



Oct – Dec 2010

CWISH NEWS

Children-Women In Social Service and Human Rights

Issue 11

PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES IN THE NEAR FUTURE:

Child Labor Survey at Dang

Launching of Study Report
on Separation: Denial of
Rights

Formation of Child
Protection Alliance Nepal

Radio Program on Child
Protection Issue

Planning & Review
Workshop of Child
Protection Committees

Planning & Review
Workshop of Child Clubs

Resource Center
Orientations on Child
Rights' Protection and
Promotion in the School

Guide Book on Child
Rights' Protection and
Promotion

New Outreach Centers
launched for School-Going
and Non-School-Going
CDWs

Supreme Court's
Pronouncement on Child
Sexual Abuse

Information Boards/
Paintings on Child Help
Line Service

Initiating Parents'
Federation for Right to
Education

Launching of Study Report
On
Justice and Impunity
On Sexual Abuse of
Children

Year 2011 Demands: Political Stability and Timely Constitution

The carriages of Nepali people's hope and agenda, Constitution Assembly, was rescued and extended for one year more in the midst of 2010 as we were unable to have the promised constitution delivered by our own founded assembly and representatives. The slow pace of peace process overshadowed constitution building process with government formation game, and the traditional political practices of major political parties were the main hurdles for the long waited people's constitution of Nepal.

The new constitution of Nepal is a centerpiece of everyone's hope from the cantonment to the paddy field, from big building revolving chairs to the streets, from international political diasporas to small community associations. Everyone has realized it, at least in political speeches and open commitments (as we don't know what happens in resort meetings).

What's ironic is that we've now been with the caretaker government almost half a year during which the constitution assembly has not been able to pass any articles till date. We only have the remaining six months to come up with a draft constitution, have a public consultation on it, draft the final version and endorse the constitution.

The cycle of political stability and constitution building is interrelated and supported by the peace process, the release and appropriate settlement of combatants, the truth and reconciliation commission, transitional justice and the community owned peace and harmony exercises. Unfortunately the progress has been too little in all of these aspects and often blocked or geared down.

We need a political consensus for the sake of our people, country, democracy, multiparty system and peace, and for being against all forms of war and injustices. We demand political consensus for the development, human rights, constitution responding and non-discriminative public agenda, and for justice for all.

The recent political decisions in the constitution assembly on citizenship agenda have created threats of discrimination against women being reinforced, a large number of children being pushed into statelessness and state's responsibilities to guarantee basic human needs and security being skipped.

We call all political parties to be responsible and accountable towards people, to act according to their commitments, to remember people's verdict in People's Movement II, to remain united and able to correct their mistakes, to focus on constitution and to understand the implications that their some unintended wrong decisions have on people.

The year 2011 demands a new, firm government with pro public developmental agenda, no blockades of budget and a peaceful settlement over the unresolved peace process agenda among the political parties. A new constitution and development that ends all forms of war and prevents possible war in the future.

Milan Dharel, Executive Director, CWISH

Workshop Held for Re-establishing Kathmandu Valley Level Child Club Network

A two-day workshop was organized at Sap Falcha, Babarmaha, on the 12th of December for re-establishing the Kathmandu Valley Level Child Club Network. Representatives from different organizations along with the members of the Kathmandu, Bhaktapur and Lalitpur child club networks were present at the workshop which was organized in the joint coordination of CWISH, CONCERN Nepal, Voice of Children, Bal Bikash Samaj and CONSORTIUM.

In the workshop, the chief guests Mrs. Sunita Shah and Mr. Ashish Bajracharya, the Child Right Officer of Kathmandu and Bhaktapur, gave their views on Child Right Issues and on the importance of child club networks in bringing the voice of children to policy level. Along with Mr. Jiyambabu Shrestha, the Chairperson of CONSORTIUM, gave his best wishes for the success and continuation of the newly formed Kathmandu Valley Level Child Club Network.

In addition, Ms. Bipana Dhimal, the Chairperson of the former Kathmandu Valley Level Child Club Network, talked about the activities that were carried out by the past network during the previous years. She also cleared out the reasons that had led to the failure in continuing its work. It was recognized that there hadn't been sufficiently time for the policy making of the past Kathmandu Valley Level Child Club Network.

