



In Nepal, “*From Local to Global: Strengthening, Networking and Capacity Building of Youth-led Activities for the Right to a Clean and Healthy Environment*” is implemented in 7 districts (Kathmandu, Dolakha, Ramechhap, Kavre, Dhading, Chitwan, Makawanpur) of Bagmati Province.

Major Activities

Knowledge Enhancement of Youth and Strengthening of Youth Groups



- A total of 42 monthly meetings were conducted in 7 project intervention districts with the participation of 119 youths on average, of which 43% were females.
- A comprehensive 2 days of 2 youth network training was conducted with the participation of 100 youths concentrating on green enterprise, disaster communication and Artificial Intelligence for knowledge enhancement and strengthening of youths followed by exchange visits for 140 youths at Compost Production Center, Nepal Academy of Science and Technology, Historical Site and Agriculture Farm.
- A total of 559 youth from 4 districts (Dhading, Chitwan, Makawanpur and Dolakha) accessed the climate library.
- Across 42 monthly tutorials, the participants comprised 734 youth and 583 children. The youth accounting males were 391 male youth and 343 females with male children constituted 242 and female were 342.



Youth-led Initiatives

- The status of 6 youth-led business start-ups is quite escalating despite the challenges. The production of newspaper pencil of Kathmandu has been steady. Distribution of pencils was in Montessori schools, banks, cooperatives, business houses, and hotels. Income generated by the youth entrepreneur is NPR 32,340. Cloth bags were manufactured in handful numbers at Chitwan and started to be distributed to NGOs, government representatives, INGOs and the local market with a further plan to homestays. Income generated by a youth entrepreneur is NPR 43,000. A handful of eco-friendly fabric bags were manufactured at Makawanpur, with the income generated being NPR 5000. Bio-degradable disposable plates produced at Dhading generated an income of NPR 5000.
- Moreover, the workshop was a social action performed by youth of Makawanpur to empower young girls in climate change with the interaction program at Ramechhap, followed by the installation of an iron-made dustbin at Kavre as a social action to foster awareness on proper disposal of plastic waste.

Youth Influence on Environment and Climate Policies and Decisions



- Raising awareness, informing and shaping the public understanding about environment protection, environmental rights, climate change and mobilizing young people to put pressure on decision makers campaign was held for 2 days with the engagement of youths. Campaign activities correspond Awareness Raising program about the importance and benefits of Rain Water Harvesting in Kathmandu and on Forest Fire at Dolakha.
- Altogether, 17 interactions with Government authorities and agencies were executed on the local adaptation plan of action (LAPA), local disaster climate resilience plan (LDCRP), disaster risk reduction, plastic waste management, and climate change content in local and national curriculum.
- Youth members handed over the demands to their respective Local Government on 5 concerns such as developing a local adaptation plan of action, a local disaster climate resilience plan, climate change content in local and national curriculum, guidelines for plastic waste management, training and guidance to youth on disaster preparedness and response programs.
- Regional Seminar was held for three days with the participants from Nepal, Pakistan, India and Tajikistan, comprising 12 youth participants from Nepal with 6 males and 6 females, 4 youth participants from Pakistan with 2 males and 2 females, 2 youth participants from Tajikistan with 2 females, 8 youth participants from India with 6 males and 2 females. Youths crafted a comprehensive manifesto for advocating to the government of the respected country. The regional manifesto was handed over to the Local Government by the youth of Nepal.
- A radio program named “Samrakchyan Sambad” of 10 numbers episode was aired where the total outreach was approximately 2500 based on the media house report.
- Moreover, project activities such as local advocacy, exchange visit, youth training, radio program, regional advocacy, environment day celebration, campaign, social action, article, along with photos were shared as part of the social media.



Photo: Awareness Raising Program on Forest Fire.



Photo: Youth members handed over the demands to their respective Local Government



Photo: Youth members handed over the demands to their respective Local Government



Photo: Regional Seminar



Photo: Radio Program named “Samrakchyan Sambad”



