



REED-Nepal

Edition: 19

Quarterly Newsletter

September 2023

Message from Chief

Executive Officer

I am pleased to share with you the 19th edition of REED's Newsletter for the period of July to September 2023. I would like to share REED Nepal's interventions, highlights of project achievements and update about the projects and events rolled out during the first quarter of FY 2023-2024 through this newsletter. I would also like to share that REED Nepal has completed 20 years in the field of education and community service for the wellbeing of children and community schools of rural Nepal through the holistic development approaches in quality education. So, we are grateful to our donors, partners, schools and government stakeholders for the trust, partnership and collaboration to achieve the goals and serve the vulnerable children and community people. We also would like to thank all our staff for joining us in the journey of REED Nepal's work to improve

the lives of rural communities of Nepal.

We look forward to your continuous support and feedback so that together we can achieve more and reach higher for the sustained wellbeing of the children with the hope of a better future of rural Nepal.

Finally, wishing you all a very happy Dashain, Deepawali, Chhat 2023! May this festival bring you all the joys and happiness you've ever wished for.

Thank you!

Bhim Bahadur Bogati
Chief Executive Officer
REED-Nepal



MPAC Meeting at Solududhkunda Municipality

MPAC (Municipal Project Advisory Committee) Meeting

REED-Nepal, Teachers Training Quality Inclusive Education Program (TTQIEP), Solukhumbu Project conducted MPAC meetings at the six local level units (Solududhkunda, NechaSalyan, Mapyadudhkoshi, Sotang, Mahakulung, Thulung Dudhkoshi RM). Altogether 111 participants (Male-96, Female-13, PwD Male-1, PwD Female-1) from the six local level units were attended. The main objective of the MPAC meeting was to deliver/reflect the accomplished activities of the previous year (2022-2023) and upcoming activities of the year (2023-2024).

Workshop amongst the teachers received training from TTQIEP and the teachers yet to be received training

This workshop amongst the teachers received training from TTQIEP and the teachers yet to be received training was the ideal activity. The main purpose of the sharing activity was to reflect on their ideas for the upliftment of the Learning achievement of the students. Altogether at 11 schools, this activity was conducted in the first quarter. A total of 78 trained teachers (Male-45, Female-32, and PwD Male-1) and 59 untrained teachers (Male-41, Female-17, and PwD Male-1) participated.



Workshop at Padmakanya BS, Mapya Dudhkoshi RM, Solukhumbu

Safeguarding, GEDSI, PSEAH and dissemination of the child safeguarding guidelines" to the child clubs, GEDSI focal teachers and LRT

The three-day training was provided to the child club members, GEDSI focal teachers and LRTs. In the two days, only child club members were trained and on the final day, GEDSI focal teachers and some LRTs were also involved. The main objective of the training was as follows:

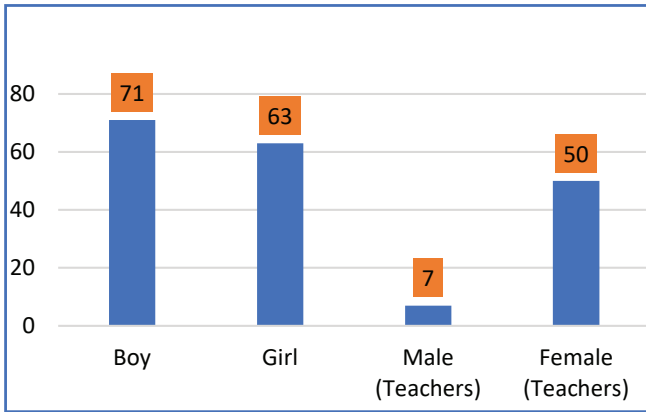
- To provide awareness on GBV, PSEAH and Safeguarding
- Capacity building to provide advocacy support to strengthen incident reporting mechanisms at the school and community levels
- Dissemination of child safeguarding guidelines and development of annual action

This training was conducted in the four local-level units (Mapya Dudhkoshi, Sotang, Mahakulung & Nechasalyan RM). A total of 191 participants were benefitted from that training. A total of 191 participants were benefitted from that training.



Child-Club Training at Mapya Dudhkoshi RM

Children's Day Celebration



Students during the rally



Child participants receiving awards after the competition

REED-Nepal (TTQIEP) conducted the children's day celebration in collaboration with Solududhkunda Municipality. Open competition (Essay writing up to grade 8 and debate competition for senior-level) was accomplished.

