



Quarterly

# NEWSLETTER

*Children Women in Social Services and Human Rights*

**Issue 13, August 2025**

*(April - June)*

## ***Public Hearing on child rights issues***



A ward-level and Municipal public hearing event was conducted on May 29 and May 31, 2025, at Mahalaxmi and Suryabinayak Municipality, respectively. Child club members from different schools of ward no 8 of Mahalaxmi Municipality and from each ward of Suryabinayak Municipality to express their queries to government representatives. A total of 232 participants attended the program. Representatives from the ward

(Ward Chairperson, Executive Committee members) and municipality addressed the queries of children together and were committed to addressing the issues of children raised during the event, which will later be followed up by the children during monitoring visits.

## ***Interaction between NCRC and Child Welfare Authorities***

An interaction event was organized between NCRC and Child Welfare Authorities (CWAs) of Kathamadu Valley, Sunkoshi and Helambu Municipality on May 5, 2025. The interaction was focused on discussing the conditions for effective use of the child fund and the concept of the child help desk and its importance. In addition, the current status of child protection mechanisms in the respective local levels and challenges faced by CWAs during implementation were shared and representatives from NCRC provided the way forward and focused on smooth functionality of child protection mechanisms to effectively address the issue of children at the local level. A total of 15 CWAs attended the event.



## ***Child Advisory Board (CAB) Capacity Building Training***

A 2-days capacity building training was organized for members of CAB to regarding the various dimensions of child rights. The training was organized from 6-7 June 2025 at Indreni Suites Hote, New Baneshwor by CWISH.



CAB members along with the child club representatives (President and Secretary) of Ganesh, Mahalaxmi and Manohar Sec School of Suryabinayak, Mahalaxmi and Tokha Municipality were the main participants of the training. As majority of the CAB members were new, the concept of child rights and responsibilities, child protection issues such as child labour, child marriage, child sexual abuse along with the steps and qualities of meaningful child participation were oriented to the participants.

## ***Media Interaction on Child Labour***



A media interaction was done on June 11, 2025 at Sillauto Cottage, Anamnagar, regarding the status and urgency to focus on the issue of children, especially child labour. The event was focused on discussing the status of children and their engagement in the worst forms of labour, along with the need and necessity for the focus of the child labour issues at the media outlets. The discussion also highlighted how each media person can relate and provide space to the issue of children in their current reporting, following the journalism ethics. A total of 25

participants attended the interaction, which was mainly focused on involving the active and prominent media personnel from various media houses at the national level.

## ***Engagement with SMC PTA***

2-day capacity building was conducted for members of SMC/PTA and teachers of Manohar, Mahalaxmi and Ganesh Secondary School of the working areas. A total of 17 participants attended the capacity building workshop where they were oriented regarding the concept of child rights and legal provisions, child protection mechanisms at local and school level, roles and responsibilities of SMC and PTA, concept of child-friendly school governance and environment, child participation, vital registrations and their process and child-led and child-centered advocacy. At last, participants committed that they would take the discussion to their school and develop the action plans based on the identified discussion points.



## ***Dialogue with Parliament Committees***

To discuss the current provisions for amendment in the recently drafted bill of the Children's Act among stakeholders, a dialogue was organized with Parliament Members from Law, Justice and Human Rights Committee, Women and Social Affairs Committee and Committee for Legislation Management along with representatives from Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen



(MoWCSC), National Child Rights Council (NCRC), Child Welfare Authorities, Media personnels, Child Advisory Board (CAB) members, Civil Society Organization (CSOs) and networks on June 10, 2025 at Indreni Banquet, New Baneshwor. A total of 71 participants attended the program among which 19 were Parliament Members. After detail discussion of the matrix regarding previous provision, newly proposed provisions and reason for its amendment in the new draft bill, the floor was opened for the discussion where the participants were requested to place their queries and recommendations which has been miss out to be included in the new draft bill. The collected recommendations were compiled and then submitted to MoWCSC, Women and Social Affiars Committee and NCRC by CWISH.



