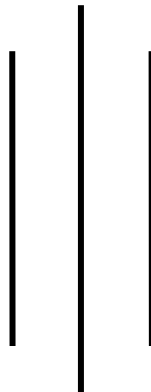


NARRATIVE PROJECT PROPOSAL

Strengthening Public Advocacy and Awareness for promoting the Human rights of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa by eliminating Forced Labors system in Nepal-(SAHAS)

Submitted to:



Submitted by:

Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal
Dhangadhisub-metropolitanCity –5, HasanpurDhangadhi, Kailali
Contact no- **+977-91520604** (Office) Email: rdnnepal@yahoo.com
(Liaison Office, BijuliBajar (Opposite side of Prabhu Bank, Kathmandu))



Submission Date: 23rd December, 2019

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Executive Summary.....	4
2. Context &Justification.....	4
2.1. Operational Context.....	4
2.2 Situation Analysis of Forced labours	5
2.3 Target Beneficiaries.....	5
2.4 Stakeholders Analysis.....	5
3.Rationale of the Project.....	6
4. Organizational Background & Experience.....	6
5. Project Description	7
5.1 Goal, Outcome and Activities.....	7
5.2 Project Implementation Strategies and Approaches.....	8
6. Implementation Calendar (Time-Line)	9
7. Assumption & Risks.....	9
7.1 Assumptions.....	9
7.2 Risks & Mitigation Measures.....	9
8. Project Management, Coordination and Communication.....	10
9. Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting.....	10
10. Budget & Justification.....	10

PROJECT SUMMARY & DESCRIPTION:

Project Title	Strengthening Public Advocacy and Awareness for promoting the Human rights of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa by eliminating Forced Labors system in Nepal-(SAHAS)
Duration of the project	1st January, 2020 to 31 August, 2020
Area	Advocacy and Awareness
Goal	Freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa living in just society in peace and dignity through elimination of forced labours system under the federal structure and inclusive development of the state.
Outcome	Improved knowledge, sharing and common understanding among relevant stakeholders on ratification of the ILO Protocol and Recommendation as well as socio-economic dimensions of forced labors
Activities	<p>1.1 Training to members of provincial assembly, trade union representatives, labour lawyers and other right activists on the concept of forced labour and identification of victims</p> <p>1.2 Development and Dissemination of Advocacy materials (booklets/posters)</p> <p>1.3 Advocacy workshop with members of provincial assembly, ministries, and local elected representatives on forced labours issues</p> <p>1.4 Forced labors conference focusing the rights of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa</p>
Target Beneficiaries	<p>Direct Beneficiaries: Members of provincial assembly, Forced labors organizations, local elected representatives, trade unions, civil society organizations and duty bearers</p> <p>Indirect Beneficiaries: Freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas and Kamlaris at Sudurpaschim province, province-5 and province-2 through policy influence</p>
Coverage Area	Freed Haliyas at Sudurpaschim province (Dhangadhi), Ex-Kamaiyas and Kamlaris at province-5(Nepalgunj) and Harawa-Charawa at province-2 (Janakpur) in Nepal
Total Budget	NPR 1,466,000 (USD 12,893.5796)
Total Requested Budget from ILO	NPR 1,364,000 (USD 11996.48197)
RDN's Contribution	NPR 102,000 (USD 897.0976253)
Funder	International Labour Organization (ILO)
Contact Person	<p>Mr. Ganesh B.K. National Chairperson Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal and Coordinator of Forced Labour Elimination Advocacy Group (FLeAG) Contact- +977-9851082733 (Cell) Email: ganeshbikal@gmail.com</p>

1. Executive Summary:

The proposed project “**Strengthening Public Advocacy and Awareness for promoting the Human rights of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa by eliminating Forced Labors system in Nepal-SAHAS**” has been designed with an aim to improve knowledge, sharing and understanding among relevant stakeholders on ratification of the ILO Protocol and Recommendation as well as socio-economic dimensions of forced labors.

The specific objective of the project will be achieved by organizing the advocacy events and awareness rising of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa as well as stakeholders (trade union representatives, labour lawyers and other right activists, elected representatives at local and provincial level and duty bearers etc).