Besides that, a rally was also held where almost 700 students participated. Students at Rally (Children's Day, 15th September 2023). The children's day activity was inaugurated by the Mayor of Solududhkunda Municipality Mr. Namgel Jangboo Sherpa and Vice-Mayor Gandhi Mrs. Maya Tamang. The program was held at Samikshya Hall, Salleri. The Slogan for 59th Children's day was "बालबालिकामा लगानी : सुनिश्चित भविष्यको थालनी"

Similarly, Children's Day was also organized by the West Nepal: Sambredhee Khaptad-Channa Project at Khaptad SS, Bajhang. The program was chaired by Mr. Prem bahadur Thapa (Senior School Management committee member) whereas Vice-chairperson of the Rural Municipality, Mr. Bishnu bahadur Thapa was the Chief guest of our program. Likewise,

Former R.M Chairperson, Mr. Barka Bahadur Rokaya and all of chairperson from 7 wards were the special guests. The CAO of RM was also invited as the special guest. Education Officer of RM and program Manager from both project (Garima and West Nepal) has also been invited as the guest. The head teacher's, management committee members, education specialist, social worker etc. were invited and they represent there as a guest.

March Pass and rally, Speech, Drawing and dance competition focusing on expressing the potential and creativity of children was organized between the 38 schools. After all the competition the prizes has been distributed to the winners' students and were acknowledged and rewarded.

At the end of the program, the Rural Municipality had also provided certificate of appreciation to REED Nepal team for the excellent contribution in health and education sector of Khaptad Channa Rural Municipality.



West Nepal: Sambredhee Khaptad Channa Project appreciated by the Khaptad S.S, Bajhang

Strengthening Marginalized Women in Palpa

Beginning was the day of doing something for strengthening to the women who are in group. They were having not enough money for investing to their children's education and even they were squeezing their happiness. Looking all the women economic figure, LC project was strengthened them by offering off-seasonal training. A five-day training on "Off-seasonal Tomato farming in plastic house and Chilly

commercial farming training" has economically empowered 19 Dalit and Marginalized women of Rambha RM in Palpa district. The Learning Champion Project offered this training in collaboration with the Association for Dalit Women's Advancement of Nepal (ADWAN) and Green Tara Nepal, with financial support from Karuna Deutschland, Karuna Trust, and BMZ German.

Rigorous effort of the women, they grew the tomato in the field. They learned how to grow more tomato or off-seasonal vegetables in tunnel



house. It was good lesson for them to produce more crops in a very tiny space when they received agro-training by LC project. Producing tomato and hiking and fluctuation the price, they learnt economic skills as well. New avenue was introduced in their mind and they pushed their thoughts towards the business plan not for anything else but for economic empowerment. The best example was they sold tomato separately up to 200 kg in the nearby market with an attractive price of Rs 120 per kg in July and August. At this time, tomato production was very low across the country as well as in India, while the demand was very high. Off-seasonal tomato cultivation has provided a good source of income for these Dalit and marginalized women and they are now utilizing their income to meet their family needs and contribute to the education of their daughters. They are

now cultivating season-wise vegetables in the tunnel and increasing their income. Intervention in farming in rural areas is bringing a change to develop the livelihood of women and helping to uplift their living standards. The project has formed 30 women groups involving 600 women. These women are the mothers of girls enrolled in government schools from Dalit and marginalized communities of Rambha and Kanchan RMs of Palpa and Rupandehi districts respectively.

The project has an objective to make Dalit and marginalized women more skilled and boost their confidence. The development of skills to make entrepreneurs is a pathway to increase productivity, employability and earning opportunities for women and to improve livelihood via scientific cultivation practices and run their businesses.



Educational Hub-Dignity Centers

Promoting girls' education, LC established Dignity Centers (DC) as an educational hub for all. The prime focus was to bring those girls who are out of school and develop them as good place for their study. By naming it (DC), it was the second school or education hub for them.



With the financial support of Karuna Deutschland, Karuna Trust and BMZ German, "The Learning Champion project" primarily focuses on underprivileged communities' children who are out of school, based on these issues, the concept of Dignity Center is designed. It aims to bring the dropout girls (12-24 age) and women into the center for educating them. Dignity Centres and Learning Hubs are one of the main activities to support the dropped-out

girls and women aged 12 to 24 years.

