Limited (EDCOL)

Particulars	Units
Total Members	45,078
Total Borrowers	32,301
Total Dropout Members	13,466
Total Staff	112
Total Field Staff	65
Total Loan Outstanding	Rs. 2,218,337,220.00
Total Savings	Rs. 1,159,000,101.63
Total Loan Overdue	Rs. 91,468,720.33
Profit / (Loss)	Rs. 63,914,298.21
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	121%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	111%
Repayment Rate	95.88%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	4.72%
No. of Branches	13
No. of Centers	1,640
No. of Districts Covered	4

#### Data of Nawaprativa Saving & Credit Cooperative Ltd.

<b>Particulars</b>	Units
Total Members	45,105
Total Borrowers	16,776
Total Dropout Members	8,821
Total Staff	168
Total Field Staff	110
Total Loan Outstanding	1,997,000,056
Total Savings	1,526,728,977
Total Loan Overdue	44,898,751
Total Overdue Members	832
Profit / (Loss)	92,580,637.35
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	133%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	122.00%
Repayment Rate	98.00%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	5.52%
No. of Branches	19
No. of Centers	2,224
No. of Districts Covered	5



### Deprosc Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

Nagarjun - 4, Sitapaila, Kathmandu

Deprosc Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. started its operation in July, 2001 after receiving license from the Nepal Rastra Bank and is one of the pioneer institutions to initiate microfinance activities in Nepal. Through its financial services it aims to cater to the poor, especially those below the poverty line. The organization has been working towards women empowerment by providing financially viable, technically competent and sustainable microfinance services. In the future, the organization plans to scale-up it outreach by providing competent, cost-effective and customized services to its clients and reaching the people at the bottom of the pyramid.

Deprosc Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited (DDBL) has signed an agreement regarding acquiring Adarsha Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited (ADLB). The signing of the final agreement regarding the acquisition was signed by the companies on 13th Chaitra 2079 (March 27, 2023) The 21st AGM of Deprosc Laghubitta passed an agenda to acquire Adarsha Laghubitta in the share swap ratio of 100%.

#### Data of Deprosc Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

Particulars	Units
Total Members	262,243
Total Borrowers	132,698
Total Dropout Members	2,594
Total Staff	638
Total Field Staff	460
Total Loan Outstanding	19,984,617,000
Total Savings	9,045,565,000
Total Loan Overdue	798,724,000
Total Overdue Members	7,399
Profit / (Loss)	332,899,000
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	118%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	109%
Repayment Rate	97%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	12.48%
No. of Branches	156
No. of Centers	22,221
No. of Districts Covered	73



## Mahuli Samudayik Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

Agnisair Krishnasawaran - 6 Mahuli, Saptari

Mahuli Samudayik Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. which was founded in 1994 by 54 individuals committed to the socio-economic development cause of the local community, is promoted by an NGO, Mahuli Community Development Centre. The NGO was actively involved in raising awareness and sensitizing the community on various themes related to health, education, sanitation, savings and so forth. In September, 2000 it commenced its microfinance program to further support its members though viable financial services. Mahuli Samudayik Laghubittya Sanstha Ltd. received license from the Central Bank in May, 2013 to operate as a 'D' Class MFI.

#### Data of Mahuli Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

Particulars Particulars	Units
Total Members	81,387
Total Borrowers	40,704
Total Dropout Members	19,921
Total Staff	277
Total Field Staff	150
Total Loan Outstanding	4,039,306,565.00
Total Savings	1,601,801,312.00
Total Loan Overdue	186,958,861.60
Total Overdue Members	3,911
Profit / (Loss)	43,261,396
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	110.00%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	136.00%
Repayment Rate	86.00%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	5.00%
No. of Branches	64
No. of Centers	6,258
No. of Districts Covered	36



## Bauddha Grameen Bahuudeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.

Birendranagar-9, Latikoili, Surkhet

Bauddha Grameen Bahudeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd (BGBSSL) was established by 25 likeminded youths of the Khampa community in Surkhet who strived to improve the standard of living of the tribal communities, especially of those who had migrated from the far-north districts of Jumla and Mugu in the year 2000. The cooperative fostered saving habits among its members and soon provided them with savings and credit facilities. From 2006 onwards it started delivering microfinance services to its members, further empowering them with financial and credit plus activities. BGBSSL focuses on financial literacy and community development programs to strengthen the socioeconomic status of its members.

Data of Bauddha Grameen Multipurpose Cooperative Ltd.

Particulars Particulars	Units
Total Members	64,620
Total Borrowers	17,876
Total Dropout Members	22,474
Total Staff	289
Total Field Staff	130
Total Loan Outstanding	1,838,901,628.05
Total Savings	1,300,173,943.49
Total Loan Overdue	63,684,404.18
Total Overdue Members	1,994
Profit / (Loss)	20,857,204.38
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	105%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	101%
Repayment Rate	96.55%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	13.54%
No. of Branches	23
No. of Centers	2,172
No. of Districts Covered	4



#### Mahila Sahayogi Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.

Samakhushi, Kathmandu

Mahila Sahayogi Bachat Tatha Rin Sanakari Sanstha Ltd, was established in December of 1999 by 28 professional women who sought to provide financial support to women entrepreneurs and to empower women residing in the rural and semi-urban areas of Kathmandu valley. Since its inception, the cooperative has strived to provide quality savings and credit facilities as well as develop the entrepreneurial skills of its members. Sighting microfinance as an effective tool in alleviating poverty, the organization initiated its microfinance program in July, 2002. Through its various programs, it aims to enhance women's capacities and generate employment opportunities to help raise the overall status of women in their program areas.