Through the active involvement of the child club networks' members the former policy was reformed in the workshop and set as the new policy of the newly formed Kathmandu Valley Level Child Club Network. Members were also selected for the human resources of the newly formed organization. Its working committee got a total of 13 members. The selections for different

Photo of the Month:



Activists carrying a banner in the rally organized on the World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse, 19th of November.

committee posts were done by voting.

Regional ToT on Child Protection and Community Mobilization in Cooperation with UNICEF

The regional Training of Trainers on mobilizing communities for child protection was jointly organized by UNICEF and CWISH in Biratnagar during 23 - 29 November. The ToT program focuses on child protection and on how to mobilize communities for child protection. The 24 participants that were trained by the program in Biratnagar were from the regions of Sunsari, Dhankuta, Panchthar, Illam, Udayapur, Saptari and Terhathum.

ToT training aims at making the participants able to explain the concept, structure and strategy of child protection so that they can give training on child protection and community mobilization and mobilize children, families and communities. Eventually this will lead to improved state of child protection.

Except facts about child protection and mobilization methods, in Biratnagar the participants were taught trainer's skills, teaching

techniques and lesson planning. There was also a short discussion on the processed Nepal's National Child Protection Alliance among the participants and the guests which were from different organizations.

Ms. Sunita Kayastha, the Regional Officer of UNICEF, also visited the occasion and gave a short speech on the ToT program saying that the program is very important in order to mobilize communities and stakeholders, but that it's not enough, also practical actions need to be taken. On the last day of the program the president of CWISH, Ms. Bimala Jnawali, pointed out in her speech that in order to make the child protection issue strong and more effective, important training programs like ToT should be organized at community, regional and national level.

World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse Related News

Awareness Programs Continued in Schools and Communities

At the moment far too many children are affected by Child Labour (CL) and

Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) in Nepal. On the occasion of the 19th of November 2010, the World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse, CWISH continued its awareness program on CL and CSA in private and government schools in Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur districts.



CL and CSA are especially challenging issues due to the lack of awareness and knowledge of them. In the school's awareness program children are taught to recognize child labour and child sexual abuse and made able to fight against them. CWISH also continued its community awareness programs on CL and CSA in Kathmandu, Lalitpur and

Bhaktapur districts. Training took place at the Community Service Centers and in women's groups. Communities are having a crucial role in the elimination of child labour and child sexual abuse. For example by increasing people's awareness of sexual abuse, reporting rates of CSA cases can be raised inside the communities.

Child Protection Committee Activities Gathered a Vast Amount of Adults and Children Together

A number of School based Child Protection Committee (SCPC) activities was organized on the World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse. The 16 activities held at schools concentrated on Child Sexual Abuse and on the referral mechanisms that offer information and help concerning CSA. Among the 533 participants of the organized activities were members from School Management Committees (SMCs) and Parents and Teachers Associations (PTAs) as well as children from different Child Clubs.

Video Orientations on Sexual Abuse Held for Child Domestic Workers

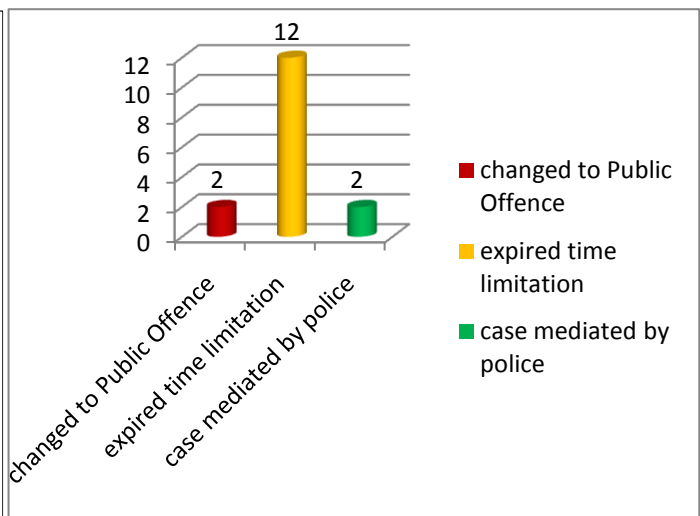
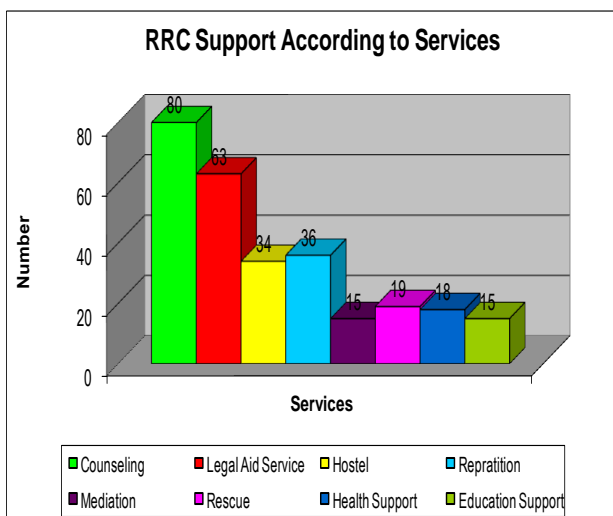
Around the World Day for