Therefore, Seven Dignity Centers and seven Learning Hubs in the communities were established with the collaboration and coordination of both Kanchan and Rambha Rural Municipalities in Palpa and Rupandehi district. These centers are been functionalizing intending to increase the self-esteem of dropped-out girls and those girls who are at risk of dropping out from school. Varieties of books are also managed in the DC to develop the reading habit of books for supporting the girls' education in the communities.

Similarly, various social awareness programs, public awareness programs to reduce social discrimination, and catch-up classes (motivational and life skill classes) for empowering the dropped-out girls are being conducted from time to time targeting girls who are out of school. Classes were conducted through project staff, volunteers, and external facilitators. Continuous counseling for the dropout girls and the coaching classes of schools is going on. Its other main role is to re-enroll the dropped-out girls in school. As a result, the project has succeeded in re-enroll 55 girls in the schools. Among them, 47 have been re-enrolled in Kanchan RM of which 1 has passed the SEE exam from our support and 8 girls in Rambha RM.



Myriad of Novelties in Boys

Securing the teenager girls in the school or anywhere else was a threat for all. They were having no feeling of security by their own schools' boys. This was breeding day by day and its impact was girls were missing their class. They had no feelings of bonding relation like brotherhood and sisterhood. Boys were not taken them they are our sisters. They were peeping the world in very narrow mirror. Resulting, they misbehaved the girls and watering the harassment exercises day by day.

LC project took this as a high risk for girls and turmoil the bonding relation of sisterhood and brotherhood from the schools. Connecting boys and girls with serenity, LC sensitized the boys by brushing or melting their bad thoughts towards the girls. The words were not enough them to change their bad habit. Boys' aggressions and assault towards the girls and paid off penalty's story told them in boys club mobilization, they were aware to some extent. Establishing sisterhood and brotherhood in between teenagers' girls and boys in the schools, boys club mobilization worked a lot. Boys knew that safety first to

our schools' girls is our duty. They proved their duty by doing some tiny practices by themselves cleaning, painting their wash room. This was made a good feeling of sex difference and realized girls are our sisters. They did together for cleaning toilet.

Boys club mobilization is one of the main activities to promote and enhance the development of both boys and girls by installing a sense of competence, usefulness, belonging and influence. The goal of having a boy's club in schools has proven to raise awareness about children's rights and welfare, enhance leadership skills, and ensure children's participation in the school and community through various activities. It is aimed at allowing in-school girls to come together under one umbrella and share experiences, discuss issues peculiar and of common interest to them, and also learn new ideas and skills. The main reason for organizing the boy's club mobilization is to discuss and talk about the girl's issues, problems, challenges, and interests. Boys can stand up and take action regarding the issues of girls and support them.

The purpose of boys' club mobilization provides students with a safe and supportive space to discuss issues related to gender,



and to offer them resources and support to help them navigate these issues. To educate students about the diversity of gender identities and expressions and to provide them with accurate and inclusive information about gender.

Therefore, various types of activities are conducting in all working 55 schools of Palpa and Rupandehi schools. Different programs like: -discussion related to girls' issues like menstruation and menstrual hygiene management, child marriage and the causes of early marriage, gender-based violence, drug abuse and addiction, importance of education, etc Rudrapur Secondary School of Kanchan RM, boys club themselves colored and cleaned their girls and boy's toilet. The boy's toilet is worn out but their interest brings it back to use. Now, they can use the cleaned toilet regularly. Similarly, in the Palpa district, in Janakalyan Secondary School, the boys club have prepared the play card related to child marriage and have conducted rally around the schools.



Training for Teachers on National and Local Curriculum Teaching Pedagogy and Learning Assessment

Strengthening Climate Resiliency in Melamchi (SCRM) project has organized the two-day training on the local curriculum. This training has given teachers new skills and ideas to make learning better for students, teachers learned about the local curriculum. They also learned about including our local culture and traditions in what they teach. This will make lessons more interesting for students.



Mr. Devi Shrestha, the Principal of Indreshwori Secondary School, was really excited about the training. He said, "This training showed us how to teach our local curriculum. I can't wait to use these new ideas in my classroom and help students learn better."

The Vice Chairperson of REED-Nepal, Damber Dhoj Angdembe chaired the Program and shared his view on the empowerment of teachers is essential for the strong foundation and delivery of education.