#### Data of Mahila Sahayogi Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.

Particulars	Units
Total Members	9,330
Total Borrowers	6,923
Total Dropout Members	1,007
Total Staff	46
Total Field Staff	23
Total Loan Outstanding	549,271,030.74
Total Savings	497,948,846.72
Total Loan Overdue	32,691,834.74
Total Overdue Members	530
Profit / (Loss)	28,026,839.44
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	139%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	125%
Repayment Rate	100%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	9%
No. of Branches	6
No. of Centers	588
No. of Districts Covered	1



In October 2001, CSD in partnership with three commercial banks and a cooperative promoted Swabalamban Laghubitta Bikas Bank Ltd. under the Development Bank Act of 2052. Swabalamban Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. (SWBBL) initiated its microfinance activities from January, 2002. It is now 'D' class institution and in the years developed products and services befitting their needs of target members. SWBBL believes in delivering microfinance services at the doorsteps of its members and serve the deprived and socio-economically marginalized communities. It makes conscious effort to revisit and refine its products, services, delivery models and channels. As a national level institution, it has presence in all seven provinces and works towards financial inclusion, women empowerment and entrepreneurship development thereby moving a step closer to the goal of alleviating poverty in Nepal.

Data of Swabalamban Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

<b>Particulars</b>	Units
Total Members	2,60,952
Total Borrowers	1,52,955
Total Dropout Members	2,53,691
Total Staff	725
Total Field Staff	401
Total Loan Outstanding	19,62,75,17,846
Total Savings	12,80,57,71,997
Total Loan Overdue	1,04,10,40,416
Total Overdue Members	35,086
Profit / (Loss)	33,94,47,041
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	117%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	110%
Repayment Rate	94.88%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	8.66%
No. of Branches	145
No. of Centers	14,431
No. of Districts Covered	61



Aarthik Bikas Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd. was established in the year 1994 with the mission to operate as a financial intermediary non-governmental organization (FINGO). Although it has currently limited its operations in the Kavrepalanchowk district, it started its operation in various regions of central Nepal through its thirteen branches and later converted itself into a Savings and Credit Cooperative Ltd. The organization focuses on developing entrepreneurship skills and financial independence among its members to facilitate improved livelihoods and standard of living. It has prioritized its activities on marginalized communities and people of weak financial status though various intervention programs aimed at financially and socially uplifting them.

Data of Aarthik Bikas Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.

Particulars Particulars	Units
Total Members	9,809
Total Borrowers	1,941
Total Dropout Members	47
Total Staff	28
Total Field Staff	6
Total Loan Outstanding	820,835,247
Total Savings	637,306,752
Total Loan Overdue	112,273,297
Total Overdue Members	178
Profit / (Loss)	20,277,356
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	347%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	152%
Repayment Rate	16%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	14%
No. of Branches	2
No. of Centers	-
No. of Districts Covered	1



Karnali Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd. commenced its activities in the year 2000 from eastern Nepal and implemented various community development programs for its members. It was established by some motivated people residing in Birtamod, Jhapa to improve the living standards of the local communities. It commenced its microfinance program in 2004 to develop financial access among its members. Karnali SACCOS serves its members through both its cooperatives and microfinance departments. The cooperative provides various credit-plus activities like skills building and leadership development programs to its members and supports in developing microentrepreneurs.

## Forward Microfinance Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. Duhabi, Sunsari

In order to improve the socio-economic status of the poor and marginalized households in the Sunsari district, Nepal Forum for Rural Women Ardency Development (FORWARD) was established in the year 2002 as an NGO. Inspired by the microfinance program in Bangladesh, it promoted Forward Community Microfinance Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. in January, 2003 to cater to the financial need and aspiration of local deprived communities. It carried out numerous community development and financial literacy programs for its members encouraging the habit of savings, proper loan utilization and engaging in income generating activities. In the year 2013, it started its formal operation as a 'D' class microfinance institution after receiving license from the Central Bank.



## CYC Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.

Baglung Municipality-02, Hallan Chowk, Baglung

CYC Bachat Tatha Rin Sahakari Santha Ltd, located in the Baglung district of western Nepal, came into existence to financially support agricultural and small-scale infrastructural activities of the local community in April, 2010. It started its savings and credit operations from the month of September of the same year. The cooperative provides various skill development training and technical intervention along with financial services to its members thus encouraging micro-entrepreneurship in the region.

#### Data of Karnali Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd.

<b>P</b> articulars	Units
Total Members	53,781
Total Borrowers	15,631
Total Dropout Members	17,719
Total Staff	377
Total Field Staff	251
Total Loan Outstanding	3,715,296,005.93
Total Savings	2,185,805,479.63
Total Loan Overdue	117,972,456
Total Overdue Members	415
Profit / (Loss)	91,022,682.48
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	117%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	117%
Repayment Rate	97%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	16%
No. of Branches	41
No. of Centers	1,129
No. of Districts Covered	3

#### Data of Forward Microfinance Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

<b>Particulars</b>	Units
Total Members	287,076
Total Borrowers	144,813
Total Dropout Members	119,014
Total Staff	773
Total Field Staff	561
Total Loan Outstanding	1,997,119,602
Total Savings	8,415,439,290
Total Loan Overdue	701,112,123
Total Overdue Members	30,519
Profit / (Loss)	221,461,358
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	104%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	94%
Repayment Rate	99%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	21%
No. of Branches	159
No. of Centers	19,119
No. of Districts Covered	40

#### Data of CYC Saving and Credit Co-Operative Society Ltd.

Particulars	Units
Total Members	25,073
Total Borrowers	6,869
Total Dropout Members	469
Total Staff	100
Total Field Staff	67
Total Loan Outstanding	1,459,379,119.40
Total Savings	1,384,501,586.38
Total Loan Overdue	467,522,746.59
Total Overdue Members	3,266
Profit / (Loss)	18,199,696.15
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	104.89%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	106.42%
Repayment Rate	95.63%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	31.37%
No. of Branches	25
No. of Centers	25
No. of Districts Covered	3



