



Children Women in Social Service and



Human Rights (CWISH)



Buddhanagar, Kathmandu

ANNUAL REPORT

— 2024 —



Message from the Chairperson

This year of impactful strides for CWISH. We have stood up for child rights, child protection, family empowerment, right to education and climate justice through dedicated programs and advocacy. Key achievements include strengthening child protection mechanisms, empowering families, particularly those of working children, and actively engaging children and youth in climate advocacy. We have successfully advocated for policy changes and budget allocations for child rights programs at the local level. CWISH has learned that child-led advocacy, positive parenting support, and strong stakeholder collaboration are crucial for effective interventions. Despite challenges such as funding limitations and logistical barriers, we remain committed to continuous improvement.

In 2025, CWISH will prioritize community empowerment, child protection in all spheres, evidence-based advocacy, and sustainable solutions for vulnerable children and communities. I extend my sincere gratitude to our partners, donors, staff, board and volunteers for their unwavering support. Together, we are building a brighter future.

Thank You!



Bimala Janawali
Chairperson, CWISH



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This Annual Report reflects the collective efforts and dedication of many individuals and organizations. We express our deepest gratitude to our generous donors whose unwavering support fuels our mission. Their contributions are instrumental in enabling us to achieve significant milestones and provide crucial services to vulnerable children, their families, and youths.

We also extend our sincere appreciation to our valued partners and collaborators. Their invaluable support, expertise, and shared commitment have been instrumental in amplifying our impact and expanding our reach. We are grateful for the unwavering support of our dedicated staff, whose tireless work and persistent commitment drive our success.

Finally, we acknowledge the guidance and support of CWISH Board, the Children Advisory Board, and the Advisors. Their dedication and commitment are essential to the fulfillment of our mission. We hope this report serves as a testament to our collective achievements and inspires continued support for our vital work.

CWISH Team

ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

CAB	Children Advisory Board
CAC	Children Advisory Committee
CDW	Child Domestic Worker
CLARISSA	Child Labor: Action Research Innovation in South and South-Eastern Asia
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CWA	Child Welfare Authorities
CWO	Child Welfare Officer
CWISH	Children Women in Social Service and Human Rights
DW	Dialogue Works
FGD	Focused Group Discussion
FTS	Free the Slaves International
GAG	Girls Advocacy Group
KII	Key Informant Interview
LCRC	Local Child Rights Committee
LGBTIQA+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer/Questioning, Asexual, and others
MoEST	Ministry of Education Science and Technology
MoLES	Ministry of Labor Employment and Social Security
MoWCSC	Ministry of Women Children and Senior Citizens
NCRC	National Child Rights Council
PSA	Public Service Announcement
PTA	Parents Teachers Association
REFLECT	Regenerated Freirean Literacy through Empowering Community Techniques
RM	Rural Municipality
SMC	School Management Committee
SWC	Social Welfare Council
WCRC	Ward Child Rights Committee



Introduction

Children Women in Social Service and Human Rights (CWISH) is a prominent non-governmental organization established in 1993, dedicated to empowering children, women, and marginalized communities in Nepal. Our mission is to advocate for the rights of these vulnerable groups and promote social justice, with a focus on creating a society where all individuals can live with dignity and fully enjoy their rights.

Guided by human rights principles, CWISH works in key thematic areas such as Child Protection, Family Empowerment, Education and Climate Justice for the protection of the human rights of children. Our approach is multifaceted, incorporating evidence-based advocacy, policy influence, capacity building, and integrated service delivery through our helpline services to create meaningful, lasting change.

We actively collaborate with government bodies at all levels to advocate for policy reforms that protect and enhance the rights of children and women. Additionally, we serve as a resource organization, offering capacity-building support to community-based organizations, civil society organizations, and government agencies.

With a commitment to upholding the highest ethical standards, CWISH operates with a strong set of internal policies covering financial management, Human Resource, gender equality, and child safeguarding, ensuring that we remain accountable and transparent in all our efforts. In the year 2024, we worked on eight projects such as Child Labor Action Research in South and South East Asia (CLARISSA); Dialogue Works (DW); From LOCAL to GLOBAL: Strengthening, networking and capacity building of youth-led activities for the right to a clean and healthy environment; Power Girls; My Right My Future; Together for Child Rights; Right to Family and a Research project entitled Life as a child domestic worker. Through the project initiatives, CWISH has been able to achieve its programmatic objectives in each thematic area.

1. INSTITUTIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS



75 District Covered

8 Projects



With support from Finland's development cooperation



Working Partners



7070



165



47



5



Targeted Stakeholder



Reached

28



74



2



15



2. PROGRAMMATIC ACHIEVEMENTS

A. CHILD PROTECTION

The Child Protection initiatives have been central to the efforts of advocating for stronger policies and mechanisms that safeguard the rights of children across Nepal. Through a combination of continuous policy advocacy, local-level engagement, and fostering active child participation, significant strides have been made in addressing key child protection issues such as child labor, child rights violations, and inclusive child protection practices. The following summarizes the key activities and achievements under the child protection efforts:

1. Local-Level Engagement

- **Participation in Local Child Rights Committees (LCRCs):** CAB members and child networks actively engaged in LCRC meetings, ensuring effective implementation of child protection policies.
- **Support for Child Labour-Free Municipalities:** CWISH collaborated with local authorities namely Tokha Municipality, Budanilkantha municipality and Lalitpur Metropolitan city to declare municipalities free from child labor, creating safer environments for children.
- **Local Policy Contributions:** Child networks were empowered to contribute to the development of child protection policies tailored to their communities' needs.

2. Fostering Active Child Participation

- **Orientation for Child Clubs:** These sessions increased awareness among children about their rights and encouraged community-level advocacy.
- **Extracurricular Activities in Schools:** CAB members organized sports events, cultural programs, and awareness campaigns to promote child rights.
- **Drama Performances:** Children used creative platforms such as drama, art, speech, poem to raise awareness about the risks of child labor, fostering engagement within schools and communities.
- **Monitoring Public Hearings:** Children's perspectives were included in public discussions on child rights.

3. Media and Advocacy

To amplify child protection efforts, CWISH facilitated the formation of a 'Media and Children' group comprising media professionals. This group highlighted issues like child labor and exploitation by writing news articles in various media platforms.

4. Collaboration with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

CWISH partnered with national CSOs to conduct awareness campaigns and sensitization events during key observances, such as World Day against Child Labour, National Children Day, International Children Day and 19 Days of Activism for Prevention of Violence Against Children and youth (1-19) November. These campaigns educated the public and influenced policymakers on acute child protection issues.

