

CWISH Annual Progress Report 2008

Making State Responsible

In spite of 17 years long history of ratification of United Nations' Convention on the Rights of Children, local government in Nepal were not very sensitive and active on fulfilling their obligation to protect, promote and fulfil the rights of young people and children. Not only that existing service mechanism especially medical & health system, Policing and Judicial system were not effectively responding the cases of violence and abuse against children. As a result number children are suffering and another large number of children's vulnerability was increased.

Therefore, CWISH developed and implemented comprehensive programs that advocates with the government mechanisms and service providers, enable them to improve their services and empower children, their care takers and the local community people to support children on claiming and reclaiming their rights and seeking protection. CWISH worked with and for women, children and youth. CWISH organized educational programs not just to literate but to empower as well; Ran child protection services to have immediate response; Formed and mobilized local child protection committees; Worked with child clubs and youth clubs; Promoted child rights in schools; Advocated and worked together with municipals, police and health service system; marked special days and campaigns.

With all those efforts, 1216 (Girls-715, Boys-501) children, 143 youths and 329 women are educated. 121 children and young people suffering from violence and abuse are rescued and successfully re-integrated with their family. 29 schools improved their programs and facilities in a child rights responsive way. 39 child clubs, 13 youth clubs and 31 child protection committees had functioned at local level. 11 municipals allocated budget and expressed their commitment to work for women and children. Nepal police and Kanti Hospital Services are better improved.

Accessing Education: Getting Empowered

CWISH organize various educational interventions in 2008 targeting women, children and youth. A CWISH Educational Program varies from literacy skills to schools and economic empowerment. In 2008, CWISH organized Non formal Education program targeting children working as domestic workers and deprived of educational opportunities. In total 14 classes 622 children less than 14 years were enrolled and 493 children have been graduated with 237 children waiting to enter into formal school education.

Targeting young people between the ages of 15 to 20 years, CWISH organized business skill based educational programs. The target youth of this program are mostly working as domestic workers and some are unemployed. In 2008, 143 young people have attended the program and 21 are transited into vocational skill training, 104 people are starting small group business together.

Urban poor and non residential domestic worker women are another target of CWISH. CWISH is working to end slavery practices in domestic work through organizing domestic workers, making it professional and legally protected. Thus, CWISH ran business skill based literacy package for women. This program resulted 329 women literate, understanding and recognizing their profession with dignity and also provided an alternative opportunity for interested women to start small business by their own efforts. Currently more than 100 women in different groups are involved in business and some women are organized in domestic workers' organization.

Protecting Children from Violence and Abuse

Researches and studies at past has evidenced that Nepali children and youth are suffering of different forms of violence and abuse including sexual abuse. Children working as domestic workers and separated from family and parental care are more vulnerable. Therefore CWISH has been intervening to make sure children and young people access protection services at local level whenever they required.

In 2008, 31 child protection committees had organized 97 activities at their locality to raise awareness, educate children and provide better services for children in difficult conditions. Child Protection Committees are locally formed group by community people to initiate voluntary actions for the protection and promotion of children's rights. In 2008, the child protection committees have mobilized local resources in kinds and monetary part by their voluntary efforts.

CWISH has been running a toll free child help line service (1660-01-10000) for rescue complaint and required legal, medical and counselling services. In 2008, 121 children and young people are rescued from the condition of abuse, violence and exploitation. 22 cases were filed in court, and in 8 cases, Rs.803500.00 was compensated to the victim of exploitation and abuse.

Similarly, 1153 children and young people received counselling services through 101 group counselling sessions, in person counselling and telephone counselling.

Justice Accessed

Three Girls of the aged 4, 5 and 7 years had been frequently raped by two men, as the parents knew it from their girls they contacted local police and CWISH together for their help. With the help of local police both of the rapists were arrested and filed a case against them. At the same time the girls received required medical health support from the Kanti Children's Hospital, where CWISH has been working to promote a safer health support system for victim/survivor children of sexual abuse.