Photo: Exchange Visit

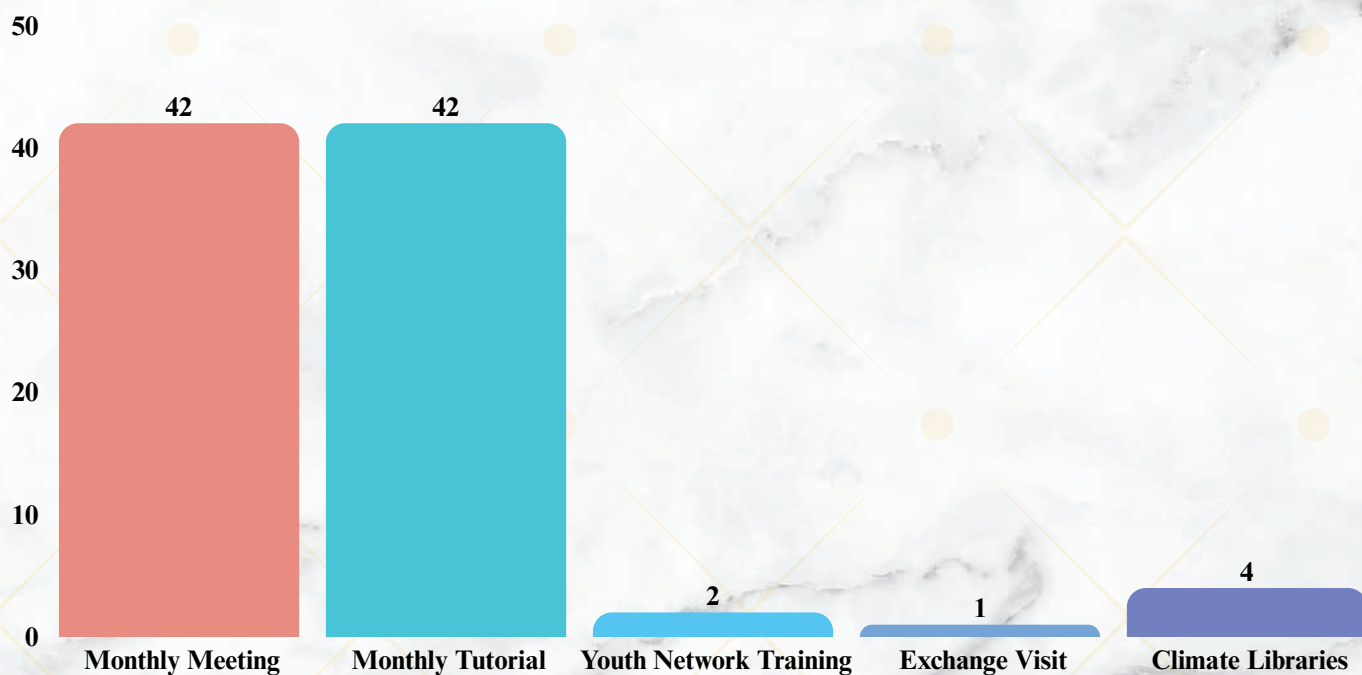


Fig 1: Progress of Sub-Objective-1 (Knowledge Enhancement)

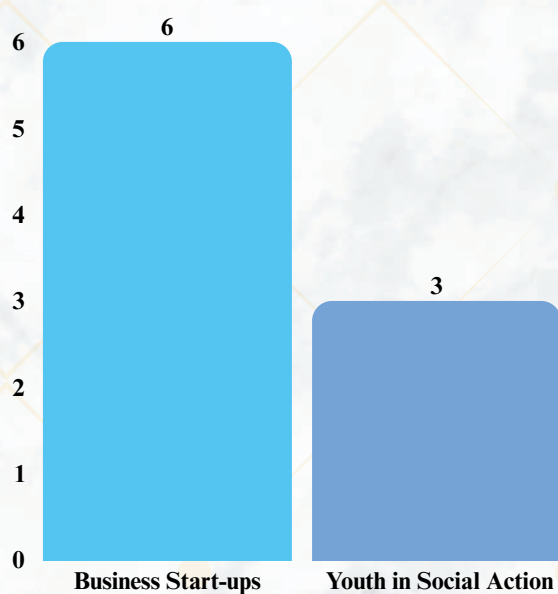


Fig 2: Progress of Sub-Objective-2 (Youth Led Initiatives)

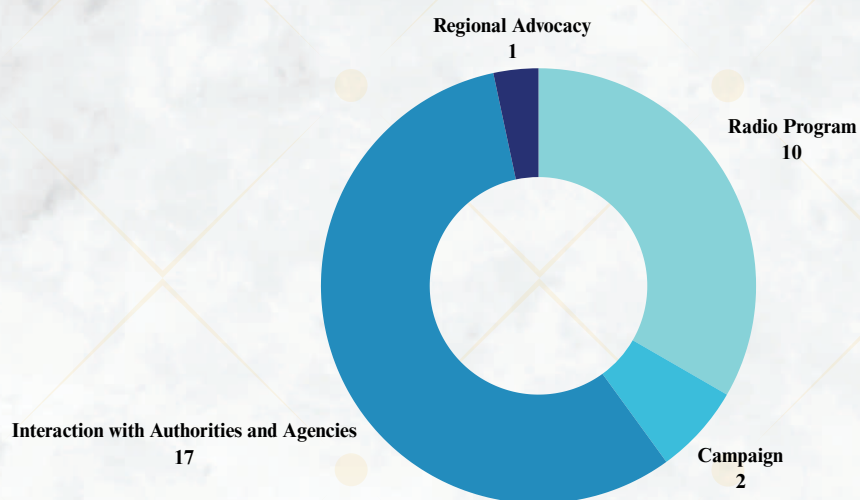


Fig 3: Progress of Sub-Objective-3 (Youth Influence)



Major Project Achievements

- One of the local governments has addressed the concern regarding plastic waste management. Local government has made the decision to ban single-use plastic bags, the use of plastic plates/spoons at all events and rituals.
- Regional manifesto developed reflecting the demands of youth for the right to a healthy environment is published in Nayapatrika.
- A total of 7 youth-led start-ups have been operated where business in Kathmandu, Chitwan, Dhading and Makawanpur have started to generate a petty income.
- Climate libraries are operated and accessed by youth group members.
- Youth started an awareness-raising program on climate change through monthly tutorials, where the total number of youth members and children was 1317. Monthly tutorial has enriched the capacity building of youth, that enabled them to take the lead in organizing and running the program within the community.
- Through social action, a school teacher in Ramechhap has taken the lead in discouraging the single-use plastic bags. Additionally, in Kavre, locals have started disposing of plastic waste such as bottles and wrappers in a bin installed by youth members.
- Rain water harvesting campaign has helped the communities and schools understand and recognize its benefits and value. Moreover, the forest fire campaign has strengthened coordination among the forest user group 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 group.

Challenges



- Time constraints of youths due to their engagements (college and jobs) envisage youth commitment for the entire project period.
- Time consumption is prominent in gathering the youths for a meeting/program due to geographic adversity.
- Continuation or fostering ongoing youth engagement after the project's completion.
- Sustainability of business initiatives.

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