5. Strengthening Child Networks

CWISH focused on enhancing the capacity of existing child networks rather than forming new ones. For example, the Suryabinayak child network successfully integrated children with disabilities into its activities, fostering inclusivity. CAB members were also invited to join local child networks, sharing their knowledge and supporting localized strategies

6. Local Government Initiatives

Local governments demonstrated active ownership of child protection initiatives by:

- Establishing child protection desks in Khandadevi and Manthali municipalities.
- Organizing birth registration and disability screening camps, benefiting children from marginalized communities in Manthali.
- Conducting awareness events and monitoring children's well-being through Ward Child Rights Committees (WCRC)

7. Addressing Child Protection Cases

➤ **Prevention of Child Marriages:** WCRC members and community leaders intervened to stop child marriages and supported girls in continuing their education in Sindupalchowk.

➤ **Accountability in Schools:** Complaints of misconduct were addressed, with actions including demotion of teachers involved in inappropriate behavior.

➤ **Mediation in Abuse Cases:** Community leaders facilitated resolutions in cases of physical punishment, domestic violence, and ensuring children's safety and justice.

8. Strengthening Advocacy and Capacity Building

CWISH updated its training manual on preventing child separation to integrate best practices for preventing child separation and promoting parental care, reinforcing our commitment to fostering safe and supportive environments for children. As part of this effort, CWISH successfully conducted CLARISSA's end-of-program event, generating key recommendations to inform future initiatives. Additionally, CLARISSA's evidence and advocacy plans were institutionalized within CWISH to ensure sustained impact, and a comprehensive "Evidence-to-Advocacy" document was developed to translate research insights into actionable advocacy strategies.

B. FAMILY EMPOWERMENT

The Family Empowerment initiatives focused on enhancing the well-being and support systems of families, particularly those with children at risk. These efforts aimed to strengthen family dynamics, improve parenting practices, and ensure that children receive the support and care they need to thrive.

1. Positive Parenting and Family Engagement

Organized Positive Parenting Sessions for CAC members' families and other community families focused on fostering a positive and supportive home environment. These sessions helped parents understand the importance of nurturing emotional and mental development in their children. In addition, parents actively participated in lobby meetings and advocacy programs at the local level, engaging in discussions on child rights, school issues, and child protection efforts. This involvement created a collaborative environment where parents and children worked together toward solutions, reinforcing community commitment to child protection.

2. Family Counseling and Child Reintegration Services

Family counseling services were provided to support families dealing with challenges related to child care, education, and protection. The helpline facilitated the reintegration of children who had been separated from their families due to issues such as child labor, trafficking, or institutional care. Through counseling and support, children were safely reunited with their families, ensuring their rights were protected.

3. Empowerment of Children through Advocacy and Action

Empowering children, especially in advocating for their rights, was central to the initiatives. The Girls Advocacy Group (GAG) played a crucial role in promoting the rights of girls and children. They advocated for important issues such as child rights violations, school dropout prevention, and gender-based discrimination. GAG members also took ownership of their rights, raising awareness in local communities by writing applications to ward offices and school administrations. This empowerment encouraged children to be proactive in finding solutions to the challenges they face.

4. Children Reporting Rights Violations

Encouraging children and youth to report cases of child rights violations created a transparent system for accountability. Children were empowered to report abuse, exploitation and other rights violations to authorities, including school administrations, SMCs, PTAs, Ward Offices, and the police. This initiative fostered a culture of accountability and protection for children.

5. School Dropout Prevention and Reintegration

GAG members helped reintegrate school dropout children into the education system and worked on preventing future dropouts by addressing root causes such as lack of access to education, and social pressures. By working together with parents, teachers, and local authorities, the group ensured that children continued their education and built a better future.

6. Self-Advocacy and Protection

Empowering children to protect themselves was a key aspect of the initiative. In a remarkable case, a girl at risk of human trafficking took action to protect herself, demonstrating the strength of self-advocacy. Similarly, a girl from Thokarpa school, Sunkoshi RM requested her birth registration, ensuring her legal recognition and setting an example for other children to follow.

7. Awareness-Raising and Protection from Harassment

Awareness-raising activities focused on educating children, parents, and local committees about the risks of sexual harassment, especially in public spaces. These activities empowered children and youth to recognize the signs of harassment and report such incidents, ensuring a safer environment for all.

8. Advocacy for Children with Disabilities

The initiatives also raised a voice for children with disabilities, emphasizing their needs and rights in both local and national discussions. Children with disabilities were encouraged to advocate for inclusive education, support systems, and access to services tailored to their unique needs.

9. Commitments from Parents for Positive Parenting

Parents were encouraged to commit to practicing positive, non-violent, and nurturing parenting methods. By receiving these commitments, parents acknowledged their responsibility in creating a healthy and supportive environment for their children's growth and development.

C. EDUCATION

Efforts to improve the education system through proactive school initiatives have centered on enhancing student involvement, ensuring their safety, and fostering a positive and respectful learning environment. These initiatives aim to promote a sense of responsibility, inclusion, and empowerment for both students and educators at the local level.

1. Complaint Boxes in 4 Schools of Balephi and Sunkoshi

Complaint boxes were installed in four schools, providing students a safe, anonymous platform to report concerns like bullying and mistreatment, ensuring their voices are heard without fear of retaliation.

2. Code of Conduct in 14 Schools in Balephi and Sunkoshi

A Code of Conduct was developed in 14 schools to promote respectful behavior and discipline. It addresses issues like bullying and corporal punishment, helping create a safer school environment.

3. Child Participation in SMC Meetings in Balephi and Sunkoshi

Students actively participated in School Management Committee (SMC) meetings in many schools and sharing feedback on education-related issues and contributing to school decision-making.

4. Grievance Handling Committee in Kupkanya, Balephi

A Grievance Handling Committee was formed in Kupkanya to address complaints from students, parents, or teachers, fostering a transparent and supportive environment for conflict resolution.

5. Commitment to Prevent Corporal Punishment at Satkanya, Balephi

At Satkanya School, a commitment was made by parents and teachers to eliminate corporal punishment, promote positive discipline techniques and ensure a safer, more supportive atmosphere.

6. Recognition of the Girls Advocacy Group (GAG)

GAG's advocacy for girls' education and child rights was officially recognized, with their activities included in the school calendar, highlighted on social media, and celebrated through visible recognition on the school's information board.

7. Outreach and Capacity Building of Youths

CWISH reached a total of 1,386 youth members across program areas, with 753 males and 633 females actively participating in climate-related activities. This diverse engagement underscores the organization's commitment to inclusivity and equitable participation. Youth members have taken the lead in conducting community-based awareness campaigns, empowering themselves and others to take action against climate change. Through these initiatives, they have fostered a sense of ownership and responsibility toward protecting their environment.

