



RDC Nepal
Appointment for Change



ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Rural Development Centre Nepal

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Chairperson Message



Paras Hussain

Rural Development Centre (RDC) Nepal has been able to establish its fame as an exemplary local non-governmental organization by continuing to work tirelessly towards fulfilling its mandate since 2002 in Rautahat district, which is aimed at reducing poverty, enabling communities to manage disaster and climate risks, promoting community development program (Health, Education, WASH, Livelihood), promoting child rights and gender equality, supporting marginalized and historically excluded communities in partnership with government authorities and many development agencies to address the emerging developmental issues and support government to reach the unreached.

In coming years, we have much more to do to strengthen marginalized and disaster vulnerable communities, women, children of Rautahat and adjacent districts. The organization will support to fulfill community development needs in collaboration with government, development agencies and private sector with an integrated and comprehensive approach to achieve the goal. Organization is putting effort through engaging professional human resources and technical expertise with locally available and compatible technology for sustainable development. It's our core responsibility to reach the highly needy section of the society through developmental and humanitarian need supports. Coming years are full of hopes and opportunities to further expand our effort. We are looking forward to showing best examples to the target people by influencing them for positive changes. RDC Nepal will strive to create more opportunity of learning and unleashing the potentials of poor people engaging in sustainable livelihood.

We would like to thank all I/NGOs, Government Agencies, Stakeholders, Staffs, Intern/Volunteers, CBOs and groups, youth club, stakeholders and well-wishers for their valuable support and cooperation extended to our organization for carrying out programs and its activities smoothly.

We also express my sincere thanks to the members of Governing Board for their valuable support and suggestions, and all the staff members for their diligence and hard work to attain the mission and goals.

ORGANIZATION BACKGROUND

Rural Development Centre (RDC) Nepal is a non-political and non-profitable organization established in June 2002 with its head office in Rautahat District of Nepal. Since then, RDC is heavily engaged in humanitarian assistance, community development, conservation of natural resources, and environmental protection mainly in the Terai region of Nepal through the dozens of humanitarian and long term development projects reaching out to the children, adolescent, youth, women, landless, urban poor, and people living with disabilities, HIV & AIDS, conflict and disaster survivors from the poor families of historically marginalized Dalit, Muslims, Madheshi and Indigenous communities and other underprivileged groups.

Throughout its journey, it has been recognized by the Government of Nepal, Donor Communities, UN Agencies, many International Relief and Development Agencies for its achievements in transforming the society, for its good governance, inclusive operating structure, result oriented development interventions and humanitarian assistance, which RDC considers its greatest strength to take the lead in the sector across the country.

Our Vision

Create a society where every individual can enjoy the freedom of life with equal rights, dignity and prosperity without causing any harm to the human being and the environment.

Our Mission

Our mission is to address emerging development issues and supplement government in solving the problems of unreachable by serving their regular or emergency needs through humanitarian and development interventions including policy work.

Our Goal

Our Goal is to empower poor, historically marginalized communities and underprivileged societies, particularly in poverty stricken, disaster, and conflict hit areas to lift them out from the mercy of poverty and physical threats created from disaster and conflict through an integrated community development intervention and humanitarian assistance combined with capacity building, policy research, extension and development. It will be achieved through the mobilization of local resources, fostering partnerships and developing local capacity.