At the inception, the training will be delivered to members of provincial assembly, trade union representatives, labour lawyers and other right activists on the concept of forced labour and identification of victims. Similarly, the advocacy workshop will be organized for local and provincial elected representatives to increase capacity of policy makers to fulfill their responsibilities and obligations on P29 and R203. Forced Labour Elimination Advocacy Group (FLeAG) will conduct the civic conference at provincial level targeting the socio-economic rights of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa. The awareness campaigns will be conducted to sensitize the workers and vulnerable communities for protesting against unfair recruitment and other practices that leads them towards forced labour.

The project will be implemented by Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal with the financial support of International Labour Organization (ILO) in close coordination with Forced Labour Elimination Advocacy Group (FLEAG) members at provincial level.

The total budget **NPR 1,466,000 (USD 12,893.5796)** has been purposed for the implementation of the project. Out of the total budget **NPR 1,364,000 (USD 11996.48197)** will be requested from International Labours Organization (ILO). Rest **NPR 102,000 (USD 897. 0976253)** will be contributed from Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal. The project will be implemented from 1st January, 2020 to 30 November, 2020. The project will adopt Human Rights Based and participatory approach in course of project planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

2. Context & Justification:

2.1 Operational Context:

The newly promulgated constitution of Nepal-2015 has significant provisions to uplift the socio-economic rights of forced labors. The federal governance structure was introduced for the first time in Nepal. There have been some good opportunities and scope with the establishment of local structures for the required collaboration and coordination with government agencies. Nepal has been a state party of more than 22 international human rights instruments. Besides these major conventions, Government of Nepal obliged with slavery convention 1926 (amended in 1953), ILO minimum age for employment convention number 138 (signed in 1990), and ILO worst form of child labor convention number 182 (ratified in 2004). The Comprehensive Peace Agreement 2006, Freed Haliya Rehabilitation Modality and Action Plan 2014, Civic Rights Act 2012, UPR Recommendations and action plan, Local Self-Governance Act 1999, Anti-bonded Labor Act (2058 B.S.), Universal Declaration on Human Rights (1948 A.D.) and

Anti-Slavery Convention 1926 (A.D.), Kamlahari Education Guideline are some of the most relevant initiatives by the government at the national level.

2.2 Situation Analysis of Forced Labors:

In Nepal, various forms of exploitative labour relationships have been prevailing in agricultural sectors in various names, such as *Kamaiyas*, *Kamlahari*, *Haruwas*, *Haliyas*, *Hali* etc, since long. Forced labour in Nepal has arisen out of unequal agrarian relations. Landless lower castes are often forced by their circumstances to borrow sums of money from rich land owners, to meet their various subsistence needs. Eventually, they end up pledging their physical labour as interest towards repayment of the loan. Often, generations of a family get trapped in this cycle of loan repayment – working as labourers without pay for the landlords. This vicious cycle does not allow them a life of dignity. The monetary value of their work is invariably greater than the original sum of money borrowed. Forced labourers are routinely threatened with and subjected to physical and sexual violence by the landowners. Their poverty does not make escape an option.

Freed Haliyas: The *Haliyath* that literally means "one who tills land," were enslaved within a system of bonded labor, and are forced by a landlord to execute various hard labor duties (usually agricultural sector) for many years, The research shows that 62% of Freed Haliyas are still deprived from their participation in any decisions affecting to them. 57% freed Haliyas are unaware about their rights and entitlements. 61.5% freed Haliyas don't have access to drinking water and sanitation. Likewise, 74.9% freed Haliyas have lack of access to health services due to remoteness and lack of information.

Ex-Kamaiyas and Kamhlaris: The *Kamaiya* system was also the agrarian bonded labour system in the Terai districts (Banke, Bardiya, Dang, Kailali and Kanchanpur) of mid- and far-western Nepal. 18,400 *Kamaiya* families were registered officially; their total population was 101,522 (CEACR 2006). Under the second-phase registration, 14,109 *Kamaiya* families were registered, bringing the total number of freed *Kamaiya* households up to around 32,000. These *Kamaiyas* were registered by classifying them into four categories based on land owned by households. Similarly, the female children working as domestic servants of the landlords are known as *Kamlaris*. *Kamlari* system has been formally abolished in 28 June 2013. Now this is a social evil and legal crime. Government has also prepared and started implementing *Kamlari* Education Guideline. Out of total 13,512 *Kamlaris*, 12,984 had already been rescued and rests 528 are on process.