## Chhimek Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

New Baneshwor, Kathmandu

To better serve its members in a more organized manner with focus on microfinance, the Neighborhood Society Service Centre (NSSC) received license from Central Bank in January 2002 to promote a separate entity under the Development Bank Act of 2052. As a 'D' class microfinance institution, it has now become one of the largest and model MFI in the country providing financial access to the poor and marginalized women members. Through it initiatives, it strives to promote savings culture, encourage income generation, support micro-enterprise development and provide social security services to its members. Chhimek seeks to enable its members to contribute towards creating a self-reliant rural society through self-employment and social awareness. It has been accredited by "Smart Campaign, Client Protection Certification." The first Shankar Man Shrestha Laghubitta Puraskar 2078/79 was presented to Chhimek Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. Chimmek was awarded the first Shankar Man Shrestha Laghubitta Puraskar 2078/79 for its contributing in following the norms, principles and values of microfinance based on Grameen Model for its sustainable growth and brining socio-economic development among its members.

#### Data of Chhimek Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited

Particulars Particulars	Units
Total Members	419,819
Total Borrowers	234,928
Total Dropout Members	17945
Total Staff	1257
Total Field Staff	701
Total Loan Outstanding	32,905,023,333.77
Total Savings	30,716,613,283.88
Total Loan Overdue	304,911,658.07
Total Overdue Members	7434
Profit / (Loss)	1,061,926,233.61
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	138.38%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	114.72%
Repayment Rate	99.84%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	2.65%
No. of Branches	197
No. of Centers	25,168
No. of Districts Covered	69



## Nerude Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

Biratnagar-3, Morang

NRDSC received license from NRB in May 2007 to promote an entity to practice microfinance under the Development Bank Act of 2052. Now a 'D' class microfinance institution, as per Bank and Financial Institution Act, 2073 (2017), which is providing its members with organized and standardized services. It is one of the early microfinance institutions in eastern Nepal and has been engaged in financial literacy and community development program since its onset. Nerude prioritizes in encouraging and promoting the agricultural and small enterprise sector, providing training and technical support to its members accordingly. It strives to establish itself as a self-sustaining financial institution and a social agent of delivering financial and non-financial services to the overlooked grassroots population.

#### Data of Nerude Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited

Particulars	Units
Total Members	160,679
Total Borrowers	94,300
Total Dropout Members	60507
Total Staff	590
Total Field Staff	467
Total Loan Outstanding	10,178,731,156.90
Total Savings	3,466,348,074.92
Total Loan Overdue	367,009,710
Gross Profit	90,079,248
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	105.38%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	-
Repayment Rate	99.41%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	767,817,537
No. of Branches	109
No. of Centers	10,815
No. of Districts Covered	31



## Suryodaya WoMi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

Banepa-13, Kavrepalanchok

After receiving license from the NRB to operate as a 'D' class microfinance institution, WoMi Microfinance Bittiya Sanstha Ltd, initiated its microfinance activity in March, 2012. It is promoted by a group of professional women who envisions reducing poverty through quality financial services and social awareness programs for the poor and marginalized community. WoMi is also working for gender mainstreaming as well as supports unemployed youth by providing sustainable microfinance services and empowering them through training and awareness programs to kick start business activities locally. The organization believes in utilizing indigenous skill, labor and capital for the economic development of the country.

Womi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited has successfully completed merger with Suryodaya Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited. Both the companies have commenced joint operation from April 2, 2022 (Chaitra 19, 2078). After the merger the new institution has operated in the name of "Survodaya Womi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd." Nepal Rastra Bank provided the consent to both the companies for the merger on February 17, 2022 (Falgun 5, 2078). The merger had been finalized with share swap ratio of 1:1.

Data of Suryodaya WoMi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

Particulars	Units
Total Members	183,266
Total Borrowers	86,047
Total Droupout Members	9,693
Total Staff	794
Total Field Staff	552
Total Loan outstanding	10,085,935,420
Total Saving	4,548,397,270
Total Loan overdue	683,726,000
Total overdue Members	5,749
Profit and Loss	140,375,260
Operational Self Sufficiency(OSS)	108%
Financial Self Sufficiency(FSS)	93%
Repayment Rate	96%
Portfolio at Risk -PAR	814,872,490
No of Branches	192
No of Centers	18,477
No of Districts	55



#### Mirmire Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

Banepa-8, Kavrepalanchowk

With the objective of providing sustainable microfinance services to the poor and marginalized communities in the region, Mirmire Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd was founded in December 2009 in the Kavrepalanchowk district of central Nepal. Initiating its operation as a 'D' class microfinance institution form October, 2010 it seeks to improve the living standards of its members and contribute towards poverty alleviation. Through microfinance as well as credit-plus programs the organization supports in creating an environment for self-employment opportunities for its members and create self-sustainable households in its area of operations.

#### Data of Mirmire Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited

Particulars	Units
Total Members	133,668
Total Borrowers	51,489
Total Dropout Members	
Total Staff	673
Total Field Staff	468
Total Loan Outstanding	8,037,048,340.85
Total Savings	2,614,710,075.28
Total Loan Overdue	220,342,539.88
Total Overdue Members	8,434.00
Profit / (Loss)	54,566,797.43
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	106%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	123.86%
Repayment Rate	99.33%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	4.71%
No. of Branches	150
No. of Centers	10,983
No. of Districts Covered	64



Swarojgar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. was established in the year 2009. Currently it is a 'D' class microfinance institution based in the Kavrepalanchowk district. It focuses on upliftment of social-economic status of the poor and backward communities through its microfinance services. While providing service it focuses on gender mainstreaming, social inclusion and economic empowerment of poor. It fosters savings habits among its members and promotes microenterprise development through various skill development training and technical support program.