D. CLIMATE JUSTICE

CWISH recognizes climate change as a pressing issue that disproportionately impacts children and youth, particularly those from marginalized communities. The organization has taken several initiatives to ensure that children and youth are not only aware of the challenges posed by climate change but are also actively engaged in advocating for sustainable solutions and influencing policy. Below is an overview of key activities and achievements under the Climate Justice program:

1. Engaging Children and Youth in Climate Advocacy

- **Children Advisory Committee (CAC) Discussions:** CAC members consistently address the challenges children face due to climate change in their meetings. These discussions focus on identifying climate-related issues affecting children and exploring actionable solutions.
- **Participation in Programs by Partner NGOs:** Children actively participated in climate change programs organized by partner NGOs, voicing their concerns and raising awareness about the impacts of climate change on their lives and communities.
- **National-Level Discussions:** CWISH organized national-level discussion forums where children directly engaged with stakeholders and policymakers, questioning them on the implications of climate change on children and urging them to take immediate and child-sensitive actions.

2. Advocacy Success with Local Governments

- **Addressing Budget Concerns:** Youth expressed concerns about proportional budget allocation during discussions. These efforts resulted in Madi Municipality, Chitwan, addressing one out of 19 key concerns, demonstrating the impact of youth advocacy on local government actions.
- **Youth-Led Business Startups:** Out of seven youth-led business proposals, five have successfully launched and started generating income. These startups focus on sustainable practices and small-scale entrepreneurship, promoting resilience and self-sufficiency among youth.
- **Support for Youth Entrepreneurship:** Madi Municipality has provided physical space to operate youth-led businesses, showcasing the commitment of local governments to fostering youth entrepreneurship and supporting sustainable development initiatives.

3. Climate Libraries and Awareness Programs

- **Establishment of Climate Libraries:** Seven climate libraries were established across Kathmandu, Chitwan, Kavre, Ramechhap, Dolakha, Makawanpur, and Dhading districts, with a focus on promoting climate literacy among youth. These libraries serve as dedicated spaces where children and youth can access resources on climate change, sustainability, and environmental protection.
- **Operational Success in Chitwan:** The climate library in Chitwan is fully operational, providing a model for other districts. It has become a hub for youth engagement, where regular discussions and activities are held.
- **Monthly Tutorials and Awareness Programs:** Youth groups have initiated monthly tutorial sessions and awareness-raising programs on climate change in their communities. These programs aim to educate peers and community members about climate resilience, environmental conservation, and sustainable practices.

3. OTHER AREAS OF ACHIEVEMENTS

A. Research

CWISH has made significant strides in research to understand and address issues affecting children's rights and well-being. Below is an overview of the key research initiatives undertaken.

1. Study on Children in the Domestic Sector

CWISH, in collaboration with Free the Slaves (FTS), is conducting an in-depth study titled "Exploring the Trajectories, Drivers, and Experiences of Children Working in Nepal's Domestic Sector." This research aims to examine the pathways that lead children, especially from rural and marginalized communities, into domestic labor. It explores the socio-economic and cultural drivers, including poverty, lack of education, family circumstances, and the demand for cheap labor, that contribute to this phenomenon. Additionally, the study delves into the lived experiences of child domestic workers, documenting their working conditions, treatment, and emotional well-being.

2. Policy Review and Advocacy

• Policy Brief on Child Rights:

CWISH published a policy brief summarizing the findings and recommendations from a study analyzing the legal and policy landscape for child rights in Nepal. The research identified gaps, overlaps, and inconsistencies in existing laws, including the Child Labor Prohibition and Regulation Act 2000. Through desk reviews, key informant interviews (KIIs), and focus group discussions (FGDs), the study provided evidence-based recommendations.

• Advocacy and Dialogue:

The study findings were shared during national-level dialogues and delegation visits to key government agencies, including the Ministry of Labour, Employment, and Social Security (MoLESS), Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology (MoEST), Ministry of Women, Children, and Senior Citizens (MoWCSC), National Child Rights Council (NCRC), and local governments in Tokha, Mahalaxmi Municipalities, Balephi and Sunkoshi RM. These efforts focused on advocating for policy amendments to strengthen the legal framework for child rights.

3. Policy Gap Analysis at the Local Level

A comprehensive policy gap analysis was conducted in Manthali Municipality and Khandadevi Rural Municipality to evaluate existing laws and policies related to child rights and child protection. The analysis assessed their alignment with national and international standards, identifying critical gaps and inconsistencies. Based on the findings, technical assistance was provided to these local governments to develop policies aimed at strengthening child protection mechanisms and promoting children's rights.

4. Study on Child Rights Violations

CWISH conducted a community-level study to assess the prevalence and patterns of child rights violations, focusing on the right to protection led by Girls Advocacy Groups (GAGs). The methodology included:

- Reviewing project documents and developing a survey questionnaire.
- Mapping vulnerable wards based on indicators like child marriage, unsafe migration, and marginalized communities.
- Conducting a survey with 580 respondents from Girls' Advocacy Groups (GAGs) in 19 schools.

Key Findings:

- **Child Marriage:** 74 cases of child marriage were identified, with 73 involving minors. Among these, 68.91% of the children dropped out of school due to marriage.
- **Violence and Discrimination:** 81.64% of respondents reported experiencing sexual violence and abuse in their families, communities, or schools. Additionally, 75.17% faced gender-based discrimination, and 48.6% experienced caste-based discrimination. Among 25 surveyed individuals, 88% reported facing some form of discrimination in their community, school, or both.

The findings were shared with Girls' Advocacy Groups (GAGs) to gather feedback and develop actionable recommendations.

B. ADVOCACY

In 2024, CWISH made significant progresses in advocacy at both the national and local levels, influencing policy changes, securing budget allocations, and addressing critical child rights issues. Below is a summary of key advocacy achievements:

1. National-Level Advocacy

- **Policy Influence and Legislative Advocacy:**
 - ▶ CWISH organized delegation visits to stakeholders, including Parliamentary Committees and political parties, to advocate for policy amendments.
 - ▶ Recommendations for the Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act 2000, Children's Act 2018, and Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Bill 2080 were presented at national platforms, emphasizing the need for comprehensive legal reforms.
 - ▶ During a high-level policy dialogue with members of Parliament, CWISH advocacy prompted Honorable Kusum Thapa to raise concerns about environmental protection and climate change in the House of Representatives Assembly.

- **Engagement with Media and Civil Society:**

- ▶ Interactions were organized with media personnel to sensitize them on the importance of child protection, encouraging a shift in focus toward addressing these issues.
- ▶ Joint campaigns with civil society organizations were conducted to amplify child rights advocacy at national and local levels.

2. Local-Level Advocacy

- **Policy and Institutional Development:**

- ▶ In Khandadevi Rural Municipality, CWISH facilitated the establishment of a Local Child Rights Committee (LCRC) and provided technical support for formulating a Child Protection Policy.
- ▶ In Helambu Rural Municipality, an LCRC was formed, and a Child Welfare Officer was designated on September 25, 2024. A draft Child Protection Policy for Helambu RM is under review for endorsement.