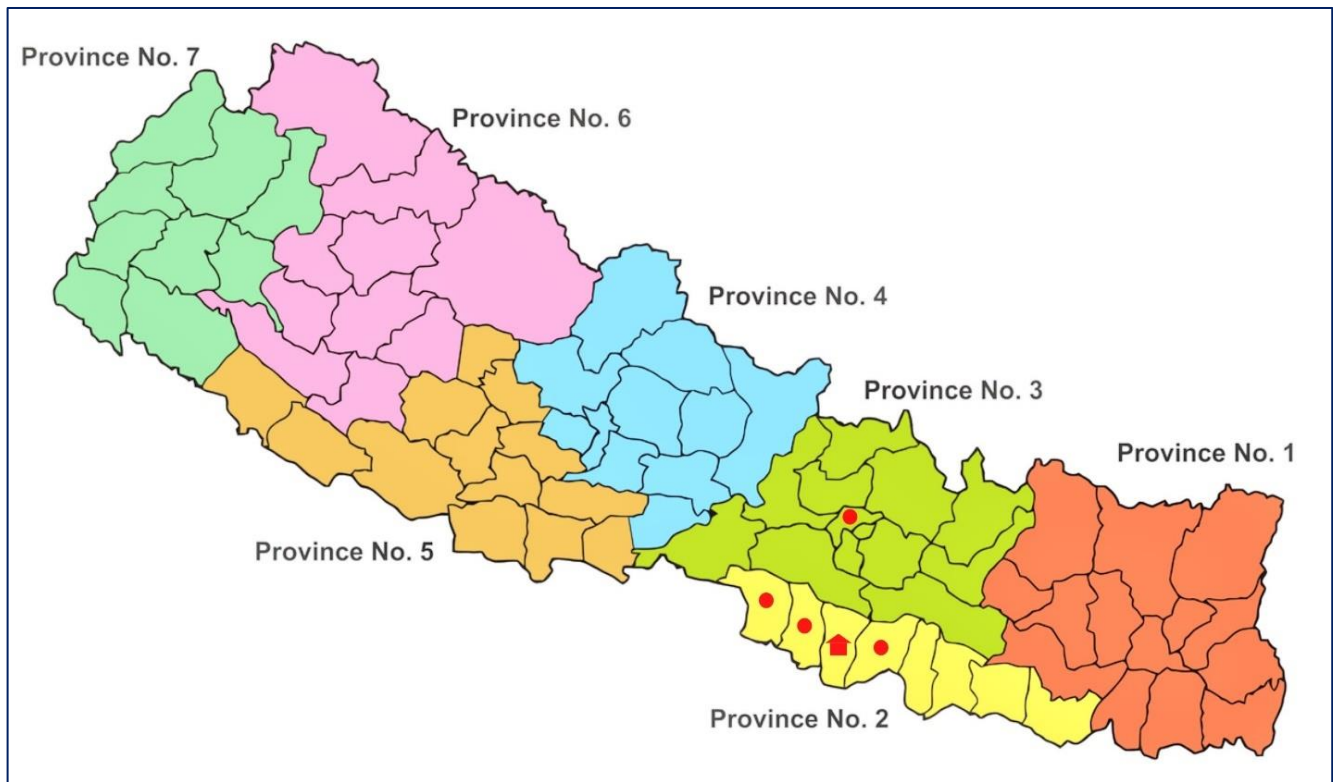
Thematic Areas



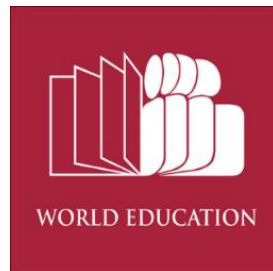
Our Objectives

- ☞ Poverty reduction through the implementation of integrated community development and environmentally customized interventions with a focus on sustainable development.
- ☞ Enable communities to manage the disaster and climate risks, prepare and respond such occurrence by providing relief and recovery.
- ☞ Support the marginalized, historically excluded, and vulnerable communities to voice their needs and address root causes of poverty.
- ☞ To promote community development through interventions in basic sectors such as health, education, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and Shelter.
- ☞ Promote child rights, gender equality, human rights through awareness, engagement of stakeholder and implementation of projects.
- ☞ Foster a partnership with the local government, private sectors, political, social and religious leaders, change agents/champions while transforming the policy that has an impact to poor, marginalized, excluded communities and the environment.