## Youth Empowerment

A youth awareness-raising program on climate change was initiated through monthly tutorials in April, May, and June, with a total of 832 youth members participating (389 male and 443 female). It has enriched the capacity building of youth, enabling them to take the lead in organizing and running programs within the community, as well as enhancing their speaking and leadership skills.



## Advocacy at the Regional and Local Level



Advocacy at the Regional Level was carried for three days at Kathmandu dated May on "Green Skills and Youth Empowerment: An Initiative for a Better Future" in the participation of 26 youth representatives (46% female) from Nepal, India, Pakistan and Tajikistan to explore the opportunities of green skills empowering the next generation for a sustainable future and strengthen advocacy on environmental policy

coherence at regional and international level. The workshop released a comprehensive regional manifesto that emphasizes the empowerment of youth in green initiatives in ensuring a healthy environment for a sustainable future and youth from Nepal handed over the regional manifesto to the Government at the Local and Federal levels.

*"Young people are not just the leaders of tomorrow; they are the change-makers of today".*

Advocacy at the local level was carried through interactions with government authorities and agencies in April in Ramechhap and in June in Dhading, Chitwan, Kavre, focusing on local adaptation plan of action, local disaster climate resilience plan, integration of climate change content in local and national curriculum of schools, disaster risk reduction and plastic waste management. Total participants at the local level advocacy in Ramechhap were 29, followed by 52 in Dhading, Chitwan, with 46 and 24 in Kavre.



## Youth on Nature-Based Solutions

Out of the 7 green start-up ideas from the youth entrepreneur group, income generated during April to June by the youth entrepreneur from Anti Carbon Footprint Pencil of Kathmandu was NPR 19840, the Cloth Bag of Chitwan was NPR 28000, the Eco-friendly Fabric Bag of Makawanpur was NPR 3000 and the Bio-Degradable Disposable Plate of Dhading was NPR 2500.

## Social Action and Campaign

In May, the youth of Kavre made an installation of iron iron-made dustbin in the major route of public movement as a social action in order to foster awareness on proper disposal of plastic waste. An interaction program on plastic waste management as a social action was implemented in the school at Ramechhap in June. The total participants in the social action of Kavre were 41, while at Ramechhap it was 91. A school teacher has taken the lead in discouraging the single-use plastic bags in Ramechhap. Meanwhile, in Kavre, locals have started disposing of plastic waste such as bottles and wrappers in a bin installed by the youth.



A campaign as an awareness-raising program about the importance and benefits of rainwater harvesting was carried out in Kathmandu in April, with the participation of 75 participants, while forest fire awareness program was held in Dolakha in May, where the participants were 43. Communities and schools have realized the benefits of rainwater harvesting and are beginning to see its value. The forest fire campaign has strengthened coordination among forest user groups and local leaders in mobilizing the preventive measures within the community and developing a long-term forest fire prevention plan in coordination with the local government and forest user groups.

*"Let's discuss child protection issues everywhere."*



## DAY CELEBRATION

### World Environment Day 2025

Youth from Kathmandu, Dhading, Chitwan, Makawanpur, Ramechhap and Kavre commemorate World Environment Day on June 5 by engaging in environmental sanitation, visual pledge, interactive session, public awareness rally, submitting formal demand and raising environmental awareness.



### World Day Against Child Labour



CWISH, with other civil societies working with child rights, celebrated World Day Against Child Labour on June 12 2025, with the theme "Progress is clear, but there's more to do: let's speed up efforts!". This year, the World Day Against Child Labour was observed with remarkable enthusiasm and on an expansive scale. In continuation of its tradition, CWISH, with joint advocacy, organized a series of impactful activities with inclusive participation from a wide range of stakeholders.