With the support from CWISH, the trained police personnel and the medical service the girls were not only benefited with health facilities rather continued their school education and the rapists were jailed.

Child Rights in Schools

CWISH has been working with different government schools to promote schools' efforts on the protection and promotion of children's rights including quality education. Through the CWISH intensive works in 29 schools, CWISH has been promoting parents' active involvement in schools, and to enhance the quality of the education.

The schools, where CWISH had worked in 2009, has formed child protection committee, managed complaint box, organized welcome to school campaign, running parents' awareness program on child rights, child labor and their role. The schools has also improved infrastructure of schools to meet the needs of children, improved libraries with local fund raising campaign schools and mobilizing local resources. The schools have also applied child protection code of conduct.

In some schools, children are represented in school management committees and parents'-teachers association as observer.

CWISH has trained 123 teachers of primary grade representing different five main subjects (English, Math, Nepali, Science and Social Studies) on Better Teaching Learning Performance.

CWISH ran awareness program on the issues of child rights, child labor, child protection, HIV and AIDS, female leadership and peace education. In total 2673 children from different schools are educated.

All 29 schools are now organized in a network and the network is facilitating resource mobilization, trainings and other required interventions among it's member schools.

Children and Youth Clubs

Children and youth are CWISH significant partners on it's development and rights promotion campaign.

CWISH has been working with 39 child clubs. The child clubs has 1512 children as member and 514 as leaders. Child clubs in 2008 is successful to get recognition and acceptance of schools along with some financial and technical support. In 2009 child clubs organized 145 activities on their leading and published 106 issues of children's wall magazine.

Dynamic Youth Forum is a CWISH promoted youth organizations' coalitions. Dynamic Youth Forum has more than 300 members through it's 13 local youth clubs. The dynamic youth forum members' clubs organize several programs for raising social awareness, protecting children and youth from violence, abuse and exploitation, educating youth and children about social issues. Dynamic youth forum also advocates for young peoples' rights. The dynamic youth forum and it's youth clubs organized almost 36 activities in 2008.

Advocacy for Children's and Young Peoples' Rights

CWISH advocates for the protection and promotion of children's and young peoples' rights by state and community. Therefore, CWISH organized several activities to advocate with community people, stakeholders and states body for the protection and promotion of children and young peoples' rights.

In 2008 CWISH advocacy was mainly focused with municipalities at local level to promote their efforts on ending urban child labor. As a result 266 political leaders (192 Male, 74 Female), 189 municipal staff (129 Male, 60 Female), 68 local civil society representatives (44 Male, 24 Female) are educated on the needs and approaches of local interventions on protecting and promoting child rights. 363 local social workers are trained as local resource person to educate on child labor issues at community level. With such interventions 11 municipalities in Nepal has started to allocate annual budget on the field of child rights and child labor issues at the local level. With the efforts of CWISH, these municipalities allocated 1144250.00 Rupees for the interventions on child labor.

The episodes of joint radio program by CWISH and Radio Sagarmatha on child protection issues is very significant to make the issue as of social concern. 2461 responses of children was received on the radio program.

Similarly CWISH work with Nepal Police and Kanti Children's Hospital on enhancing legal and medical services for victim/ survivor children has been resulted in production of working guide book, trainers and training manuals in Nepal police and official protocol and special care set up in Kanti hospital. In Kanti Hospital and Central Nursing Campus CWISH provided training to 99 health practitioners including 11 doctors and 88 nursing staffs on providing effective health services for victim/survivor children of sexual abuse.

In 2008, CWISH provided trainings on responding child abuse cases to 118 police personnel and other 30 police personnel were trained as resource person to carry out similar training at regional police training canters.

Along with this, International Women's Day, World Day against Child Labor (12 June), National Children's Day (14th September), International Child Rights Day and World Day against Child Abuse, 16 Days of Activism, International Human Rights Day were marked by CWISH with a week long campaigns.