Our Working Locations



Funding Partners for the FY 2018/2019



PROJECTS

1. Safe Water for Poor Rural Community of Southern Terai

RDC Nepal has been implementing a project entitled "Safe Water for Poor Rural Community of Southern Terai (Safe Water Project)" in Rajpur Municipality, ward no. 2, Fatuha Maheshpur of Rautahat district in partnership with Oxfam Nepal since January 2018.

Objective:

- The objective of the project is to provide clean and safe drinking water to more than 7000 people of communities in Fatuha Maheshpur by replacing around 600 contaminated shallow tube wells.



Target Groups:

- The total population of Fatuha Maheshpur is the target group of the project.

Key Output:

- Water User Committee has formed, and they are engaging in the Water Supply Scheme construction, Household tap connection fees collection, advocacy of safe water use, municipal level coordination and communication and community mobilization activities.
- Tender process for construction finalized and construction works, including soil test, site clearance, guard house construction, deep boring and overhead tank construction work started.
- Advocacy and awareness activities is ongoing on homestead gardening, waste management, total sanitation, menstrual hygiene etc.

2. Creating Spaces to Take Action on Violence Against Women and Girls

"Creating Spaces-To Take Action on Violence Against Woman and Girls" is another project implemented by organization in two municipalities (Paroha and Ishnath) of Rautahat district with the support of Oxfam Nepal. Altogether 9 wards in both working municipalities, Paroha & Ishnath municipalities (former 5 VDCs namely- Auriya, Mathiya, Rampurkhat, Jathara & Narkatiya) are the least developed and highly prevalent of social issues like child marriage, GBV, dowry, illiteracy, low girls and women participation in the community development etc. The project has established 45 CDCs in 5 former VDCs, 1 in each in every ward. CDCs have collected 1170 Ultra poor, marginalized women to strengthen their capacities on Child rights, GBV, Child Marriage, SRH and so on .

Objectives:

- Strengthened engagement of Key Religious, Community, Private Sector, And Political Actors and Youth in Advancing women's rights & Reducing violence against women and Girls.
- Greater Access to Support services and economic opportunities for women and girls affected by violence and child, early & forced marriage.
- Increased use of innovative knowledge including best and emerging practice and accountability systems to end VAWG.

Target Groups:

- Women & Girls, Child Club (Schools, Madrasa), Local Level Stakeholders.



Key Output:

Increase knowledge, skills and capacity of influencers:

- Newly elected local Bodies commit and declare their support to project.
- Madrasa (the Islamic religious school) and Islamic teachers are involved & mobilize in field.
- 1 Hoarding Board installed in Rampurkhap village inside Paroha Municipality.
- 172 drop out adolescent girls are enrolled in school for further education.
- 16 Muslim girls are admitted in school after Madrasa education.
- 82 Birth registration and 18 citizenship deliver with the support of CDCs members.
- 45 numbers of *door to door signature campaign* was completed under 16 Days of activism against GBV. More than three thousand people signed with our campaign.

Improved positive attitudes and behavior modeled by influencers:

- 187 child marriages were stopped by the effort of CDCs & CCs members in the project areas,
- Adolescent girls from CDCs were involved in games like cricket, Badminton, Kabadi etc.
- 45 CDCs are successively operating in the project areas through due to which women and girls can write their name & signature.
- 100 school programs completed in different school and Madrasa against sorts of Violence and Child marriages.
- 40 Numbers of Forum theatre completed in Field. (8 in each VDCs)
- More than 100 advocacy campaign were conducted by CDCs and CCs. Due to which participants have been able to discuss on their own issue.

Strengthened skills and capacity of women and girls' leaders to advances their rights and contribution in prevention of VAWG and CEFM:

- 19 adolescent girls from CDCs were found enthusiastic towards education, municipality has supported bicycles as a motivation.
- 3 CDCs member have got opportunity in user group.
- 22 Women and girls had participated in different level meetings.

Increased economic skills and knowledge among women and girls who have experience violence

- 92 CDCs members have started livelihood activities through goat farming.
- 6 CDCs member started small Grocery shop.
- 38 CDCs member got loan from microfinance and cooperatives to start their business and 51 for livelihood.