The education officer from the municipality is hopeful about these positive changes. They think that connecting our education to our local ways will get more students, parents and everyone in the community involved. This will help students learn more and have a strong education.



Community Meeting on Leadership Development and Menstrual Hygiene

Dignity for Women-ending Chaupadi- Garima project has organized Community Meeting on Leadership Development and Menstrual Hygiene. Community people (ward elected representative, schools' principals, Dhamis, mother group representative, mother-in-law group representative, health post in-charge, representative of adolescent girl club and child club from 4 wards of Bajhang and Bajura were participated on the community meeting. Participants were oriented on meaning of leaders. Orientation given to the qualities of good leader, role and responsibilities of leaders and possible impact of leaders in the community. In this session discussion conducted on why leaders are needed in the societies and how good leader can contribute in upliftment of societies.

Participants were also oriented about mensuration and hygiene management. They were taught how to improve sanitation on mensuration period. They were oriented on management of used pad in community and discussed on quality of pad and benefit of use these types of materials. They were oriented on the role of mother group to manage garbage, awareness other peers to take nutritious food during this time.

Exploring role model

At the meeting women who were practiced safe menstrual practices like setting in side home and eating dairy product during menstruation were explored. Some of the women were found in Bajhang who were sit inside home and consume dairy and some women were committed to change their practice towards safe menstruation



Community meeting in Gadraye, Bajhang



Community meeting in Bajura

Video voice training on child right and cyber-crime

Member of adolescent girl club leaders were oriented on child right as they are the one key body to advocate and protect child right at schools and communities. They are oriented on how child could be manipulated and child rights are violated in the schools and communities and how they could take action against it. Type of children violence Impact of child violence also discussed in the session.

Girls were also oriented about the case stories. They were taught how to pick-up the cases for case stories and how to write the case stories. They were also reminded to take inform consent before writing case story or taking videos. Orientation on the method of taking picture and videos of event also took place. Girls were asked pick up the case stories from their surrounding from different perspective.

As cybercrime and cyber bullying is raising in current scenario, girls were oriented on these issues. Girls were oriented on the common types of cybercrime in Nepal (online fraud, hacking and identity theft). Discussion was conducted how we could be victim of cybercrime unknowingly and safer without doing anything. Some examples of cybercrime also explained

with them. Most of the girls were not aware of these terminologies so focused to make them familiar with these terminologies. Impact of cybercrime in human life also explained to them along with examples. Where to contact and how to contact for cybercrime also discussed in the session.



Video voice training on child right and cyber-crime in Bajura



Video voice training on child right and cyber-crime in Bajhang

SMC/PTA orientation on child right and gender equality

SMC/PTA Orientation on "Child right and gender equality has been delivered to the SMCs/PTAs. Participants were oriented on child protection and gender equality, responsibility of school management committee to improve quality education and sanitation at school was included into the contents. Participants realized how patriarchy impacted gender inequality in community across the project's

impact area. Video of Child manipulation and abuse was disseminated. It includes how child can be misused by our near one, what and how parents, teachers could know about abuse and the further legal action provisioned by the Government of Nepal. A total of 86 participants has been participated in the program.





Successful Conclusion of 10-Days Follow-up Mentoring Program in Dhading District

From September 7th to 16th, September, 2023, an inspiring 10-day 'Follow-Up Mentoring Program' was conducted across seven schools in the Ganga Jamuna Rural Municipality of Dhading district. The initiative, aimed at developing "Model Schools as Centre of Excellence," was made possible through generous financial support from the Nepal Australia Friendship Association, in collaboration with the local government, and expert implementation by REED Nepal. Under the guidance of REED Nepal's technical expert, teachers, child clubs, and parents came together to participate in a series of school-based interaction and support. The visit's primary objective was to enhance the quality of education by providing the valuable insights and tools to the school stakeholders. Throughout the 10 days, stakeholders engaged in a variety of activities and discussions, focusing on pedagogical techniques, child-centered learning, and community involvement. The "Support" emphasized the importance of fostering a holistic learning environment that nurtures the intellectual and emotional growth of students.

Ms. Sita Simkhada, a teacher of Richet basic school, expressed her appreciation for the program, saying, "The mentoring program has been an eye-opener for us. We've learned innovative teaching methods and strategies to keep our students engaged and motivated. It's a significant step towards making our school a true Centre of Excellence." The program's success can be attributed to the combined efforts of the Nepal Australia Friendship Association, the Ganga Jamuna Rural Municipality, and REED Nepal. The dedication to improving the quality of education in the region was evident through initiatives like these. As these schools embark on their journey to become 'Centre of Excellence', the positive impact of this 'Follow-Up Mentoring Program' is expected to resonate throughout the community, shaping a brighter future for the children of Dhading district."