Harawa-Charawa: The underlying causes of victimizing Harawa-Charawa families includes their landlessness i.e. lack of ownership of cultivable land, with combination in lack of education or vocational skills, increases their vulnerability to landowners' and/or money lenders' demands. The deepening process of poverty into vicious circle faced by Harwa-Charawa family means that when additional financial expenses arise the only option is to obtain a loan from the landlord. Once a loan is taken, the landlord/ money lenders expect the borrowers and their families to provide labour indefinitely to pay off the debt. On the other hand, combination of interest rates, as high as 60% to 72% per annum, and extremely low wages resulted in years of bonded labour and even to hereditary debt.

2.3 Target Beneficiaries: The project will directly target the members of provincial assembly, organizations of forced labors, local elected representatives, trade unions, civil society organizations and duty bearers. Similarly, total freed Haliyas at sudurpaschim province, ex-Kamaiyas and Kamlaris at province-5 and Harawa-Charawa at province-2 will be taken as indirect beneficiaries through policy influence.

2.4 Stakeholders Analysis: The relevant stakeholders have been intensively coordinated during the preparation of the project proposal. Name of the major stakeholders at local and provincial level are outlined as below:

Local Level: Freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris as well as Harawa-Charawa and their organizations, Municipalities, Rural Municipalities, Citizens groups, CSOs, private sectors, Media, Police office, Trade unions, Various user committees, Local elected body, DAO, DCC, District Court, Nepal Bar Association, political parties, ex-masters, media etc

Provincial Level: Members of Provincial Assembly, *Ministries, more specifically, Trade Unions, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Planning, Ministry of Land Management, Agriculture and Cooperatives Office of the Chief Minister and provincial level CSOs, High court, media etc

3. Rationale of the Project:

Government of Nepal officially ended *Haliya* slavery system in 2008, Kamaiya slavery system in 2000 and Kamlari system in 2013. However, the rehabilitation modality is still not clear, thus, freed *Haliya*, Ex-*Kamaiya* and *Kamlari*(Freed HaKK) have not yet fully realized the true sense of freedom. They are also compelled to work as forced labour due to their poor socio-economic status. Similarly, Harawa-Charawas (HCs) have not been emancipated yet.

The actions will emphasize on awareness rising on P29 and R203 and policy advocacy and research in combating forced labor and trafficking with an ultimate goal of creating a conducive environment to ratify the protocol. It will also focus to raise voices of key local stakeholders and provide inputs to government for developing comprehensive forced labour laws and policies at provincial level.

The advocacy intervention will also empower the target groups to systematically claim rights and increase their access to resources which will contribute for "**local ownership**" and "**sustainability.**" The action plans to advocate against discriminatory practices faced by forced labours to ensure "**broad-based participation**" of civil society, target groups and beneficiaries. Constructive engagement with the duty bearers as well as policy makers will also increase their "**responsiveness.**"

The proposed project entitled "**Strengthening Public Advocacy and Awareness for promoting the Human rights of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa by eliminating Forced Labors system in Nepal-SAHAS**" is relevant and fitting under contemporary changeable political and socio-economic context of Nation in such a way that the national and international plans and policies as well as human rights instruments are in the favorer of forced labours such as freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa.

4. Organizational Background and Experience:

Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal is the national level Dalit organization working in the field of Dalit rights, land rights, Haliya rights, Kamaiya rights and Human Rights through community mobilization, capacity building and advocacy campaigns since the time of its establishment. It is working all over the country in 77 Districts. It has one Dalit activist in each district and 45 district chapters formed and functional. RDN Nepal is registered as a non-governmental organization in District Administration Office, Kailali and affiliated in Social Welfare Council in 2004. It organizes the General Assembly each year and election in each three years through democratic practice. It has regular audit and social audit from the very beginning.

Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal has ample of experiences advocating on the issues of forced labors and modern slavery. It implemented the project namely **“Empowering ex-bonded labours (freed Haliyas) for Rights and Inclusion Project”** from June, 2010 to December, 2012. It has played significant role to facilitate on emancipation and rehabilitation of freed Haliyas and ex-Kamaiyas through social mobilization and issue based advocacy campaign. Similarly, it also coordinated with Action Aid International Nepal (AAIN) to **construct the permanent housing of ex-Kamaiyas** at Kailali district after the emancipation.

Now, RDN Nepal has been implementing the project entitled as **“Network Capacity Building of Harawa-Charawa and their organizations in Nepal-NCB Project”** with the financial support of the Freedom Fund (FF) since last 2018. Now, RDN is actively working as the **coordinator of Forced Labour Elimination Advocacy Group (FLeAG)** that includes more than 25 local NGOs, experts on forced labour and trade unions in Nepal. In addition, it has also been advocating on human trafficking all over the country with mobilizing its Dalit activists under Dalit rights campaign.