3. Disaster Risk Reduction and Humanitarian Preparedness

In technical and financial support of Oxfam, organization has implemented Disaster Risk Reduction and Humanitarian Preparedness Project in Ishnath, Katahariya, Rajdevi, Rajpur and Paroha municipalities of Rautahat district to build the capacity of the targeted communities for disaster preparedness for better response, enhancing the adaptive capacity, resilience of the communities to Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).

Objective:

- Saving lives now and in future with enhanced resilience of vulnerable women & men and risk of coping with disaster.

Target Groups:

- Local level, Cooperatives, WEGs, WDMC, W-WASH-CCs, Municipalities, Schools, Female Community Health Volunteer (FCHVs), Child clubs and others potential Stakeholders.

Key Output:

- Community based disaster risk reduction strengthened and key stakeholder's capacity enhanced.
- Government endorsed favorable and improved policy on DRR considering gender and social inclusion.
- Contingency plan for emergency response
- Mobilized Women Economic Groups (WEG) to strengthened Cooperatives for improved service delivery.
- Target communities and institutions can protect lives and livelihood assets and establish preparedness mechanisms for effective emergency response and quick recovery from disasters.
- Enhanced humanitarian capacity of organization and related district and community stakeholders to prepare for and respond to emergencies.
- Total Beneficiaries of Project 5755 people were directly and indirectly benefitted by this project in this year



- Vulnerable community and district stakeholders effectively raise their voices for their rights in crisis and participate to implement existing policies and guidelines like LDRMP and DDRMP as well as advocate and lobby to endorse DM bill.

Lesson Learnt:

- Stockpiling has supported in the flood response and other emergencies; hence it is necessary to maintained regularly for quick response.
- Effective coordination and communication mechanism established at district and community level to support in the preparedness and response activities.

4. Equity and Inclusion in Education

Rural Development Centre Nepal has been implementing Equity and Inclusion in Education program, in coordination and collaboration with 4 Municipalities i.e. Rajpur, Baudhimai, Maulapur and Katahariya, supported financially and technically by UNICEF and World Education Inc since May 2019. The program has been implementing in 65 schools of 4 working municipalities of Rautahat district. The main motive of the program is to capacitate schools so that all working schools can provide quality early grade education (grades 1-3) especially for the most disadvantaged children including those with disabilities, and who do not speak Nepali language at home.

The program will contribute to UNICEF's Education Strategy goal: **"By 2022, all children, especially the most disadvantaged, benefit from improved access, participation and learning outcomes in pre-primary and basic education within inclusive, safe and protective environments."**

Objectives:

- Improve in quality of education, especially improve in learning of early grade students
- Minimize educational losses such as reduce in dropout rate, repetition of same class, etc.
- Establish student as a skilled and self-motivated learner through the enhancement of their inner skills

Target Groups:

- Prior focused groups are teachers and students;
- Secondary focused groups are parents, local level stakeholders, SMC/PTA and other stakeholders (Youths/Women groups)

Key Output:

- Conducted local level planning workshop with all working municipalities and prepared drafted action plan for quality and inclusive Early Grade Learning (EGL).



- Completed 2 events of school level planning workshop as well with head teachers from 65 working schools and developed draft action plan for EGL improvements so that they could incorporate EGL related activities in SIP/SSDP.
- 8 teachers from Rautahat district, especially subject teaching Math and Nepali were capacitated on EGL, Inclusive education, MGML, CAS and mother tongue based medium of instructions through MTOT.
- Altogether 105 teachers (M- 56 and F- 49) from 53 schools inside Katahariya, Maulapur and Baudhimai Municipalities were capacitated on EGL, Inclusive education, MGML, CAS and mother tongue based medium of instructions along with EGL materials through 5 Days Basic Teacher training.
- Early grade learning (EGL) materials were dispatched in 53 schools inside working municipalities for interactive and effective teaching learning in Early grades for learning improvements.
- Municipalities like Bauhdimai, Rajpur and Maulapur have segregated budget form major activities for learning improvements such as learning fair, classroom interaction and mobile meetings.