#### National Microfinance Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. Banepa -10, Kavrepalanchowk

National Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd (NLBSL) is the national level micro-finance institution promoted by prominent and dynamic commercial bank, Development bank, financial institution and other reputed individuals. National Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited is incorporated in Nepal as a D Class licensed financial institution as per Bank and Financial Institution Act, 2063. This microfinance is a limited liability company registered in Office of the Company Registrar in the FY 2070/071 it obtained its license to carry out the financial transactions on 2071.02.28 from Nepal Rastra Bank.

NLBSL provides one window financial solution to the customers with wide range of products and services. NLBSL not only offers readymade products and services, but also offers customized service to better suit the need of the customer. Currently NLBSL is working with 820 staffs National Microfinance Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. and Summit Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited merged and started joint transaction on 2080.03.30. The Microfinance having its shares listed on Nepal Stock Exchange with trading code "NMFBS" Having approval to operate at National Level, by the end of Ashadh 2080 the microfinance is operating in 74 Districts with its 205 branches with the aim of improving access to financial services of the poor and marginalized women members, promoting a culture of saving, encouraging income generation, supporting micro- enterprises development and providing social security services to its member the microfinance is serving 217,865 members through its 205 branches till the end of this fiscal year. Being D Class licensed institution, major activities of the microfinance include deprived sector lending under the group guarantee without collateral in order to enhance economic and

Data of Swarojgar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

<b>Particulars</b>	Units
Total Members	125,697
Total Borrowers	56,078
Total Dropout Members	43,337
Total Staff	474
Total Field Staff	217
Total Loan Outstanding	6,637,315,179.24
Total Savings	3,335,150,428.87
Total Loan Overdue	199,327,726.32
Total Overdue Members	5,919
Profit / (Loss)	93,293,368.83
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	121.86%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	116.01%
Repayment Rate	95.25%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	399361212.86
No. of Branches	91
No. of Centers	11,051
No. of Districts Covered	36

#### Data of National Microfinance Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

<b>P</b> articulars	Units
Total Members	217,865
Total Borrowers	113,680
Total Dropout Members	66,327
Total Staff	820
Total Field Staff	504
Total Loan Outstanding	17,075,927,906.50
Total Savings	4,523,949,752.53
Total Loan Overdue	166,765,332.79
Total Overdue Members	18,399
Profit / (Loss)	341,496,823.74
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	115%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	106.56%
Repayment Rate	96.48%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	3.52%
No. of Branches	205
No. of Centers	18,159
No. of Districts Covered	74

social factors of the members. Also, the microfinance provides additional microenterprise loan to its members within the limit as prescribed by Nepal Rastra Bank from time to time. The major sources of fund are member savings, along with loan from other BFIs and Equity holders' fund.

National Microfinance Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited (NMFBS) has successfully acquired Mahila Sahayatra Laghubitta (MSMBS). After the acquisition, the joint transaction has commenced from July 14, 2021. The joint operation is in the name of 'National Microfinance Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited.' Nepal Rastra Bank provided the final approval for the acquisition on June 29, 2021. Likewise, the office of the company's registrar has given the approval on July 8, 2021. Both the microfinances had already received permission from the respective SGM held on June 8, 2021.



Government of Nepal and Nepal Rastra Bank (Central Bank) has prioritized microfinance services as one of the primary attributes for development and poverty alleviation. To support these initiatives, Nava Sarathi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd has begun carrying out microfinance activities in different parts of plain (terai), hill and mountain regions. After the successful merger of two different institutions (The Sarathi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd., Vyas-02, Damauli, Tanahun and Naya Nepal Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd., Dhulikhel -03, Kaverepalanchowk), the unified companies was given new name, "Naya Sarathi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd". It is a public limited company under the Company Act 2063 and operating under the Banking and Financial Institution Act (BAFIA) 2073. The organization is licensed by NRB as a "D" class National Level financial institution under the BAFIA. Naya Sarathi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited (NSLB) and Vijaya Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited (VLBS), a licensed financial institution of the "D" category from Nepal Rastra Bank have also completed the merger procedure. "Vijaya Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited" is the name of the new company and the integrated financial transaction has been carried out from 31st Ashad, 2080 (July 16, 2023). The companies had signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 26th Mangsir, 2079 (December 12, 2022) for the merger process.

#### Data of Vijaya Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

Particulars	Units
Total Members	149,356
Total Borrowers	65,759
Total Dropout Members	20,587
Total Staff	592
Total Field Staff	395
Total Loan Outstanding	8,818,724,065.05
Total Savings	2,033,189,077.14
Total Loan Overdue	417,410,822.67
Total Overdue Members	21,608
Profit / (Loss)	81,754,335
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	123%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	
Repayment Rate	
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	22.15%
No. of Branches	211
No. of Centers	10,666
No. of Districts Covered	44



Pioneer Bahuudeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd. has been providing small-scale loans and creating employment opportunities in Surkhet. It follows the seven international practices of microfinance and is dedicated towards improving the standard of living of its members. Pioneer promotes micro-entrepreneurs and the agricultural sector among its members through financial and technical support. It has received recognition as the 'Best Cooperative' in 2072 B.S. on the National Cooperative Day. Furthermore, Pioneer's manger was awarded 'Best Manager' in the year 2073 B.S.