- **Budget Allocations for Child Rights:**

- ▶ In Balephi Rural Municipality, NPR 2,200,000 was allocated under the Child-Friendly Local Governance (CFLG) program, and NPR 360,000 was designated to support 196 vulnerable children identified by child protection focal teachers.
- ▶ Balephi RM endorsed the Child Fund (Establishment & Operation) Procedure, 2081, while seven wards allocated NPR 50,000–300,000 under CFLG. NPR 150,000 was set aside for Legal Literacy Classes in schools.
- ▶ In Sunkoshi Rural Municipality, NPR 250,000 was allocated under the CFLG program, and NPR 100,000 was committed to public hearings in Ward 5. The "Targeted Group Program" budget supported education and capacity-building initiatives for children.

- **Community Advocacy and Responses:**

- ▶ Letters written by children from Balephi, Kupkanya, and Mahendrodaya Secondary Schools of Balephi, totaling 118, were sent to the Prime Minister on the theme of "Today's Education". Additional letters requesting increased investment in education were submitted to 12 RMs in Sindhupalchok.
- ▶ During a Child Assembly in Balephi-4, advocacy led to the Ward Chairperson allocating NPR 300,000 specifically for children's programs.

3. Advocacy Impact on Safety, Health, and Education

- **Addressing Abuse and Mistreatment:**

- ▶ At Shree Ganesh Secondary School, Sunkoshi Girls Advocacy Groups (GAGs) raised concerns about mistreatment by male students and limited playground access. The school administration implemented immediate corrective actions.
- ▶ In Sunkoshi-5, public hearings highlighted security concerns, prompting a ward-issued notice prohibiting the sale of homemade alcohol after 8 PM, with fines for violations.

- **Health and Hygiene Improvements:**

- ▶ At Shree Baghbhairav Secondary School, Sunkoshi, GAGs identified expired sanitary pads during an SMC meeting, leading the school to replace all outdated products.
- ▶ At Shree Mahendrakanti Secondary School, Sunkoshi a GAG request to address school dropouts resulted in home visits by the SMC, reintegrating three dropouts into school.

- **Facility Maintenance:**

- ▶ Abusive graffiti on a toilet wall at Shree Setidevi Sharda, Sunkoshi was reported during an SMC/PTA meeting, leading to immediate action to repaint the wall.

4. Strengthening Local Governance and Accountability

- CWISH facilitated public hearings, delegation visits, and monitoring activities to hold local authorities accountable for child rights. These efforts significantly improved local policies, governance, and resource allocation for children's programs.

C. COMMUNICATION

In 2024, CWISH leveraged various communication platforms to advocate for child rights, raise awareness, and amplify the voices of children and youth on critical issues such as child protection, environmental conservation, and climate justice. Key communication achievements include:

1. Public Service Announcements (PSAs)

- Two PSAs were produced on the themes of child labor and online child sexual exploitation at the national level.
- Two PSAs were aired at local level in Ramechhap on child labor and online sexual exploitation. These PSAs were broadcast five times daily across five FM stations in Ramechhap and Sindhuli, reaching an estimated 25,000 people and raising awareness about child protection issues.

Additional PSAs at the local level focused on environmental protection, green jobs, media engagement, youth participation in planning and decision-making processes, and promotion of eco-tourism.

2. Television Programs

- Eight episodes of the TV talk show Samrachhyan Sambad were aired, out of which 5 episodes were on addressing diverse child rights topics. Three episodes of the TV talk show were on addressing topics such as the role of youth in environmental conservation, green entrepreneurship, climate risks, and youth and children's issues.
- The program had an average reach of 2,500 users per episode on YouTube and an estimated 500,000 viewers per episode via television broadcasts.

3. Radio Programs

Radio programs focused on environmental protection, planning and budget for environmental protection, youth engagement, and climate change. These programs provided insights and encouraged broader participation in environmental and child rights advocacy.

4. Advocacy Materials and Media Publications

- The Kathmandu Declaration was developed as an advocacy communication tool following the Regional CAC meeting in Kathmandu. It is being utilized at both national and local levels to amplify advocacy efforts on addressing child labor.
- Seven articles on child rights were published to engage the public and policymakers on Child Protection.
- Out of key demands from youths on climate justice, demands raised by youth at the national level were highlighted in two national print outlets (Nagarik News and Naya Patrika) and one regional online outlet (Rajyadainik.com).

5. Multimedia Productions

- A video by Dialogue Works showcased the role and activities of Children’s Advisory Committees, promoting child participation in decision-making processes.
- A podcast on child domestic workers was recorded and is set for release in January 2025, aiming to shed light on the challenges and lived experiences of these children.
- A documentary titled Youth in Action: Building a Greener Tomorrow was produced, emphasizing youth-driven environmental initiatives and showcasing their impact.

D. CAPACITY BUILDING

In 2024, CWISH implemented a wide range of capacity-building initiatives to strengthen child protection mechanisms, promote child rights, and empower children, youth, and stakeholders. The major achievements are summarized below:

1. Capacity Building of Local Government Stakeholders

- 78 local government stakeholders were capacitated on child rights, with a particular focus on child protection issues in Ramechhap.
- 26 male and 28 female elected representatives received training on child-friendly local governance and child rights monitoring, enhancing their ability to advocate for and implement child-centered policies in Sindupalchowk.

2. Empowering Children and Youth

- 17 child clubs were formed or reformed, affiliating 330 members and strengthening child participation at the school level in Ramechhap.
- 269 children were trained in child-led advocacy, covering critical issues such as child marriage, child sexual exploitation, climate change, vulnerability, cyber safety, and life skills in Ramechhap.
- 1256 children were trained on the REFLECT method to promote self-awareness and collective action for social change in Sindupalchowk.
- Youth were engaged through monthly tutorials on climate change and the right to a clean environment, reaching a total of 1,386 youth members (753 male and 633 female) in 7 districts of Bagmati Province.

3. Child Protection Teacher Networks

- On 22 March 2024, a Child Protection Teacher Network was formed in Balephi Rural Municipality, comprising 27 school teachers. A five-point code of conduct was declared to guide their activities.
- On 24 April 2024, a similar network was established in Helambu Rural Municipality, with 30 school teachers participating. A five-point code of conduct was also introduced.

4. Specialized Trainings and Orientations

CWISH conducted various training programs and orientation sessions to enhance knowledge and skills in child rights, child protection, and ethical practices:

- Child Protection Mechanisms and Utilization of Child Fund – 1 session with local government stakeholders.
- Capacity Building of Children’s Advisory Boards (CAB) on child rights and protection – 2 sessions.
- Orientation for Media on child labor and online child sexual abuse – 2 sessions.
- Orientation for Local Child Rights Committees (LCRC) on child rights and child protection – 2 sessions.
- Capacity Building of Municipal Child Club Networks (Tokha, Suryabinayak, Lalitpur) on child rights and the role of Child Rights Committees (CRC) – 3 sessions.
- Discussion with Child Welfare Authorities (CWA) on their roles and responsibilities – 1 session.
- Orientation for School Management Committees (SMC)/Parent Teacher Associations (PTA) and Teachers on child rights, child protection, and participation at four schools (Manohar Secondary School, Ganesh Secondary School, Suryabinayak, and Siddhi Mangal Secondary School) – 3 sessions.