#### 1. Child Consultation Gathering

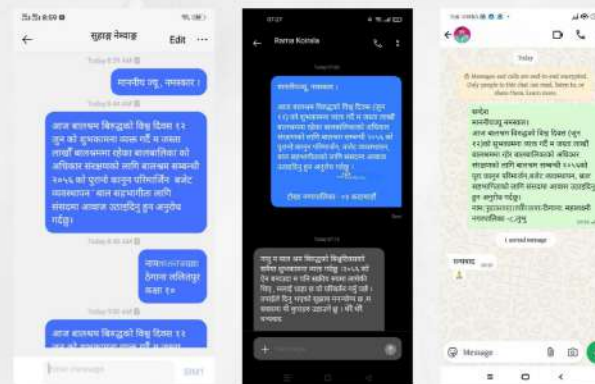
To mark the World Day Against Child Labour, CWISH, in collaboration with other child rights organizations, held a coordination meeting on Jestha 12, 2082 (May 25, 2025). As part of the initiative, a Child Consultation Gathering was organized, and the letters were drafted by child labourers to be submitted to the Prime Minister on June 12, urging immediate action to reduce child labour. The letters portrayed the lived experiences of labour children and reflected their voices, struggles and demands.

#### 2. Discussion with Journalists and Stakeholders

On June 4 (Jestha 21, 2082), a discussion was held at the CWISH meeting hall with journalists and stakeholders on how to publish the letters prepared by children during the child consultation gathering in national-level newspapers. During the meeting, four out of 19 letters written by children engaged in various sectors were selected for publication in the national newspaper on June 11.

#### 3. SMS to Honorable Members

On June 12 (Jestha 29, 2082), the World Day Against Child Labour, members of the Child Advisory Committee (CAB) and other children from child clubs sent the message via mobile and WhatsApp to the federal parliamentarians, where Many of them responded with a commitment to raise the issue in parliament and bring new legislation soon.



#### 4. Publication of Children's Letters in National Newspapers



On June 12 (Jestha 29, 2082), the World Day Against Child Labour, children's letters were published in national newspapers such as Gorkha Patra, Naya Patrika and various online platforms. The letter came from child consultation form the children.

#### 5. Delegation visits with the Prime Minister

On the occasion of the World Day Against Child Labour, CWISH, with other civil societies, organized a program in Baluwatar where 19 children presented letters filled with their personal experiences and hardships to the Prime Minister.







These letters narrated real-life stories ranging from brick kilns to transport labor, from domestic work to hazardous conditions. One such letter was recited by Pushpa Magar, a Class 10 student from Ganesh Secondary School, currently working in a brick kiln in Bhaktapur and residing in Jagati, Suryabinayak Municipality-8, originally from Udayapur. The Prime Minister was visibly moved by the letters.

#### 6. Candlelight Vigil

On the evening of June 12 (Jestha 29, 2082), a candlelight vigil was held in the Basantapur area with the participation of various organizations and children. The event was led by CWISH General Secretary Ms. Anita Pandey and inaugurated by Chairperson Ms. Bimala Gyawali, accompanied by slogans in favor of child rights.



#### 7. Publication and Distribution of Child Labour Situation Report

On the occasion of the World Day Against Child Labour 2025, CWISH published and distributed 10,000 copies of a Child Labour Situation Report with the message:

“Engaging children in labor is a legal and social crime —Say no to child labour.”

Published in collaboration with all partner organizations. The report was distributed during national-level programs, and also by other civil society organizations in their respective events and networks, and CWISH's working schools and communities in Sindhupalchok and Ramechhap districts.

#### 8. Social Media Campaign

A 12-day social Media campaign was conducted from June 1 to June 12 to mark the World Day Against Child Labour, shared through CWISH's Social media sites, including Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.



*"Let's ensure child participation for building a prosperous Nepal."*

## Strengthening Local Child Protection System



The local child protection system was strengthened by enhancing policies, programs, budgets, and child protection structures in Balephi and Sunkoshi RMs. In total, 23 Women Elected Representatives participated in a 3-day workshop on 19 to 21 March, 2025, to enhance the local monitoring plan and policies with special focus on child protection. Similarly, a total of 28 local elected representatives of Sunkoshi RM participated in a two-day workshop on March 29 & 30, 2025 to evaluate and analyze the child protection policies and program of Sunkoshi Rural Municipality.