Distribution of Curriculum-Based Teaching and Learning Resources

On September 14th, 2023, an essential step was taken towards realizing the vision of "Model Schools as Centre of Excellence" in the Ganga Jamuna Rural Municipality of Dhading district. In the presence of seven schools' principals, local government representatives, and School Management Committee (SMC) Chairpersons, a 'Curriculum-Based Teaching Learning Resources' distribution event marked a significant milestone in enhancing education quality.

Mr. Shir Bahadur Tamang, principal of Pasang Chock Mahadev Secondary School, Tawal, one of the beneficiary schools, expressed his enthusiasm, stating, "This event is a testament to the commitment of his school to provide quality education. With these resources, his teachers will be better equipped to nurture the potential of our students." The 'Curriculum-Based Teaching Learning Resources' distribution event was a culmination of efforts by multiple stakeholders, working in unison to improve the educational landscape in Tawal area of Dhading district. It marks a significant step towards achieving the goal of establishing 'Model Schools as Centre of Excellence.' As the seven schools put their new skills and resources into practice, the future looks promising for the children of the Ganga Jamuna Rural Municipality.



Joint Monitoring



From September 8th to September 15th, 2023, an essential phase in the development of "Model Schools as Centre of Excellence" took place in the 7 schools of Ganga Jamuna Rural Municipality of Dhading district. The 'Joint Monitoring' program involved a comprehensive classroom observation in each of the seven schools. Local government representatives, SMC Chairpersons, and education experts observed teaching methods, student engagement, and the overall classroom environment. Mr. Dhan Bahadur Gurung, an SMC Chairperson, emphasized the importance of this initiative, stating, "Joint Monitoring has given us a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities in our schools. We are committed to working together to create a conducive learning environment for our students." This collaborative effort exemplifies the commitment of the Ganga

Jamuna Rural Municipality, REED Nepal, and local community leaders to provide quality education to the children of Dhading district.

Kick-Off Meeting

On September 14, 2023, Local government representatives, School Management Committee (SMC) chairpersons, and various stakeholders convened for the "Kick-Off Meeting for New "Ganga Jamuna Model School Project. The meeting, hosted in Pasang Chock Mahadev school of Ganga Jamuna Rural Municipality of Dhading district, marked the beginning of an ambitious project aimed at transforming these institutions into "Model Schools as Centre of Excellence. The meeting concluded to improve infrastructure, enhancing the quality of teaching, and providing students with a well-rounded educational experience. Additionally, the formation of 'Ward Level Project Advisory Committee' will ensure that the community's voices are heard, and decisions are made collectively, fostering a sense of ownership among residents. The meeting also included a comprehensive review of past initiatives in the education sector, with stakeholders discussing lessons learned and best practices that can be applied to the current project. This reflective approach aimed to avoid past pitfalls and streamline the implementation of the "Model Schools as Centre of Excellence."



Follow-Up Mentoring Conducted in Panchkhal Municipality's

In a bid to bolster educational outcomes and provide vital support to students in 5 schools of Panchkhal Municipality of Kavre District, in the funding support of the Grande Social Foundation, REED training expert conducted a school-based follow-up mentoring program. This noteworthy endeavor spanned in five schools aiming to foster academic growth and personal development among the students, teachers and parents dated from 12th-20th August, 2023. Under this mentoring program, experienced educator had been assigned to work closely with students, providing one-on-one guidance, academic support, and mentorship. The focus was not only on academic excellence but also on nurturing holistic personal development, including character-building and life skills. The Grande Social Foundation's commitment to education and holistic development was evident in its continued support for such initiatives. The follow-up mentoring program was expected to contribute significantly to the students' overall well-being and future prospects. During the program, students received assistance in areas such as project work completion, culture lab preparation, child friendly learning environment creation and child rights. The mentor also helped to identify and address any challenges or barriers students may be facing in their educational journey.