5. Engagement with Key Stakeholders

- Engaged with business owners to promote ethical business practices in Kathmandu – 1 session.
- Engaged with police personnel to encourage victim-centric investigations in Kathmandu – 1 session.

E. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

CWISH has prioritized gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) across all its programs, ensuring the active participation and representation of marginalized groups, women, and children. The following are key achievements in GESI implementation for 2024:

1. Inclusive Representation and Participation

- Marginalized, working, and children with disabilities were represented in the Children's Advisory Board (CAB), with the Coordinator being from a marginalized community.
- Maintained gender balance during participation in national events, delegation visits, and other activities, ensuring equal opportunities for all.
- 36% Janajati, 16% Dalit, and 8% marginalized girls were empowered through girl-focused networks and programs, contributing to their active participation in advocacy and awareness events.
- Greater participation of girls compared to boys in CWISH-supported committees, with higher representation of marginalized groups in Children's Advisory Committees (CACs).

2. Advocacy and Empowerment

- Capacity building of CAB members included sensitization on the issues faced by the LGBTIQ+ community, promoting inclusivity and respect for diversity.
- Equal opportunities were provided to working and marginalized children to raise their voices at national platforms.
- Girls Advocacy Groups (GAG) actively participated in planning and co-facilitating awareness and advocacy events, as well as REFLECT sessions in schools and communities.
- A GAG member from a marginalized community facilitated the "Ward Chairperson with Children" program in Bansanghu, Sindupalchowk amplifying children's concerns at the local level.
- Conducted a survey involving girls to assess the status of discrimination at school and community levels, laying the groundwork for targeted advocacy in Sindupalchowk.
- Advocated against discrimination and for gender equality and inclusion in schools, with a focus on addressing gender-based exploitation and abuse of girls, including child domestic workers (CDWs).

3. Education and Support for Vulnerable Girls

- Education support was provided to 49 vulnerable girls, including 3 school dropouts, facilitating their reintegration into the education system.
- Sanitary pads were distributed to girl Child Domestic Worker, addressing a critical need for their health and hygiene.

4. Empowerment of Women Representatives

- 28 elected women representatives were empowered through workshops and capacity-building sessions, of whom 13 were Dalit, 9 Janajati, and 1 from marginalized groups.
- Women representatives played active roles in monitoring awareness events and school education programs, fostering accountability and inclusivity.

5. Climate Change and GESI Integration

- Community-level programs on climate change included interaction programs with Dalit women groups and indigenous women groups, focusing on their unique vulnerabilities and contributions to environmental advocacy.
- Orientation programs on climate change policies and local adaptation plans (LAPA) were organized for local government representatives, particularly women, to ensure their active involvement in formulating gender-inclusive environmental strategies.

6. Key Highlights in Rescue and Reintegration

- Successfully rescued and reintegrated a girl child domestic worker (CDW) while addressing specific issues such as gender-based exploitation and abuse.
- Reintegration efforts prioritized children from marginalized communities, ensuring holistic support and opportunities for a better future.

7. Gender Balance in Stakeholder Engagement in Research

- Achieved gender balance in key engagements, including:
 - 30 child domestic workers (CDWs): 50% girls and 50% boys.
 - 10 stakeholders engaged: 6 females and 4 males.

F. MONITORING AND EVALUATION:

CWISH successfully conducted two project audits, two donor audits, and one statutory audit, ensuring financial transparency and accountability. Additionally, a financial monitoring visit from tdh Germany provided valuable recommendations, which CWISH promptly implemented to enhance financial management. Interpedia conducted two monitoring visits, during which Ms. Maria engaged in discussions on project implementation progress. Similarly, KNH Germany and FVF carried out monitoring visits, reinforcing oversight and collaboration. The Social Welfare Council (SWC) also conducted monitoring and evaluation for the CLARISSA Project and the Dialogue Works Project, further validating CWISH's commitment to effective project execution and compliance. These evaluations have strengthened CWISH's accountability, improved program efficiency, and reinforced donor confidence.