Likewise, in total, 72 Local Elected Representatives, CFLG facilitators and related Government Officials of Sunkoshi and Balephi RMs have participated in 2-two-day workshops respectively on 18-19 May and 20-21 May to plan and evaluate adopting CFLG guidelines. Similarly, a total of 33 Local Government Officials from



Sunkoshi and Balephi RMs enhanced their capacities on child-centered planning and implementation approach through two days of training on 8 and 9 May 2025. Likewise, support was provided to Ward Child Rights Committees to conduct 26 meetings and 52 Awareness events. During meetings, LCRCs identified child protection issues, planned actions to mitigate them, and organized

awareness events in schools and communities.

## Facilitating for Ensuring Safe School Environment



A total of 208 SMC/PTA members of 29 Government Schools of Balephi and Sunkoshi RMs enhanced their capacities for ensuring a safe school environment through 7 two-day trainings organized by CWISH in June 2025. The training content incorporated topics like the concept of child-friendly school, national legal provisions on child-friendly schools, roles of SMC/PTA members in ensuring child-friendly school and Grievance Hearing Directive, 2074. All schools have formed a Child Protection Plan during the meeting and seven of them have reported forming a Grievance Hearing Committee in the school immediately after training.



## Engagement of Girls Advocacy Group



A total of 334 girls has engaged themselves, facilitating 38 REFLECT sessions in schools with 1106 students of Balephi & Sunkoshi RMs, in which they have identified several child protection issues at the local level, their causes and impacts and then developed an advocacy plan with students to address the causes so that further issues can be prevented. And on the basis of the advocacy plan developed in REFLECT Sessions, Girls Advocacy Groups have facilitated 89 awareness events on several child protection issues, reaching 3015 community people.

Similarly, for planning and reflection of these events, they have conducted 100 meetings where they have also shared changes in themselves, their teacher and their parents as a result of the program. For their effective engagement, the capacities of Girls Advocacy Groups were enhanced through 13 one-day advocacy workshops. Also, a total of seven dialogues were conducted between Local Representatives and Children within the period, where a total of 559 students of Balephi and Sunkoshi participated, raising issues of sexual harassment, corporal punishment and gender discrimination, among others, with RM Chairpersons and other representatives.



## Strengthening Child Protection and Preventing Child Marriage

CWISH collaborated with Helambu and Balephi Rural Municipalities to strengthen child protection systems, empower communities, and promote children's right to a safe and nurturing family environment. As part of these efforts, a street drama campaign was conducted in partnership with Helambu and Balephi RMs, reaching 15 schools across 15 wards and engaging over 2,500 students and community members. Performed by Aawaj Art Creation Pvt. Ltd., the drama effectively highlighted the risks and lifelong consequences of child marriage, fostering deeper community understanding, inspiring dialogue, and encouraging collective commitment to prevention.



## Empowering Through Knowledge and Awareness

From April to June 2025, CWISH advanced knowledge sharing and community awareness to promote safer and more supportive environments for children. A total of 10,000 leaflets on child-friendly governance, 2,500 positive parenting posters, and 3,000 cybersecurity booklets were developed and distributed in schools and communities. In addition, 110 parents participated in positive parenting training, with follow-up visits showing improved communication, empathy, and non-violent discipline practices at home. Community sensitization efforts also reached 360 members, inspiring local initiatives to strengthen child protection at the grassroots level.

## Educational and Nutritional Support for Vulnerable Children



CWISH provided targeted educational and nutritional support in Helambu Rural Municipality to help vulnerable children thrive. Educational material packages were distributed to 111 poor and at-risk students in 17 schools, enhancing their ability to remain in school and actively engage in learning. In addition, food assistance was provided to 94 orphaned children living in two hostels,

ensuring their nutritional needs were met and enabling them to focus on their studies and overall well-being.

## Capacity Building and Advocacy for Child Rights

Between April and June 2025, CWISH advanced capacity building and advocacy initiatives in Balephi and Helambu Rural Municipalities to strengthen child rights governance and protection. Municipal-level meetings on the Disability Management Information System (DMIS) were facilitated, promoting more inclusive data management and service planning for children with disabilities. Local Child Rights Committee (LCRC) trainings enhanced local leadership in child protection case management and policy implementation. On June 12, in observance of the World Day Against Child Labour, a speech competition in Helambu RM encouraged youth voices to champion a child-labour-free community. CWISH also actively participated in municipal-level Child Rights Committee meetings, ensuring that children's protection remains a priority in local governance agendas.