#### Data of Pioneer Multipurpose Cooperative Ltd.

<b>P</b> articulars	Units
Total Members	8,262
Total Borrowers	2,218
Total Dropout Members	73
Total Staff	56
Total Field Staff	21
Total Loan Outstanding	482,012,866.00
Total Savings	231,139,880.63
Total Loan Overdue	33,927,568.00
Total Overdue Members	271
Profit / (Loss)	5,629,382.08
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	106%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	
Repayment Rate	98%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	
No. of Branches	8
No. of Centers	43
No. of Districts Covered	6



Navodaya Bahuudeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd. started its operation on June 1998 in Topgachi of Jhapa district. Having carried out savings and credit cooperative in the district serving the marginalized population in the area, it started its microfinance program following the Grameen model to better serve its members in the year 2005. Apart from it microfinance services it also prioritizes on creditplus program with focus on education, health and environmental protection. The organization has also been promoting integrated agriculture management through pooling of land from different landholders. This involves collective utilization of agricultural land by multiple farmers or landowners with the goal of achieving greater efficiency, productivity, and sustainability through integrated farming practices. This practice is especially beneficial for smallscale farmers who may not individually possess the resources or expertise to implement comprehensive farming techniques. Similarly, all the service centres of the organization are equipped with solar home system, internet and software as well as CCTV camera. The organization delivers its services to its members through tablet and mobile banking. It also provides remit as well as drinking water and electricity bill payment services to its members. Similarly it sells fertilizers at minimum quoted price, provides rural credit insurance facility as well as other essential facilities for its members. At its inception, the organization had 27 members and currently there are more than 17,500 members served by more than 80 highly disciplined staff.

#### Data of Navodaya Multipurpose Cooperative Ltd.

<b>P</b> articulars	Units
Total Members	17,540
Total Borrowers	5,391
Total Dropout Members	11,480
Total Staff	80
Total Field Staff	45
Total Loan Outstanding	829,627,791
Total Savings	435,670,541
Total Loan Overdue	40,154,528.03
Total Overdue Members	1,065
Profit / (Loss)	11,576,580.74
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	107.38%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	80.83%
Repayment Rate	99.38%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	19%
No. of Branches	11
No. of Centers	1,122
No. of Districts Covered	3



Global Bahumukhi Sahakari Sanstha Ltd was established in October, 2000 by 29 likeminded individuals who sought to assist the poor, underprivileged and marginalized communities and promoting small savings habits among its members. Later, it initiated its microfinance program and supported its members through health initiatives including ambulance service, financial services and technical support for establishing micro-enterprises, financial literacy programs and so forth. The organization is famous for its 'muthiya bachat' program, where it encouraged its members to save a fistful of rice before each meal in the morning and evening.



Pokhara, Kaski

Shreejana Bikas Kendra, a non-profit NGO which was established in 1980 promoted Srijana Banking Programme. Later the microfinance wing was established as separate entity, Jalpa Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited from August 19, 2018 and has got the license of D class financial institution on November 16, 2018 from the Nepal Rastra Bank. NRB has approved Mahila Samudayik Laghubitta Bittiva Sanstha Limited's request to acquire Jalpa Laghubitta Bittiyta Sanstha Limited. After the acquisition between Mahila Samudayik Laghubitta and Jalpa Laghubitta, the joint transaction has commenced in the name of Jalpa Samudayik Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited from December 1, 2020. For the overall socio-economic development of its clients it has given special priority on entrepreneurship development. As part of this approach it has facilitated members in the formation of production groups for agriculture and livestock related products, credit programs for the purchase of saplings, agricultural technology and fertilizers, special programs for enterprise upscaling and diversification and has also provided support for market development/diversification for agriculture related goods. It has also supported members to establish green shops where it facilitates members to sell their agriculture products from those outlets. In order to facilitate its members in areas like skill enhancement as well as Data of Jalpa Samudayik Laghubitta Bittiva Sanstha Limited

	trya sanstna Emmea
Particulars	Units
Total Members	1,06,757
Total Borrowers	44,437
Total Dropout Members	2,958
Total Staff	523
Total Field Staff	304
Total Loan Outstanding	4,570,436.68
Total Savings	2,661,110.06
Total Loan Overdue	669,200.90
Total Overdue Members	3439
Profit / (Loss)	(115,517.15)
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	88%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	_
Repayment Rate	98.60%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	8.39%
No. of Branches	99
No. of Centers	8,201
No. of Districts Covered	29

production and marketing of their goods, it regularly carries out interaction programs with the local/regional government and advocates favourable policies, environment conditions as well as facilitates members to acquire technical/financial support for entrepreneurship development. Recently, it has also given priority on supporting members to develop business plan before establishing, scaling-up and/or diversification of their enterprises.



#### **Unique Nepal Laghubitta** Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

Kohalpur Municipality- 11, New Road, Banke

Unique Nepal Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. (UNLBSL) is a rural micro-finance institution. UNLBSL obtained micro-finance banking license from the Nepal Rastra Bank in October 2018. However, the history goes back to the year 2000, when UNYC Nepal started working in this field. It has continuously worked for last 18 years under the provisions of Financial Inter-mediator Act, as a 'FINGO'. It continually aims at improving access to financial services. It strives to promote culture of saving, encourages income generation, supports micro-entrepreneurship development and provides social security services to its clients. It has been promoted by UNYC Nepal, Prabhu Bank, NCC Bank (Kumari Bank and Nepal Credit and Commerce Bank (NCC) merged with each other and started integrated business from 1st of January 2023. After the merger of Kumari and NCC, the consolidated business started under the name of Kumari Bank Limited in a share swap ratio of 1:1) and other individual shareholders. It is registered under the Company Act of Nepal. It believes in multilayered and targeted interventions to address the causes of poverty of its clients. Therefore, it promotes an enabling Data of Unique Nepal Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

Particulars	Units
Total Members	89,120
Total Borrowers	45,084
Total Dropout Members	24,753
Total Staff	230
Total Field Staff	126
Total Loan Outstanding	3,779,806,045.00
Total Savings	2,508,073,186.79
Total Loan Overdue	257,835,698.28
Total Overdue Members	10465
Profit / (Loss)	18,278,715.13
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	101.19%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	96.13%
Repayment Rate	99.00%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	24.93%
No. of Branches	41
No. of Centers	4,782
No. of Districts Covered	6

eco-system to provide business development opportunities. In the partnership with the Central Bank of Nepal, line ministries and development agencies, it is engaged to improve access to finance. It has been accredited by "Smart Campaign, Client Protection Certification."