5. Project Description:

5.1 Goal, Outcome and Activities:

Goal: FreedHaliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa living in just society in peace and dignity through elimination of forced labours system under the federal structure and inclusive development of the state.

Outcome: Improved knowledge, sharing and common understanding among relevant stakeholders on ratification of the ILO Protocol and Recommendation as well as socio-economic dimensions of forced labors

Activities: In order to achieve the anticipated objective of the project, the following activities have been set out linking with the supporting area and priority of International Labour Organization (ILO). The activities are designed based upon the similar interventions, experience and expertise of RDN Nepal. The description of the project activities has been outlined below:

1.1 Training to members of provincial assembly, trade union representatives, labour lawyers and other right activists on the concept of forced labour and identification of victims: The project will organize **one event** of **2** days training at provincial level to members of provincial assembly, trade union representatives, labour lawyers and other right activists on the concept of forced labour and identification of victims. A total of **30** participants will be trained on the concept of forced labour and identification of victims. The training will be facilitated by subject-experts who will be selected based on their relevant skill, knowledge and experience. During the delivery of the trainings, Forced Labour Elimination Advocacy Group (FLeAG) members; RastriyaMukta Haliya Samaj Federation, KamaiyaPrathaUnmulan Samaj, Freed KamaiyaWomen Development Forum and National Harawa-Charawa Forum will be coordinated in course of selection of participants and overall training management.

1.2 Development and Dissemination of Advocacy materials (booklets/posters): In order to make effective advocacy campaign to deliver the knowledge on forced Labour Indicators related laws and instruments and HR protection mechanisms among target communities and concerned

stakeholders, the project will produce two types of IEC materials: (i) booklets(10,000) containing key provisions of forced labours indicators ii) Posters (10,000) that contains references for evidence based advocacy The advocacy materials will be produced in coordination and consultation with FLeAG members. The informed processes of advocacy material development ensure participation of monitoring body/agencies of the government and will engage them to dissemination process as well. The dissemination of simplified content enhances knowledge base at implementation level. The project also distribute and disseminate the education materials (Documentary Film, TV and Radio PAS on forced labour) produced by the ILO Bridge Project targeting to local level community leaders, right activists and general public.

1.3 Advocacy workshop with members of provincial assembly, ministries and local, elected representatives on forced labours issues: The project will organize **2** events of **1** day advocacy workshop for Members of provincial assembly, ministries and local elected representatives on forced labours issues. The workshop will increase capacity of policy makers to fulfill their responsibilities and obligations on P29 and R203 and policy advocacy and research in combating forced labor and trafficking with an ultimate goal of creating a conducive environment to ratify the protocol through local initiative. The workshops will be conducted at Province 5 targeting to freed Haliyas and Kamaiyas and in province-2 targeting to Harawa-Charawa communities. FLeAG members will be involved during the implementation of the activities in appropriate ways. There will be **30** participants in each workshop. At the end of the workshop, the action plan will be developed to advocate for the elimination of forced labours system in Nepal.

1.4 Forced labours conference focusing the rights of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamhlaris and Harawa-Charawa: On the occasion of international labours day, One event of **2** days conference will be conducted targeting the participation of victims of forced labor; freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, kamhlaris and Harawa-Charawa, domestic workers, child labours at provincial level. The conference will be a common platform of right holders, policy makers, duty bearers and other concerned stakeholders to create the wider level of solidarity on the rights of forced labours. Forced Labour Elimination Advocacy Group (FLeAG) will be organizer of the event and other civil society movement in Nepal will join their hands. There will be a total of **150** participants in the conference. The conference will promulgate the Dhangadhi declaration to eliminate forced labours in Nepal which will be used as advocacy tool for further follow-ups.

5.2 Project Implementation Strategies and Approaches: The project will adopt the following implementation methodologies:

- **Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA):** Project will adopt human rights based approach to development that empowers and strengthens forced labours (freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamhlaris and Harawa-Charawa) to systematically claim their rights and entitlements.
- **Streamlining Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Approach:** Maximum participation of forced labours' women and other marginalized groups will be ensured during the implementation of project activities. The project will initiate some innovative steps for social acceptance during project implementation as a key strategy.
- **Accountability and transparency:** RDN Nepal beliefs on both upwards and downwards accountability for the success of each project and interventions. Thus, both upwards and downwards accountability will be practiced and ensured during the entire project period.