## Building Skills and Capacities

During the reporting period, CWISH invested in strengthening the skills and capacities of its team and partners. Staff and board members participated in trainings on Gender Mainstreaming and a three-day participatory capacity building workshop, enhancing facilitation skills, self-care practices, and teamwork. Additionally, School Improvement Plan (SIP) workshops enabled all 17 targeted schools to develop actionable SIPs, which have now been recognized as model plans for the Ramechhap district.

## Strengthening Local Child Rights Committees (LCRC)

In Manthali and Khandadevi, regular meetings of the Local Child Rights Committees (LCRC) served as a platform to identify and address urgent child protection needs. These efforts led to tangible outcomes, including support for children without parental care through the Bagmati Province Fund, the initiation of Child Protection Desks, the establishment of a Child Fund in Khandadevi, and the nomination of a Child Welfare Officer. Additionally, guidelines were developed to streamline the recruitment of psychosocial counselors and social workers, further enhancing the local child protection system.



## Child-Led Action and Advocacy



Two child club networks, comprising 360 children, were formed and mobilized to lead orientations in schools and communities. These networks played a key role in Child-Friendly Governance declaration processes, advocated for municipal funding, and spearheaded initiatives such as public hearings and stakeholder dialogues. Their advocacy produced tangible results, including improvements in drinking water systems in four schools, installation of fans, enhanced waste management in five schools, toilet maintenance in three schools, and strengthened teacher

management at Nagkanya Secondary School.

## Livelihood and Educational Support

CWISH supported the economic stability and educational continuity of vulnerable families and children during the reporting period. Fifteen marginalized families received livelihood assistance, enabling them to launch sustainable income-generating activities such as goat rearing, vegetable farming, and pig farming. Additionally, 225 children were provided with essential school supplies, helping reduce barriers to learning and ensuring their continued participation in education.



## NAST Visit: An Interesting Journey from Plastic to Fuel



From an early age, I had a great desire to learn new things, especially when it is related to science. I always wondered where scientific research would take place and how new technologies would develop. Due to this curiosity, I always had a desire to go to Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) ever since I became aware about it. Eventually, I had the opportunity to attend an event organized by CWISH in NAST, which became a very special experience for me.

In the event, detailed information was given mainly about plastic. I came to know that the plastics we use in our day-to-day life are of different types and how they affect the environment. One of the biggest problems in our environment can be considered as the failure to reuse plastic. Plastic thrown indiscriminately by people is reaching the streams, rivers and seas, increasing land and water pollution. In such a situation, I found it very interesting that if plastic could be managed properly, it could be made a source of energy production.



The most interesting thing I realized was the technique of converting plastic into fuel. Scientists have developed a method that can process plastic to make petrol, diesel and other types of fuel. During the program, I learned about the amount of fuel that can be produced from different types of plastic. Some plastics can produce a large amount of fuel, while some are possible only in small quantities. This technology can be very useful for a country like Nepal, as it not only helps in plastic management but also in solving the energy crisis.

This visit provided me with a deeper understanding of the plastic problem and potential solutions. I understood how harmful plastic we use on a daily basis is to the environment. Similarly, I discovered that when properly reused, plastic can become a valuable resource.

I was so happy to go to NAST and learn so many new things. I got to see firsthand how much science and technology can make a big difference in our society. Now I have a desire to visit such scientific research centers in the future and learn more about new technologies. Knowledge is constantly evolving and my desire to learn more continues to grow. My journey to NAST has been incredibly inspiring and it has motivated me to participating in similar events organized by CWISH in the future.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

1. *Delegation Visit*
2. *SMC/PTA on Child Protection*
3. *Workshop on School Implementation Plan (SIP)*
4. *REFLECT Session*
5. *Radio Program*
6. *Day Celebration (National Children's Day)*
7. *Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Organization*



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