Banepa-13, Bhainsepati, Kavrepalanchok

Manushi microfinance program has started its operation from April 2002. It is promoted by Manushi, an NGO which was established in 1991. Presently, Manushi Microfinance is registered under company act and got the D class bank license from Nepal Rastriya Bank on October 11, 2018. The program is fully guided by the principles such as reaching the poorest, supporting and empowering women, building financially self-sufficient institution and insuring positive and measurable impact on the lives of clients and their families. With a view to opening up new venues of expansion and exploration of program among clients, Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited is dedicated in pushing and pulling our activities further, bring sustainable development and bring them in the main stream of development. Its program has supported the rural economy and has contributed to enhance social security, women's empowerment, child education, health and sanitation. It currently covers 14 districts of Nepal and especially caters to marginalized communities in hilly and mountainous region of Nepal through promotion of self-employment. It is the also the recipient of the 'Laghu-Udhyamsheelta Bikas Puraskar' for the FY 2074/75 initiated by CSD in recognition of their outstanding contribution in the development and grooming of micro-entrepreneurs in its operating area.

#### Data of Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited

<b>P</b> articulars	Units
Total Members	34,249
Total Borrowers	19,354
Total Dropout Members	6,419
Total Staff	141
Total Field Staff	69
Total Loan Outstanding	1,319,901,475
Total Savings	888,546,973
Total Loan Overdue	59,352,130
Total Overdue Members	2,132
Profit / (Loss)	5,116,962
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	105%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	102%
Repayment Rate	97%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	11%
No. of Branches	36
No. of Centers	2,059
No. of Districts Covered	14



#### Navajeevan Cooperatives Limited

Dhangadhi, Kailali

Navajeevan Cooperatives Limited started its operation in 1993. In the same year, the cooperative was authorized to carry out limited banking transaction by Nepal Rastra Bank. It is the first cooperative in Nepal approved by Nepal Rastra Bank to carry out limited banking transaction. It has been developing saving habits among its members through saving collection and investing the accumulated capital in areas such as agriculture, livestock and microenterprise. Among the years, with this people centric approach where wellbeing of members are prioritized over profit, it has helped the members in economic and social transformation to great effect. It has also helped develop financial access among its members supplanting the informal money lenders as well as resuscitate the local economy in those regions where it is currently serving.

#### Data of Navajeevan Cooperatives Limited

Particulars	Units
Total Members	719
Total Borrowers	505
Total Dropout Members	-
Total Staff	2
Total Field Staff	1
Total Loan Outstanding	47,949,677
Total Savings	2,628,923.00
Total Loan Overdue	-
Total Overdue Members	-
Profit / (Loss)	816400.12
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	-
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	-
Repayment Rate	100%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	0%
No. of Branches	1
No. of Centers	52
No. of Districts Covered	1



Upakar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited is registered as 'D' class Financial Institution (Microfinance Bank) licensed by Nepal Rastra Bank. It was transferred from the microfinance programe of Mahila Upakar Manch. It is established on January 31, 2019 at Kohalpur, Banke and started its services on March 15, 2019 and registered according to company Act on August 10, 2018.

#### Data of Upakar Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

Particulars	Units
Total Members	40,410
Total Borrowers	21,985
Total Dropout Members	5,364
Total Staff	153
Total Field Staff	70
Total Loan Outstanding	1,993,827,302.55
Total Savings	1,086,559,951.19
Total Loan Overdue	115,649,438.41
Total Overdue Members	1,876
Profit / (Loss)	3,31,53,008.64
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	104%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	98%
Repayment Rate	98%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	5.80%
No. of Branches	33
No. of Centers	2,920
No. of Districts Covered	10



## Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

Katahari-2, Morang, Koshi Province, Nepal

Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited, a national level "D" class financial institution promoted by Jeevan Bikas Samaj (Non-Governmental Organization), has been providing financial services since February 28, 2019. In accordance with the Regulations on Merger and Acquisition Bylaws of Banks and Financial Institutions, 2017 issued by Nepal Rastra Bank, the merger had been completed with Solve Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited and Garibi Nyunikaran Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited and the integrated transaction commenced from September 7, 2020. Likewise, Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited has been awarded as the 'Best 3Z Support Organisation' consecutively in 2022 and 2023 amist events organized to mark the 12th Social Business Day, 2022 and 13<sup>th</sup> Social Business Day, 2023 respectively.