Lesson Learned:

- Coordination and regular follow up to stakeholders are necessary for effective and efficient program implementation and developed ownership on them
- Sensitization and planning workshop are essential in a quarterly basis to make responsible for local level stakeholders
- Proper planning and development of guidelines is very essential before conducting any events



5. Reducing Child Sex Trafficking and Worst Form of Child Labour in Marginalized Community of Rautahat

Rautahat district is one of the backward districts of Nepal with higher prevalence of child sex trafficking and worst form of child labour. This project aims to prevent and protect girls and boys at risk of trafficking through the provision of protection, education services and livelihood support to the families of children intercepted from anti-trafficking booth. The intervention also targets caregivers to increase the knowledge about importance of family care especially during/after disaster. For further prevention and response of child trafficking and worst form of child labor, program has emphasized on establishing of community monitoring and alert system engaging adolescent girls and boys along with youths (who are potentially more at risk of trafficking). Along with re/formation of WCPC and strengthen of their capacity.

Objective:

- To ensure the protection of children intercepted or at risk of trafficking and Worst Form of Child Labour (WFCL) through provision of protection, educational and self-reliant services.

Key Output:

- 10 ward level child protection committee (WCPC) formed at 10 different wards inside the working municipalities of Rautahat district
- 4/4 municipal level youth and women groups are formed at each targeted municipality.
- 18 bi-monthly meetings have been conducted with members of WCPC, youth groups and women groups.
- A research study on the reasons for child trafficking, gaps in response and recommendation has been completed.
- 10 Protection and Awareness Centres have been established and are in operation in working wards.
- Out of 130, 83 girls/boys who are at risk of child trafficking and worst form of child labour were supported under need-based support.
- R/Municipality Planning & Advisory Committee (RMPAC) meeting has been completed with positive and constructive feedbacks.
- Awareness raising activities were conducted on the occasion of 13th anti-human trafficking day, international children day, child labour and child trafficking.



6. Social Cohesion and Democratic Participation

In support of UNDP, Rural Development Centre Nepal has implemented Social Cohesion and Democratic Participation (SCDP) in Chandrapur and Garuda municipalities of Rautahat district from March 2019 to November 2019 in coordination with Youth Groups, Local Leaders, Marginalized Community, Religious Groups, Ethnic Groups, Local Bodies, Religion Guru, Maulana and other key stakeholders.

The current socio-political situation has polarized the community and have made them more reactive. In the previous years, many communal conflicts have been seen in Mathiya, Narkatiya, Bairiya, Gamhariya Birta. The major reasons behind these incidents were communal feeling and social discrimination. The district has past records on higher religious conflict between Muslim and Hindu which needed immediate attention for social cohesion. Hence, the project called Social Cohesion and Democratic Participation was introduced.

Objective:

- To promote social cohesion between Hindu and Muslim as well as other ethnic groups (Dalit and Non-Dalit).
- To create opportunities for youth to gain capacity for better future and contribute to local development activities.

Key Output:

- Municipal Level Project Advisory Committee was formed in Chandrapur Municipality and strengthened their capacities.
- Established and operated of Community Information and Service Facilitation Centre through youth mobilization at Chandrapur Municipality.
- Establishment of Youth Volunteers Centre (YVC) for promotion of volunteerism. Various activities including sanitation, youth mobilization, GBV campaigns were initiated and organized by these trained youths.
- Interfaith council, Inter-religion motivational conference, stakeholders' meetings like peace building activities were implemented for social cohesion. They involved in promotion of social harmony and inter-religious activities to disseminate the message of friendship and neighborhood.
- The project intervention created a common platform to bring all ethnic and religious groups together for collaboration and to understand each other's co-existence, feelings and needs.
- Mayor and deputy mayors were engaged in the district level events to include all sections of society in the service available at local government.
- Throughout the project, around 1950 directly got engaged in various events.