Prevention of Child Abuse, video orientations on Child Sexual Abuse were organized at the Education based Outreach Centers, ORCs. The video orientations on Child Sexual Abuse and protection skills were seen by 171 child domestic workers who are currently out of school but attending the teaching sessions of the ORCs.



At every ORC the 2-day long orientations were divided in two so that on the first day the participants were shown an animated video show on Child Sexual Abuse and protection skills which was followed by a group discussion. On the second day participants took part in recreational activities by writing e.g. poems or making drawings that reflected the things that they had learned during the first part of the orientation. After the 19th November video orientations on CSA, an ORC attending girl child defended herself successfully against a man who tried sexually abuse her in the Zoo.

Charts Telling the Story of Rescue, Relief and Care Department's Work in 2010



On left, RRC support in cases in 2010, and on right, listed the 16 Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) cases that were not given legal support by CWISH. Altogether 49 CSA survivors asked for medical, legal or psychosocial counseling from CWISH, however CWISH could not provide legal support to 16 CSA survivors due to the lapse of time limitation, case being converted into public offence or case being mediated by police itself.

A Story From Real Life

Most Important for Rita Magar: Her Children's Education

Rita Magar found out about the Daisy Chain Business Education Program for women through the facilitator of the women's classes in Bagdol. Since one month she has been following the classes, and is very open about her past. She had always wanted to study but at her home in Ramichap she was not allowed to do so. However, while she was helping her mother in household chores all of her brothers got the possibility to go to school.

At the age of 17 Rita fell in love with a man from the neighbourhood. Their parents agreed about the marriage, and so the young couple got married and came to Kathmandu 20 years ago in order to find better employments from here.



Rita Magar, a student of CWISH run women's business classes, is more than pleased with the opportunity studying has given her. Thanks to it, she and her children will have a brighter future.

Yet six years ago Rita's husband left her. The man who worked as a constructor got drunk very often, scolded and beat her. Then there were days when he did not come home at all. The then-35-year-old woman investigated his doings and learned that he had a mistress. Her 18 year old daughter and her 17 year old son who are both going to school supported Rita a lot. The family had to move to another place after their father had left. Rita does domestic and factory work to provide her children good chances. This is extremely hard for her since the factory work alone is a full-time job and she also has got their own household to care for.

But she does not have a choice. Through the business classes Rita wants to receive all the necessary preparation for starting a business of her own. The factory in which she works now will be closed in the near future, so she has to find a replacement for the salary of 5000 rupees per month.

Now Rita can read and is very proud to be able to spell her name. Beforehand she did not even know the letters. Rating the teaching of the business classes' as awesome she goes on and tells that she likes everything about the classes. She feels a great interest in her studies and believes that if she only gets a chance to study continuously she will achieve something great in the future. Another important thing for her is to be supported by her children. The determined woman is persuaded that her children's support will help her to create a successful business. She hopes that CWISH will provide tailoring training so that she and her friends can start working on that sector.

It's amazing how strong Rita's belief in education is. To enable her children to go to school, Rita says that she would even stop eating. Her children will have a brighter future due to their mother's determination. After Rita was left by her husband many people have helped her through the difficult period. Her brother, parents-in-law, friends and even her employers for whom she is doing domestic work, all of them have contributed in keeping Rita and her children happy. That is truly an example of a caring community.