#### Data of Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.

<b>Particulars</b>	Units
Total Members	343,451
Total Borrowers	202,642
Total Dropout Members	155,381
Total Staff	930
Total Field Staff	437
Total Loan Outstanding	23,433,450,594.00
Total Savings	10,031,794,038.85
Total Loan Overdue	946,065,172.92
Total Overdue Members	8,775.00
Profit / (Loss)	347,256,298.07
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	116.68%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	110.27%
Repayment Rate	98.83%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	4%
No. of Branches	160
No. of Centers	15,671
No. of Districts Covered	24



Chameli SACCOS was established to create self-employment and enhance economic status of the local people with priority on local youths. It was established by Mr. Bharat Shah with the support of other like-minded people who had keen interest to uplift the socio-economic status of local people. It was registered on December 11, 2001 in Division Cooperative Office, Dhanusa and initiated its saving and credit activities from December 14, 2001. At the beginning, it disbursed shares to 26 male and 1 female members having face value of Rs 100 each and had total share capital of Rs 2700. It has made a steady progress from thereon and as of July 16, 2022 it has share capital of Rs 62,904,700

Particulars	Units
Total Members	9,974
Total Borrowers	4,722
Total Dropout Members	5,606
Total Staff	30
Total Field Staff	19
Total Loan Outstanding	479,957,377.93
Total Savings	245,362,137.70
Total Loan Overdue	23,787,648.07
Total Overdue Members	643
Profit / (Loss)	12,978,378.91
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS	117%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	
Repayment Rate	95%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	5%
No. of Branches	5
No. of Centers	2,369
No. of Districts Covered	1

## **Chhayanath Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd.**

Chhayanath Rara Municipality, Gamgadhi, Mugu

Chhayanath Saving and Credit Cooperative Limited is a community based member owned cooperative organization established on August 5, 2014 by 34 generous people including unsalaried, farmers and social activitis located in Gamgadhi area at that time. Later it was registered under Cooperative Act 2048 at Division Cooperative Ofice, Jumla on September 21, 2014. The purpose of establishing this cooperative society was to fight against poverty that existed in this area and enhance mutual help through cooperative activities. It is located in the northern part of Gamgadhi of Mugu District. It is involved in Mugu District as its working area and operating 3 service centers in different places. It has been providing wide range of financial and other services to its members to uplift socioceonomic status of their life. Currently, Chhayanath is offering 36 saving products, 11 loan products and 5 member social security program and 7 other services. It is operating as microfinance cooperative and providing agriculture and village financial services to its members. It is also involveded in variety of member development programs such as livelihood, health and education as well as women empowerment programs.

Data of Chhayanath Saving and Credit Cooperative Ltd.

<b>Particulars</b>	Units
Total Members	11,001
Total Borrowers	1,068
Total Dropout Members	14
Total Staff	36
Total Field Staff	24
Total Loan Outstanding	172,493,669.68
Total Savings	197,232,746.53
Total Loan Overdue	3,989,139.90
Total Overdue Members	82
Profit / (Loss)	1,307,270.75
Operational Self Sufficiency (OSS)	103%
Financial Self Sufficiency (FSS)	0.28%
Repayment Rate	99%
Portfolio at Risk (PAR)	2%
No. of Branches	3
No. of Centers	381
No. of Districts Covered	1

## CSD's Resource Persons

CSD has been assisting 'D' Class Banks as well as cooperatives carrying out microfinance activities in its endeavor to deliver quality as well as sustainable microfinance services to its clients. For this, it has created a large network of resource persons, both national and international experts, who share their knowledge, expertise as well as experience on topics and issues in line with microfinance sector. CSD has been able to develop coordination, collaboration and partnership with prominent expertise representing renowned institutions of microfinance, regulatory bodies, development organizations and leadership institutes. These resource persons also have bountiful supply of knowledge, experience and practical ideas pertaining to the rural finance and microfinance sector at both national and international level.



Mr. Shankar Man Shrestha Centre for Self-help Development



Mr. Sanjay Kumar Mandal Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Mr. Sudip Kumar Mandal Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



**Mr. Ramesh Ray** Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Mr. Gokul Pyakurel

MED en Nepal



Mr. Rajan K.C. MED en Nepal



Dr. Prakash Kumar Shrestha Nepal Rastra Bank



**Dr. Chiranjibi Nepal** Former Governor of NRB



Assoc. Prof.
Dr. Josh Keller
University of New South Wales
(UNSW), Sydney, Australia



Mr. Ram Chandra Joshi Chhimek Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Mr. Mahendra Kumar Giri Sahara Nepal SACCOS Ltd.



**Ms. Bimala Yogi** Jalpa Samudayik Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



**Mr. Damodar Regmi** Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



**Mr. Zahirul Alam** Integrated Development Foundation, Bangladesh



Mr. Bikal Prasad Sherchan National Institute for Leadership Development



**Dr. Sumitra Gurung** Swabalamban Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



**Dr. Bhesha Prasad Dhamala**Nerude Laghubitta Bittiya
Sanstha Ltd.



**Dr. Gopal Dahit** Unique Nepal Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Ms. Usha Malla Singh National Institute for Leadership Development



Ms. Shova Bajracharya Manushi Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Mr. Basanta Lamsal Vijaya Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Mr. Bhuvan Dahal Sanima Bank Ltd.



**Dr. Nara Hari Dhakal** Centre for Empowerment Development



**Ms. Maiya Rai** Jeevan Bikas Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Mr. Chola Raj Sharma Joshi Chhimek Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Mr. Ram Bahadur Yadav National Microfinance Bittiya Sanstha Ltd.



Dr. Purushottam Shrestha Center for Rural Technology/Nepal



Mr. Dambar Bahadur Shah Kisan Bahuuddeshiya Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.



Mr. Bishnu Pathak
Freelancer



Mr. Bechan Giri Center For Self-help Development



Mr. Satish Shrestha Centre for Self-help Development



Ms. Renu Prajapati
Centre for Self-help
Development

## International Partners



#### **Grameen Trust**

Bangladesh

The Grameen Trust is a non-profit, non-governmental organization committed to the cause of poverty alleviation and founded by Noble Laureate Prof. Muhammad Yunus. The organization has introduced several methods of Grameen Bank Replication Program (GBRP), such as dialogue programs for potential replicators, training assistance to replication projects and monitoring performance. It was established in 1989 and used microcredit as a tool for fighting poverty and follows the Grameen Bank model. Grameen Trust supports microfinance institutions by providing fund in the form of seed capital or scaling up fund. It has a long standing relation with CSD, supporting the organization in starting the first self-help banking program in Nepal.