Lesson Learned:

- Meeting, discussion and planning on regular basis to volunteers helped us to achieve the targeted objectives on time.
- Youth Mobilization initiates marginalized people and youths to seek services from local government.

7. Sang Sangai- The Learning Together Project

In support of World Education Inc., Rural Development Centre Nepal has implemented “Sanga Sangai The Learning Together” program in all 18 R/Municipalities of Rautahat district from February 15, 2016 to January 2019. This project was specially designed for female education and empowerment along with promotion of local culture and history of the district. It has emphasized on Education, Health, Vocational Training and Livelihood, Art Skill, Madrassa Education, School, IT/Computer, Child Rights, Culture Empowerment.

Objective:

- Gain basic literacy and numeracy skills, valuable health knowledge and support out of school girls to re/enroll or mainstream in national education system, and to increase the impact of these intervention on girls' lives, mother will be engaged through inter-generational activities, non-formal education and arts.

Target group:

- Out of schoolgirls from Dalit, Muslim and disadvantaged caste and their mother.

Key Output: Out of schoolgirls were enrolled in schools nearby for formal education in coordination and collaboration with school, local level stakeholders and parents after the completion of non-formal education.

- Through 99 bridging classes, 3 month's non-formal educational package, total 2542 girls were benefited and 2014 were admitted in schools.
- 175 Girls Access to Education (GATE) class were operated (9 months' non-formal educational package) in which 4958 girls were benefited and among them 3743 were enrolled in schools.
- 85 Non-formal Education Classes for mothers were conducted (9 months' non-formal educational classes package) in which 2498 benefited. Among them selected mothers were enrolled in Mother Arts Workshop to preserve local culture through art and contribute in income generation.
- 32 Self-employment Education Program (SEEP) classes were operated (6 month's non-formal educational package) through which 486 girls who got married at early age were enrolled and benefited through entrepreneurship skills, health education and income generation.
- Girls who were admitted to schools were supported with school bag, uniform and stationary materials.



- 100 SMC/PTAs trainings were through which 2268 teachers, parents and other stakeholders were capacitated.
- 5 schools were supported with ICT accelerated Learning centre and 3 schools were supported with accelerated learning centre.

8. Water Supply to Marginalized Community

In support of Qatar Charity, organization has implemented Shallow Tube Well Installation for drinking water and sanitation program from October 2018 to May 2019 in Paroha, Ishnath, Rajdevi, Gaur and Yamunamai Palikas of Rautahat district with support of Qatar Charity, Nepal.

Objective:

- This project aimed to provide safe drinking water and proper sanitation facility to needy and marginalized people.

Target Group:

- Ultra-poor, marginalized and dalit families with poor access to water supply for drinking and household use.

Key Output:

- In coordination with local level government, all together 125 tube wells were installed in the Paroha, Ishnath, Rajdevi, Gaur and Yamunamai R/Municipalities of Rautahat.

Conclusion: Marginalized and socially excluded families have access to safe drinking water and improve health and prosperity by reducing water borne disease.

9. Entrepreneurship Development

In support of Qatar Charity, organization has implemented “Livelihood Support Project-Entrepreneurship Development in Kathmandu and Rautahat district” to established and strengthened poor, needy and marginalized people of Rautahat and Kathmandu empowering them through a range of supportive materials to uplift their living standard and these people are now effectively carrying out their lives easily in both district.



Objective:

- The main objective of the project was to enhance sustainable livelihood and income by developing entrepreneurs in Rautahat & Kathmandu district.

Key Output:

- Total 11 ultra-poor, economically marginalized families received business support in Kathmandu Valley.
- Total 20 beneficiaries received business support in Rautahat district including 10 four-wheel cart (Thela) based business and 10 grocery shop.