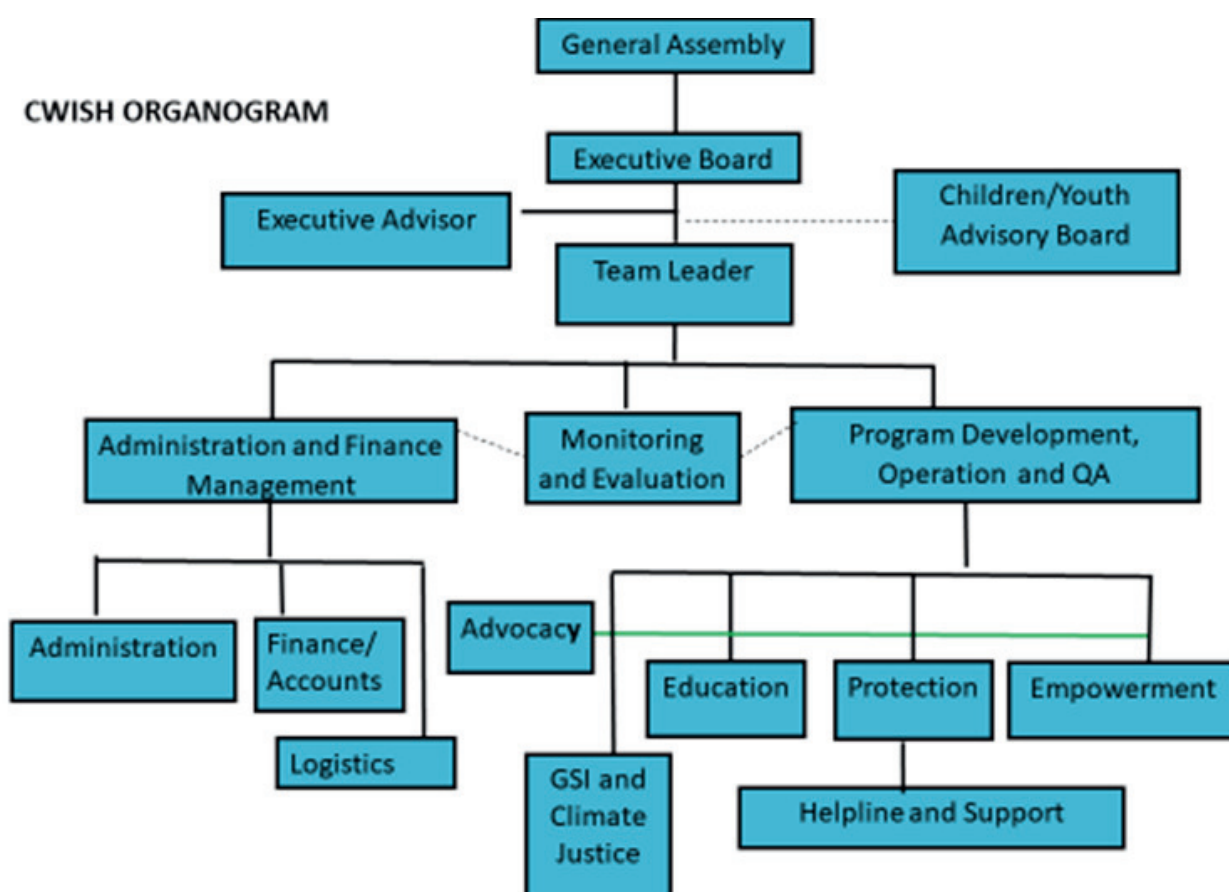
G. GOVERNANCE AND EC INFORMATION

CWISH strengthened its governance and accountability in 2024 through key strategic meetings and events. Eight Executive Board meetings were held, driving policy improvements and critical organizational decisions. The Children's Advisory Board (CAB) was reformed, with four meetings conducted to enhance child participation. CWISH marked its 30th Foundation Day on December 2, celebrating three decades of impact. Twelve monthly staff meetings facilitated discussions on project implementation, challenges, and solutions. On September 22, CWISH held its 26th Annual General Meeting and 9th Assembly electing a new Executive Board for a three-year term. The event also featured CWISH's annual Social Audit, where stakeholders reviewed achievements, challenges, and lessons from 2024, reinforcing transparency and collective learning.

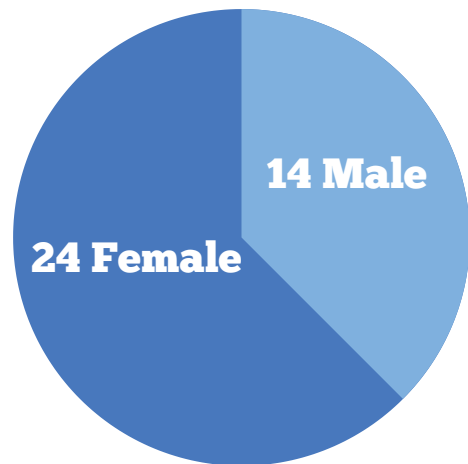
CWISH expanded its partnerships in 2024 by engaging with a new development partner, FVF Spain, strengthening its network for impact. The organization updated its fixed assets, incorporating donor contributions, and revised its Child Protection Policy to enhance safeguarding measures. Steps were taken to implement online banking for improved financial efficiency, and efforts began to revamp the CWISH website for better accessibility and outreach. Additionally, CWISH actively participated in key networks, including Consortium, AATWIN, SPCSN, and NCPA, holding an Executive Board portfolio to drive collective advocacy and sectoral collaboration.



4. ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION/ STRUCTURE

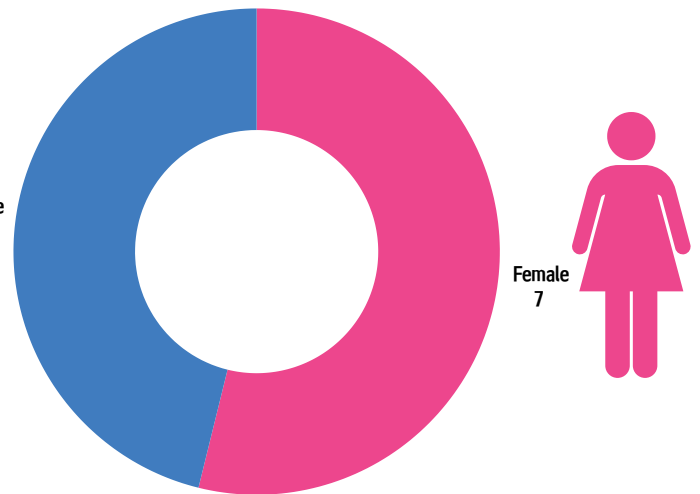
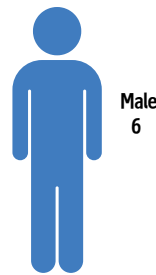
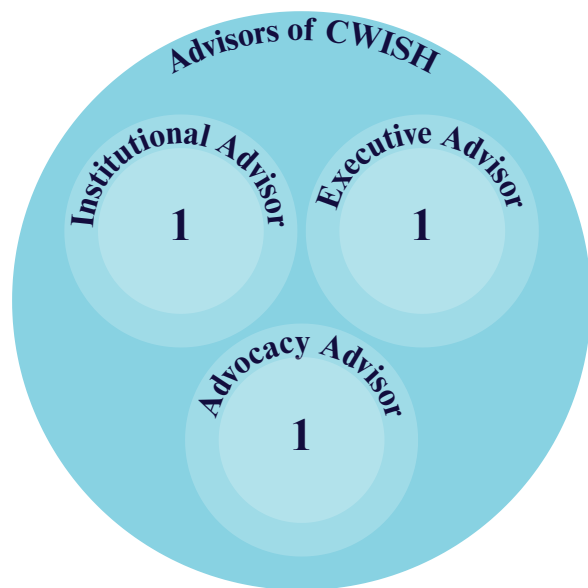
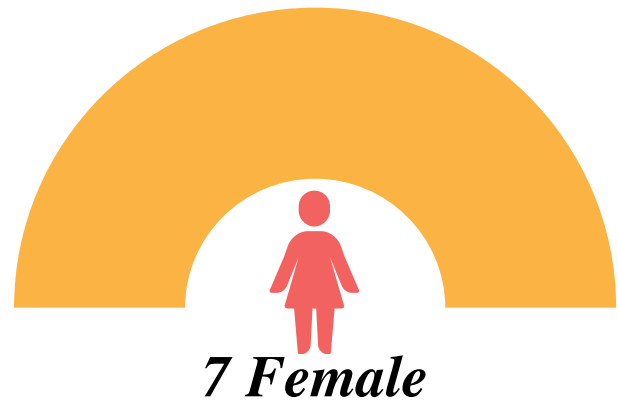


Organizational Information



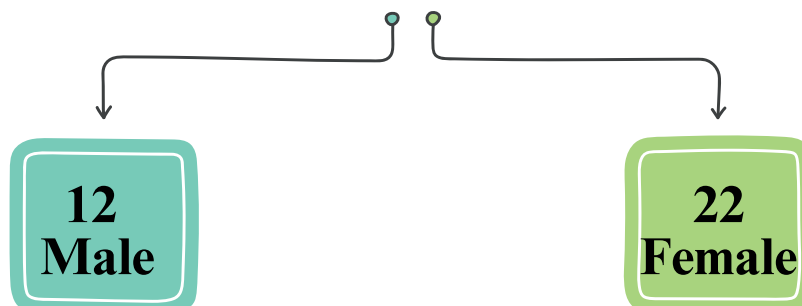
General Members in CWISH

Board Members



Child Advisory Board

Total Number of Organization's staff during 2024



5. FINANCIAL

CWISH strengthened its financial management in 2024 by fully transitioning to the server-based FAMAS accounting software for efficient bookkeeping across all projects. The organization conducted three project audits and four donor audits, integrating key learnings and recommendations into future planning to enhance financial transparency and accountability. To further build financial capacity, CWISH's Admin/Finance Manager, Mr. Pramod Acharya, participated in a Financial Management training organized by TDH Germany, while Ms. Sushila Yonjan attended a financial management orientation by SPCSN. These initiatives reinforce CWISH's commitment to maintaining strong financial systems and ensuring compliance with best practices.