First aid training:

Solukhumbu Youth Initiative for Climate Change Adaptation- SYICCA project has organized Four days basic first aid training focused on knowledge of first aid that can be implemented during disasters and emergencies was conducted for the youth club members of the Maypa Dudhkoshi Rural Municipality. The training program were facilitated by Nepal Red

Cross Society, solukhumbu district chapter as they were the first authorized body to conduct first aid and respond on emergencies. 24 Youths (11 Female, 13 Male) representing different youth club/groups learn and capacitated to provide basic first aid services during disaster and emergencies.

Formation of youth club:

A youth club network has been formed in Mapya Dudhkoshi RM. A total of 17-member youth initiative network has been formed to perform collaborative activities within rural municipality and to share the innovates ideas within group to prevent community from disaster, climate change impact and to promote environment conservation related activities. The network comprises youths from all 7 wards of the rural municipalities.

GESI and Child Safeguarding Training:

TTQEP, Taplejung has carried out GESI and Child safe-guarding training to the teachers. During the training, a reporting method has been developed at the school level to raise awareness about gender and social inclusion. It minimized discrimination and promoted female involvement in the school's in-door and out-door activities. In addition to it, installation of hording boards in some schools to raise awareness about gender sensitivity and encourage females to report any discrimination to the focal person. Girls are more likely to disclose any assault or discrimination to the



female focal person. 17 new teachers have been received child safeguarding training as part of the continuation of last year's program.

School Management Committee Capacity Building Training:

Teacher's Training Quality Education Program (TTQEP), Taplejung has organized capacity strengthening training to the school management committee's capacity. The training sessions were held to clarify each member's obligations to the school. 142 members of the school management committee

immediately benefited from the training and will now be more responsible for school-related activities. As a result, there was harmony among the management committee, parents and school community. They have developed ownership and have begun to donate as much as they can. They have prepared a 'school

management plan' and SMC/PTA members are actively participating in building a greenery environment at school, including modest donations such as volleyball, table, paper cutter, dustbin, chair etc.



Eco-child Club & School Greenery:

Increment of an involvement of the eco-child club in Taplejung

for creating green school environment with a range of social activities. Gained confidence in conducting extracurricular events and morning assembly with kid club members while developing leadership abilities.

Establish a trash management organization that empowers kids to speak out against violence. Senior students help junior students with classroom tasks and morning meetings. They are also more responsible for looking after the teaching resources, learning materials, and other items in the classroom. Altogether 304 pupils are actively involved in school greenery concept from 18 schools.



Training in question design and curriculum dissemination:

This is a part of the teacher's professional development, and the training was designed with the intention of developing curriculum-based skills while preparing effective classroom lessons and practicing various levels of curriculum-aligned questions. With 101 teachers as the target, this type of training was delivered across three locations of Taplejung district. Each teacher has undergone training, enabling them to create questions that follow the curriculum. The competency-based curriculum, questioning design process, and integrated curriculum concepts are thoroughly discussed with examples.



Community Orientation Program (COP):

TTQEP, Taplejung has conducted COP. The primary goals of community orientation are to develop ownership and prepare responsible parents for school. While parents, teachers, and members of the management committee collaborate for the benefit of the students, the project has a greater impact on school education. In order to explore the crucial role that parents play in both their children's development and their education, the project has planned to host a meeting with parents in each school. When it comes to creating and raising more responsible parents, this approach is incredibly helpful. 420 parents participated actively in 12 schools up until the reporting report.



Annual Review Meeting:

Annual Review Meeting has been organized by the REED-Nepal. The meeting was held on 29-30 July 2023 at Godawari Village Resort, Godawari. The objective of the program was to share and review the annual progress in accordance with the project plan, identify key challenges and way forwards. Project's key achievements, model initiative and future directions was very rigorously discussed and concluded with the development of detail implementation plan of the projects for FY 2023-024.



In-house capacity building training:

In-house capacity building training has been conducted by REED-Nepal on 25-26 July 2023. The training was organized at REED meeting hall. The training was focused to increase in-service personnel capability through learning sharing to replicate the model initiatives within the project's area/districts. The training has provided an opportunity to the staff to grow their skills and knowledge through exchange learning and sharing. Furthermore, the majority of the staff is ready to facilities the next training and they considered the in-service training practice to be really beneficial in terms of growing their own ability. Organizational policy and its implication, promotion of girls education, In-school support procedures and it's implications, students assessment system, concept of International Child Development program, concept of GESI, teaching strategies, parenting education, child right and child friendly schools were the key contents delivered in the trainings



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