Conclusion: The project succeeded in establishing business for poor, needy and marginalized people to through support to enhance their livelihood and improve economic status. The project attained positive impact in the families and in community.

10. Seasonal Projects

a. Nutritional Food Support- Ramadan

In the support of Islamic Relief Nepal, Rural Development Centre Nepal successfully conducted "Nutrition Food Support - Ramadan 2019 Programme to provide food relief to the "Tornado" affected communities in Bara District and ultra-poor and vulnerable Muslim families of Rautahat district from April 17, 2019 to May 13, 2019. During the period, 2075 Food Pack (Ramadan Food) distributed in two Rural Municipality of Bara District (Feta RM ward no. 1 & 6, Parsauni RM ward no. 4) and in two Municipalities (Paroha, ward no. 4 & 7 and Brindawan, ward no. 6 & 8) of Rautahat District.

Objective:

- To support the tornado affected people of Bara and ultra-poor and vulnerable Muslim families in Rautahat.

Key Output:

- Altogether, 2075 families (total 15619 people) were benefited. The beneficiaries were ultra-poor, belongs to marginalized community and badly affected by tornado.



Lesson Learnt

- During the beneficiary assessment, consultation should be done with more local people and authority to ensure to reach the needy beneficiaries.
- The beneficiary coupon and distribution related information, including location, date, time, number of people need to carry goods and distribution items should share a day before.

b. Nutritional Food Support- Qurbani

In support of Islamic Relief Nepal, RDC Nepal has implemented nutrition food distribution program in Rautahat district from July - September 2019.

Objective:

- To provide nutritious food to needy and vulnerable ultra-poor, Dalit, Muslim families.

Key Output:

- Under the project, 4470 families (31757 persons) were benefited from the nutritious food (meat) support.

Conclusion: Organization has successfully implemented nutrition food support program for the ultra-poor, Muslim and disadvantaged people of Rautahat.

c. Winterization Support

Rural Development Centre distributed winterization kits to 512 poor and vulnerable households, including Dalit, Muslim and ultra-poor families of Chandrapur municipality-7 Banbahuari) and Gadhimai municipality-3 & 7 (Laxmipur and Dhanhari) with funding support of Islamic Relief Worldwide USA and supported by Islamic Relief Worldwide Nepal Jan to Feb 2019.

Objective:

- To provide winter kit to the poor and vulnerable communities to help them prepare for the harsh conditions during the winter.

Target Groups:

- Ultra-poor, Dalit & marginalized families.

Key Output:

- 512 ultra-poor and marginalized cold wave vulnerable families received warm clothes to save their family members. It has supported them bring positive changes in the life of poor and preserves health scenario. Among 512 HHs, 229 in Chandrapur municipality and 283 in Gadhimai municipality of Rautahat.



Major achievements

- Out of 9 major programs, 4 were completed successfully and remaining 5 were on going with standard results. And many seasonal projects were also completed such as Nutrition support, winterization, etc.

- Almost 2400 household were provided food support and around 1500 households were supported with shelter, WASH and sanitation kit during flood in coordination and collaboration with Care, Adra Nepal and Oxfam.
- All programs were implemented and in implementation coordinating and collaborating with three tyres of govt. (Central, Province and Local level) due to which ownership of program on them has been developed.
- RDC Nepal is an active member in sectorial platforms/network in districts as well as national level such as District Level Child Protection Committee, DDMC, etc.
- Organization has supported 5 r/municipalities in Rautahat to develop Equity Strategy Implementation Plan for equal access to quality and inclusive education and also supporting some r/municipalities in Parsa and Bara.
- Supported in peace building through the program social cohesion and democratic participation for harmony among different religions and casts.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

In Fiscal Year 2018-19, organization has received external fund NPR. 81,193,420.13 (in words, eighty-one million one hundred ninety-three thousand four hundred twenty and thirteen paisa), from which expended NPR 71929197.94 (in words, seventy-one million nine hundred twenty-nine thousand one hundred ninety-seven and ninety-four paisa).