#### **Integrated Development Foundation (IDF)**

Bangladesh

The Integrated Development Foundation (IDF) is a non-profit, non-political NGO established in December, 1992 with a vision of eradicating poverty in Bangladesh. Their success and achievement in their area of work has been pivotal in garnering support for their poverty alleviation interventions. IDF's commendable work for the extreme poor communities in the hilly, remote and backward areas have gained accolade from renowned agencies both at home and abroad. CSD has been organizing continuous exposure visits each year to Bangladeshi in joint collaboration with IDF.collaboration with IDF.



## Microfinance Council of the Philippines, Inc.

The Philippines

The Microfinance Council of the Philippines, Inc. (MCPI) is a national network of microfinance institutions and promotes ethical and inclusive financial and non-financial services in order to achieve the highest global standards of excellence in governance, stewardship and service towards staff, clients and communities they serve. MCPI support organizations advocating sustainable, innovative and client-responsive solutions to poverty in the Philippines. The organization is a great learning center for microfinance practices in the Philippines. CSD jointly organizes study visits to the Philippines with MCPI.



## Lanka Microfinance Practitioners' Association (LMFPA)

Sri Lanka

Lanka Microfinance Practitioners' Association (MFPA) is the pioneer in microfinance networking among microfinance practitioners in Sri Lanka. It promotes microfinance by encouraging cooperation, information sharing and assistance between member practitioners and stakeholders. As a network, its main function is to enhance the ability of its members to provide quality financial services to the grassroots communities. CSD organizes its exposure visit to the island country in joint collaboration with LMFPA.

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#### Microcredit Summit Campaign

USA

The Microcredit Summit Campaign (MSC) is an American non-profit organization established to bring together microfinance practitioners, non-governmental organizations and educational institutions. It advocates, donor agencies, international financial institutions, and others involved with microfinance to promote best practices in the field, stimulate interchanging of knowledge and work towards reaching the poverty reduction goals. The MCS organizes the Microcredit Summit every few years and CSD had been a part of this journey from the beginning.



#### Bandhan Bank Ltd.

India

Bandhan Bank Ltd initiated its activities starting out as an NGO in 2001. It is currently a bank for all whose focus remains unchanged to meet the financial needs of the people who are overlooked by the formal banking system and create better education, health care and selfemployment opportunities. It is the first MFI to receive the in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for settling up a universal bank in April 2014 with the banking regulator giving its final nod in June 2015. Incidentally, Kolkata-headquartered Bandhan is the first bank to be set up in the eastern part of India after independence. In synchronizing with the philosophy of, 'Aapka Bhala, Sabki Bhalai' and keeping financial inclusion at the heart of it, Bandhan is committed to provide a host of product and services, competitively on par with India's top private and state-owned banks.



#### **Banking with the Poor Network**

Australia

The Banking with the Poor Network (BWTP) is Asia's microfinance network. It is an association of a diverse range of microfinance stakeholders committed to improving the quality of life of the poor through promoting and facilitating their access to sustainable financial services. It works towards building efficient, large-scale sustainable organizations as well as though cooperation, training and capacity building with the aim of achieving innovative, appropriate and demand-driven financial services for the poor. The CSD has been a member of BWTP since the beginning and regularly contributes to their publications and discussions.



#### **Cambodia Microfinance Association**

Cambodia

The Cambodia Microfinance Association (CMA) is an NGO and professional association that works towards the prosperity and sustainability of the microfinance sector in Cambodia. It has been able to achieve a stronger and successful membership network thereby attracting support from the international market to enable industry expansion. CMA plays a vital role in creating local and international networks as well as seeks equity and loan funds, new technologies and overseeing conflict resolution between microfinance operators.



## **Institute for Inclusive Finance and Development**

Bangladesh

The Institute for Inclusive Finance and Development (InM), previously known as Institute of Microfinance is a non-profit organization which works for developing the overall capacity of the financial sector and strengthening the links between the financial and real sectors through undertaking research, training, education, knowledge management and other programs in priority areas including microfinance, inclusive finance, poverty and development. It primarily focuses on meeting the research and training needs of the national as well as global financial sector, including microfinance institutions.



#### **Yunus Centre**

Bangladesh

The Yunus Centre is a one-stop resource center for all Grameen Social Business related activities aimed primarily at promoting and disseminating Nobel Laureate Prof. Muhammad Yunus's philosophy and also helps forge lasting, productive relationship among all social business institutions around the world. It promotes the spirit of global social business through various events, publications, social media and websites. It champions the Poverty-Free World Campaign making the best use of its international and national networks and disseminating knowledge through research, publications and academic programs. CSD regularly participates in the seminars organized by the Yunus Centre.

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#### **CENTRE FOR SELF-HELP DEVELOPMENT (CSD)** Bhaktapur Lalitpur Kathmandu Dolakha Kavre-palanchok Bagmati Province Sarlahi NEPAL Maitighar, Height Gorakha Gandaki Province Manang Kaski 📥 Mustang Palpa Karnali Province Dolpa Kapilvastu East Rukum Rolpa Lumbini Province West Dang Jumla **CSD Member Organizations** Kalikot Bajura Bardiya Bajhang Darchula Doti Sudurpaschim Province Baitadi

Province 1

Siraha

Province 2

Microfinance Institution

Cooperative

NGO



## **Centre for Self-help Development (CSD)**

-Institute of Microfinance & Cooperative Development

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