CWISH's year in a nutshell: CWISH's actions by departments in the year 2010

Department of Advocacy and Social Empowerment

- The ASE Department held 47 awareness orientations on Child Labour, 54 community orientations on Child Sexual Abuse and 26 employers' orientations at the ORCs through which altogether 2291 persons were informed on CL and 2639 on CSA.
- The amount of functioning Child Protection Committees has reached 30 in the communities and 20 in the schools.
- 8 Community based Child Clubs (CC) have been formed, and 6 Child Clubs have been given an orientation on Child Rights and Child Club's and its members' roles and responsibilities.
- 3 Regional Child Club Networks are set up and functioning in Kathmandu, Lalitpur and Bhaktapur districts, and the Kathmandu Valley Level Child Club Network has been re-established. Child Clubs' Annual Workshop gathered 61 CC members from Kathmandu.
- The school awareness programs on Child Rights, Child Labour and Child Sexual Abuse together with HIV/Aids were conducted in 52 schools. Through 165 orientations more than 3000 pupils and students were informed of the issues listed above.
- 53 organizations showed solidarity by organizing National Child Labour Conference. As a result of the conference the 15-point Kathmandu Declaration was prepared, published and disseminated by Press Talk program.
- A rally with more than 1000 participants was organized on the World Day Against Child Labour 12th of June. Similarly a rally was organized on the World Day on Prevention of Child Abuse 19th of November gathering 500 people. On 20th of November a Special Children's program was organized in which 700 children and representatives from child sector organizations participated and showed their talent.
- 32 journalists from 26 media houses were trained on child issues.
- 2 "Bal Adhikar Lekhmala" Child Rights booklets and a vast amount of national newspaper news and articles have been published on Child Rights, Domestic Child Labour and Child Abuse.
- 4 Press Talk programs and 68 radio programs have been held on child, youth and women related issues.
- CWISH's Joint program with municipalities continued. Altogether 10 municipalities: Madhyapur, Lalitpur, Hetauda, Bharatpur, Ratnanagar, Pokhara, Lekhnath, Nepalgunj, Gulariys, and Biratnagar, have performed various activities against Child Labour in 2010. These activities have included for example orientations on community mobilization, training for the members of the formed Child Protection Committees and awareness programs on different issues. In the annual review and planning meeting 11 municipalities developed the Joint Plan with local organizations against Child Labour. Representatives from Municipal Association of Nepal (MUAAN) and District Child Welfare Board (DCWB) were also present in the meeting.
- One national ToT (Training of Trainers) program and 4 regional ToT programs were held.
- The formations of National Child Protection Alliance Nepal and District Child Protection Committee are in process.
- The issue of Child Protection and Child Labour has been mainstreamed in the training manual of Nepal Police in 2010, and an orientation on Child Sexual Abuse has been given for Traffic Police.
- 3 Youth trainings have been given on female leadership, reproductive health, Child Rights, Child Labour and Child Protection, and 4 youth clubs have been given an orientation in gender and female leadership.

Department of Education and Support

- Business Skill Education for Women is running in 5 centers in Kusunti, Bagdol, Lokanthali, Sitapaila and Kalimati in which 70 women, according to the record, are attending business education classes. In addition, a woman group called Mitrataa Business Women Network has been formed and its members are already involved in business.
- Through Business Match Fund Support altogether 117 women and 47 youths were supported in 2010. When counted in groups, in Morang 6 women groups and 4 youth groups were supported with match fund to start a business of their own, and in Nawalparasi the same support was given to 19 women groups and 13 youth groups. In Kathmandu, one woman group received the support.