- **Alliance, Networking and Collaboration:** Alliance, networking and collaboration are the key factors for bringing synergetic effect/impact of any project or interventions. RDN Nepal will work closely with local and provincial government bodies and people based organizations of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamhlaris and Harawa-Charawa.

6. Implementation Calendar (Time-Line):

SN	Activity	Unit	Target	Time-Line (Jan-Aug, 2020)			Responsible	
				Q-1	Q-2	Q-3	Lead	Support
1.1	Training to members of provincial assembly, trade union representatives, labour lawyers and other right activists on the concept of forced labour and identification of victims	Event	1				RDN	FLeAG
1.2	Development and Dissemination of Advocacy materials (booklets/posters)	Times	1				RDN	FLeAG
1.3	Advocacy workshop with members of provincial assembly, ministries, and local elected representatives on forced labours issues	Event	2				RDN	FLeAG
1.3	Forced labors conference focusing the rights of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamhlaris and Harawa-Charawa	Event	1				RDN	FLeAG

7. Assumption & Risks

7.1 Assumption:

The following are assumptions identified for positive conditions:

- Local Government Operation Act, 2017 is implemented effectively and participation in local institutions is convenient.
- Government and other actors continue strongly supporting inclusion and having progressive and human rights friendly new Constitution.
- Freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamhlaris and Harawa-Charawa and other stakeholders will actively participate in the project activities and lead advocacy efforts.

7.2 Risks and Mitigation Measures:

It is anticipated that project activities will be smoothly and effectively implemented within stipulated timeframe. There are some risks that may disturb and create barriers as mentioned below

- **Natural calamities, famine and epidemic would disturb the normal life of communities:** The project work plan will be prepared considering the natural calamities and risk. The target groups will also be capacitated to cope with adverse effects of such risks.
- **Delay in implementing the provision of newly promulgated constitution of Nepal:** The target groups will be aware on the provisions of new constitution. They will continuously lobby and advocate for effective implementation of constitution.

- **Political disturbances:** The Risk Management Office in the region will be coordinated for minimizing such risks. Empowering and ownership of the project by target communities can reduce such risks.

8. Project Management, Coordination and Communication

Overall programmatic and financial arrangement of “**Strengthening Public Advocacy and Awareness for promoting the Human rights of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa by eliminating Forced Labors system in Nepal-SAHAS**” will be managed by RDN Nepal in close coordination with Forced Labours elimination Advocacy Group (FLeAG) members.

For the effective management of overall program, RDN Nepal Project Management Team (PMT) will review and guide project team. RDN Nepal will have a team of professionals for overall implementation of project comprising of Project Coordinator (Part Time-30%), Finance Officer (Part Time-30%) Other team members Team Leader and Dalit activists will voluntarily contribute the project.

Mr. Ganesh BK, national chairperson of Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal will provide his strategic guidance and assistance voluntarily for result based management and timely execution to achieve the anticipated results of project intervention. He will also coordinate communicate and collaborate with relevant stakeholders at various level. He will guide and provide his support for the effective mobilization of FLeAG members.

9. Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal will follow the results-based planning, monitoring and evaluation system. In addition, review and reflection workshop will be organized on quarterly basis to reflect progress made and learning/challenges.

RDN Nepal uses the information gathered from monitoring using it as evidence of changes in the lives of target beneficiaries. The information collected under the project will be systematically documented, published and shared with funding agencies, local government bodies including other relevant stakeholders and various forums. The information will also be used as knowledge management and up scaling and replication in other development projects. The success stories/human interest stories will be produced which will be disseminated among the freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa and their organizations to encourage them for their network capacity development.

RDN Nepal will follow the reporting template guided by the International Labour Organization (ILO). In addition, RDN Nepal will provide periodic update of project progress on an ad hoc basis as and when required.

10. Budget and Justification:

The total budget **NPR 1,466,000 (USD 12,893.5796)** has been purposed for the implementation of the project. Out of the total budget **NPR 1,364,000 (USD 11996.48197)** will be requested from International Labours Organization (ILO). Rest **NPR 102,000 (USD 897. 0976253)** will be contributed from Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal.

Note: ***The details of budget breakdown has been referred in Annex-I (Financial Proposal with Detail Budget Breakdown)***