In 2024, Financial status as follows:

S.N.	Project	Annual Budget (2024)	Expenses till Dec (2024)	% Exp	Project Period till
1	CLARISSA Project- CSC UK	4,478,391.73	4,478,391.73	100%	Mar-24
2	Dialogue Works - KNH, Germany	3,746,654	3,746,654	100%	Dec-24
3	Local to Global-Youth –Environment-tdh, Germany	12,248,773	11,542,800	94.23%	Dec-25
4	MRFM-KNH Germany	5,999,108	5,711,464	95.20%	Jun 2028
5	Power Girls – Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland through Interpedia	15,659,399	13,379,565.27	85.44%	Dec-26
6	Rights to Family-ATOS Denmark	8,260,000	3,922,034	47.48%	Jan 2025
7	Life as Child Domestic Worker in Kathmandu-FTS	2,069,000	1,383,656	66.88%	Apr 2025
8	Together for Child Rights - FVF	6,592,144	4,701,765	71.32%	14 July 2025
	Total	59,053,469	48,866,330	82.75%	

Expenses Trends in CWISH

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024
Budget	34,697,820	30,759,644	51,719,740	48,866,330

6. LEARNING

CWISH has learned that **child-led advocacy** is more effective than child-centered approaches, as direct interaction with children fosters a deeper understanding and sensitivity among stakeholders toward children's issues. Incorporating **positive parenting sessions** and **psychosocial counseling** is essential when addressing child protection concerns, particularly within vulnerable communities.

Regular field monitoring of community activities is vital to enhance field staff efficiency and effectiveness. Equipping them with the necessary tools for **preparation, documentation, and report writing** is crucial to support their work. Establishing linkages between **Children's Advisory Committees (CAC)** and **local child networks** strengthens the capacity of community and ward-level child clubs, ensuring the success of child-focused initiatives.

Reaching **marginalized children** through the formation of **community child clubs** is a key strategy to ensure inclusive participation and address the needs of vulnerable groups. Enhancing the capacity of children within **Child Rights Committees** empowers them to advocate effectively for their rights.

Program design should be **tailored** to meet the specific needs of local bodies, ensuring both **relevance** and **impact**. Collaborating with **existing children's clubs** formed by local governments, rather than creating separate committees, enhances the sustainability and effectiveness of child participation efforts. Involving **local governments** in program design helps ensure **ownership** and long-term commitment to project initiatives.

Finally, establishing a **protocol** or **standard operating procedure (SOP)** for research projects and utilizing **evidence-based advocacy** following research findings ensures informed decision-making and drives **systemic change**.

7. Challenges

In 2024, CWISH faces several key challenges that impact the effectiveness of its child protection and advocacy efforts. A significant challenge is the lack of priority given to child protection by local governments and schools, which often view it as the responsibility of NGOs rather than a shared societal duty. This is compounded by a reluctance among stakeholders to report child rights violations within both formal and informal justice mechanisms, hindering the protection of children's rights.

Despite concerted efforts, child marriage cases persist, highlighting the ongoing barriers to achieving lasting change in vulnerable communities. Internal challenges, such as political wrangling between local government officials and high staff turnover due to brain drain, further complicate project implementation. Additionally, expectations regarding the work efficiency of field staff, particularly at the officer level, are often not met due to insufficient resources, equipment, and inadequate salary or facilities.

The organization also faces challenges in empowering Children's Advisory Committee (CAC) members, as some are still unable to assert their rights to participate in decision-making processes, particularly in relation to their employers. Furthermore, there is a mismatch between the nature of local government work and project activities, limiting the overall effectiveness of the initiatives.

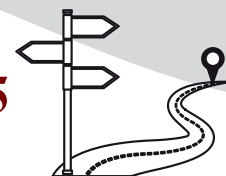
Operational challenges include delays in receiving pre-consensus letters from Helambu Rural Municipality (RM) and approvals from the Social Welfare Council (SWC), as well as timing issues related to the rural municipality's working calendar and coordination with teachers. Additionally, political disputes in the rural municipality further hinder progress, alongside a lack of functional branches, such as the Women and Children branch, and the absence of a child protection policy and functioning Local Child Rights Committee (LCRC) in Helambu RM.

Poor road conditions, exacerbated by floods and landslides, create logistical barriers to reaching target communities, while the local government's limited conceptual clarity on child rights and protection adds to the challenge of ensuring proper implementation of policies. The safeguarding of Child Domestic Workers (CDWs) remains a critical issue, with instances of abuse and mistreatment from employers, further underscoring the need for stronger protections.


Lastly, ensuring the sustainability of youth entrepreneurship initiatives remains a concern, requiring continued efforts to establish long-term viability and impact. These challenges must be addressed to enhance the effectiveness of CWISH's programs and ensure lasting improvements for vulnerable children and communities.



WAY FORWARD FOR CWISH IN 2025




- **Community Empowerment:** Expand capacity-building in Community/Ward Child Clubs, prioritizing marginalized children's inclusive engagement.
- **Child Protection in Schools:** Ensure safe, inclusive environments, addressing mental health and strengthening school child protection roles.
- **Early Project Development:** Conduct pre-project stakeholder roundtables to identify local child-related issues.
- **Comprehensive Protection:** Integrate protection strategies in all projects, engaging schools, police, and mental health services.
- **Framework Alignment:** Design projects aligned with national (16th periodic plan) and local frameworks.
- **Child Rights Advocacy:** Focus on expanding child helplines, strengthening labor offices, and raising child rights awareness.
- **Thematic Departments:** Restructure CWISH departments based on thematic areas, not just project needs.
- **Family Empowerment:** Prioritize economic and social support for families of working children.
- **Stakeholder Coordination:** Improve communication and coordination across all stakeholders.
- **Timely Planning:** Schedule training/gatherings pre-monsoon for optimal participation.
- **Climate Education:** Integrate climate change studies into school curricula.

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- ▶▶▶ **Evidence-Based Advocacy:** Collaborate with Free the Slaves International on research-driven advocacy plans.
 - ▶▶▶ **Green Entrepreneurship:** Develop a framework promoting sustainable, youth-focused green entrepreneurship.
 - ▶▶▶ **Government Follow-up:** Continuously follow up with government on child protection policy implementation.
 - ▶▶▶ **Media Engagement:** Strengthen media partnerships to raise child rights awareness and drive social change.