CWISH's year in a nutshell: CWISH's actions by departments in the year 2010

- Education Based Outreach Centers, ORCs, are running in 24 locations. Total numbers of the children attending the ORCs are, according to the attendance registers, 69 in Lalitpur (7 ORCs), 42 in Bhaktapur (3 ORCs) and 173 in Kathmandu (16 ORCs).
- 1222 children received scholarship support in the form of stationeries, books and uniforms etc. Out of the supported children 622 children were from Kathmandu, 200 from Kavre, 200 from Morang and 200 from Nawalparasi. 325 of them were domestic child labourers and 297 CAR (children at risk) children.
- ES Department's Kavre Based Program was going on during the whole year. In the program 2 Village Education Committees (VECs), 2 Village Child Protection Committees (VCPCs), 16 Child Clubs (CCs) and 16 School based Child Protection Committees (SCPCs) have been formed and mobilized. Also 15 School Management Committees (SMCs) and Parents and Teachers Associations (PTAs) have been reformed during the program. Trainings were given to VCPC, VEC, CC, SMC and PTA members gathering altogether 671 participants. In addition, 8 alternative education classes have been organized in Kavre. A baseline study has been made of the project's Village development Committees (VDCs).
- 83 Child Club activities have been supported by CWISH. The themes of the activities organized by the Child Clubs were Child Labour (10), Child Rights (20), Child Sexual Abuse (48) and other (5).
- SCPC (School Based Child Protection Committee activities) were held on the 12th of June when 8 interaction sessions between children and their parents and employers were organized. In the interaction sessions 147 children and 127 adults, parents and employers, participated. In the 16 SCPC activities of 19th November 533 children participated.
- 7 orientations on female leadership were given to the Child Club members in Saraswoti, Siddeshwor, Ratanarajya and Panchakanya.
- 3 "Haamro Aagan" children's magazines were published. In them, 47 children's articles on e.g. discrimination, Child Sexual Abuse, Child Rights, Child Labour and disability were covered.
- An information leaflet on women's health and legal rights was completed.
- Training of Trainers (ToT) on Child Rights and Child Protection was given for 31 officers and supervisors from other NGOs, municipal offices, the Department of Education and Village Development Committees.
- Two PTA network's projects have been supported out of which one was an essay competition on the role of teachers in protecting children in school, and the other one a program handling children's problems in government schools and teachers' and parents' role in them.
- 18 Early Childhood Development Centers (ECDC) at Morang and 18 ECDCs in Nawalparasi were provided child development material trunks, and 38 ECDC facilitators were trained on the use of trunks. 411 children in Morang and 535 children in Nawalparasi benefitted of the trunks.
- 6 Resource Center orientations on Child Rights' Protection and Promotion were held. 50 participants were school personnel, resource persons and Kathmandu district's school supervisors.
- Altogether 37 people participated in the School Sector Reform Program's sharing event. Among the participants were personnel from the DEO of Bhaktapur, resource persons, VDCs' chair persons, head teachers, SMC and PTA members and other NGOs' representatives.
- The research has been completed in the Good School Governance Survey. It was carried out in 10 schools in Bhaktapur and it focused on PTA, SMC and CC activities and on teachers.

Department of Rescue, Relief and Care

- RRC Department has provided individual counseling to 80 persons, group counseling in 42 group sessions to 453 persons, and distance counseling to 3 persons in 8 sessions.
- Legal aid and rehabilitation support was given to 130 child domestic workers, and in addition 5 children from the year 2009 continued to receive the support.
- Among adult domestic workers, mediation service was provided to 5 women who were victims of domestic violence and counseling service to 10 people who were victims of domestic violence. In addition, legal aid service was provided to 10 people, and 2 persons were put in the hostel in coordination with Shakti Samura.
- 28 information boards/ paintings on Child Help Line Services were painted in schools.

CWISH's year in a nutshell: CWISH's actions by departments in the year 2010

- The Production of Court Precedents is in process and should be completed by mid-January 2011.
- 2 network meetings on Rescue and Referral System were organized, out of which one handled violence against children (VAC) case and the other one violence against woman (VAW) case. Among the participants of the meetings were people from 34 organizations and from different media.
- 2 School Based Counseling Trainings, 4 days long each, were organized for 63 teachers from 10 schools.
- 6 Follow Up & Refresh Meetings were organized for counseling trained 102 teachers from 9 schools.
- The intensive psychosocial training was completed by 5 teachers from 5 schools.

Department of Program Operation and Administration

- Support for NIDWU (Nepal Independent Domestic Workers Union) has been provided in the forms of published NIDWU brochures and given training on union management, leadership and skills as well as public communication.
- Active Domestic Workers' Consultancy Service was established with the support of CWISH.
- Dynamic Youth Forum's (DYF) activities and institution have been supported by CWISH. Youth's Annual Review Workshop was held with the participation of 36 DYF members, and 2 issues of "Paribartan ka Paila" youth's magazine has been published. Youths have also been receiving trainings on Child Labour, Child Rights, HIV and sexual and reproductive health rights. After being trained, 47 youths have been mobilized to 165 school and community awareness programs.
- Since 2009 CWISH has provided youths 5 scholarships for higher education through trainee sending colleges.



The education based Outreach Centers are important places: Basundhara ORC's pupils with their teacher.

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