Annex

Audit Report FY 2080/81


			
CHILDREN-WOMEN IN SOCIAL SERVICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS (CWISH)			
<h1>Annual Statutory Audit Reports Fiscal Year 2080/81</h1> <p>17 July 2023 to 15 July 2024</p>			
Audit By			FY2080/81
MGS & Associates Chartered Accounts Kathmandu Tel: 9851024232 Email: Mahesh.guragain@mgs.com.np			
P.O. Box 21433, BUDDHANAGAR, KATHMANDU			

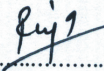
Children Women in Social Service and Human Rights (CWISH)
Buddhanagar, Kathmandu
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
 As at 31st Ashadh 2081

Figures in NPR

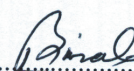
Particulars	Notes	Current Year	Previous Year
ASSETS			
Non - Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	4.1	1,014,471	15,528
Intangible Assets	4.2	-	-
Investment Property	4.3	-	-
Long term investments	4.4	-	-
Other noncurrent assets	4.5	-	-
Total Non - Current Assets		1,014,471	15,528
Current Assets			
Inventories	4.6	61,042	92,188
Account receivable	4.7	803,937	1,596,213
Cash and cash equivalents	4.8	44,765,807	27,857,180
Total Current Assets		45,630,786	29,545,582
Total Assets		46,645,257	29,561,109
LIABILITIES & RESERVES			
Accumulated Reserves			
Unrestricted Funds/accumulated surplus	4.9	18,278,531	17,367,630
Designated Funds	4.10	1,300,000	-
Restricted Funds	4.11	25,676,970	8,805,968
Endowment Fund	4.12	-	-
Other Capital Reserves	4.13	1,002,825	-
Total Accumulated Reserves		46,258,326	26,173,598
Non - Current Liabilities			
Loans and borrowings	4.14	-	-
Employee benefit liabilities	4.15	-	-
Deferred Revenue	4.16	-	-
Other non-current liabilities	4.17	-	-
Total Non - Current Liabilities		-	-
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable	4.18	386,931	3,387,511
Loans and borrowings	4.19	-	-
Provisions	4.20	-	-
Bank Overdrafts	4.21	-	-
Total Current Liabilities		386,931	3,387,511
Total Liabilities		386,931	3,387,511
Total Liabilities and Reserves		46,645,257	29,561,109

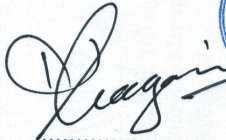
The Notes on accounts form an integral part of the financial statements.


 Pramod Kumar Acharya
 Admin/Finance Manager
 Place: Kathmandu


 Ruja Pokhrel
 Team Leader


 Kamila Thapa
 Treasurer


 Bimala Jnawali
 Chairperson


 Mahesh Kumar Guragai, FCA
 MGS and Associates
 Chartered Accountants



Date: 16 Sep 2024
 31 Bhadra 2081



UDIN:
 240920 CA001256eLXG

Children Women in Social Service and Human Rights (CWISH)
Buddhanagar, Kathmandu

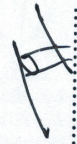
STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE

For the Year Ended 31st Ashadh 2081

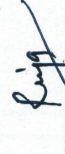
Figures in NPR

Particulars	Notes	Current Year	Previous Year
INCOME			
Incoming Resources	4.22	51,604,599	41,758,542
Financial Income	4.23	1,328,264	1,087,848
Other Income	4.22	690,298	68,875
Total Income		53,623,161	42,915,265
EXPENDITURE			
Staff Cost/Expenses	4.25	17,446,734	16,189,542
Program Expenses	4.26	32,107,267	24,223,936
General Administrative Expenditure	4.27	2,850,743	2,534,611
Depreciation	4.1	3,882	5,176
Other Expenditure	4.28	-	-
Total Expenditure		52,408,626	42,953,265
Net surplus/(deficit) before Taxation		1,214,535	(38,000)
Income Tax Expenses		303,634	-
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		910,901	(38,000)
APPROPRIATION OF SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR			
Allocation to Reserves			
Allocation to Endowment Fund		910,901	(38,000)

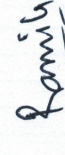
The Notes on accounts form an integral part of the financial statements.



Pramod Kumar Acharya
Admin/Finance Manager
Place: Kathmandu
Date:



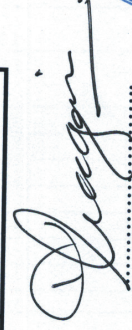
Raja Pokhrel
Team Leader



Ramila Thapa
Treasurer



Bimala Jnawali
Chairperson



Mahesh Kumar Guragai, FCA
MGS and Associates
Chartered Accountants



Glimpses of 2024



Regional Child Advisory Committee (CAC) Gathering 2024.



Climate literacy and Business Development training.



Local Child Rights Committee Formation and Meeting at Sindhupalchok



Child Advisory Committee submitted the Kigali Declaration for proper handling of child-related issues.



Program on World Day Against Child Labor.



Handover of Memorandum to national level duty bearers to draw attention toward child protection issues.



National-level policy dialogue program on child labor.



Handover of Memorandum to national level duty bearers to draw attention toward child protection issues.



Discussion program on children's issues with the representative.



Women Representatives of Balephi & Sunkoshi RM on 'Monitoring & Action Plan Development'.



Solidarity March



Members of Child Advisory Board actively participated in a capacity building training.



"Children with local representative" program on Child issues.



Sensitization to Local Government Representatives on Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA).



The youth exchange visit at Chitwan National Park, Sauraha.



29th Wildlife Week, on the theme Trash Hunt Challenge and Climate Change Awareness.



Art competitions and plantation conducted on the occasion of World Environment Day.



Discussion on " Human Rights of workers in Adult Entertainment Sector: Current Situation and Way Forward"



Discussion on Human Rights of workers in Adult Entertainment Sector Current Situation and Way Forward.



An interaction event with authorities and agencies.



Interaction program regarding Ecological Right in Khadadevi RM, Ramechhap.



Environment Institutional Visit Project at Upper Tamakoshi Hydropower, Dolakha



Coordination meeting with representatives of National Child Rights Council.



Regional Seminar on "Environmental Sustainability and Climate Action"



30 Years Celebration of CWISH



National Level Policy Dialogues



A Climate Literacy and Business Development training



Annual Review Meeting 2024



30 Years Celebration of CWISH



Current Executive Board Members of CWISH



Community Awareness Session



GAG providing recommendations to stakeholders on the basis of survey findings



Children watching Mayor amongst Children



Capacity development program on Manthali Municipality and Khadadevi RM.



A training on child protection on Manthali Municipality and Khadadevi RM.



Public Hearing was conducted in Balephi



CWISH

CHILDREN-WOMEN IN SOCIAL SERVICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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