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राष्ट्रिय दलित नेटवर्क
Rastriya Dalit Network

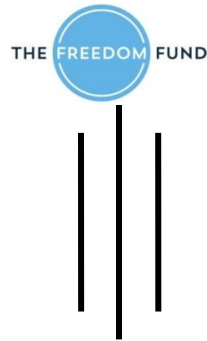


PROCEEDING REPORT

Pre-consultation meeting for joint strategy



Report Submitted To:
The Freedom Fund (FF)



Report Prepared By:

Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal

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1. Background and context:

Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal has been implementing the project entitled as "Ending Agriculture Bonded Labours in Nepal" with the financial support of the Freedom Fund (FF) for the period from 1 April, 2021 to 31 December, 2021. The project aims to emancipate and just rehabilitate the agriculture bonded labours; Harawa-Charawa, Haliyas and Kamaiyas. The project has envisioned 2 specific objectives as:

- i) *The Harawa-Charawa networks formed, strengthened, and mobilized to contribute the united movement of the agriculture bonded labour*
- ii) *FLEAG platform mobilized to advocate for changes and implementation of legislative, policies and programs of provincial and federal government in favor of agricultural bonded labours*

The project is being directly implemented 8 south east terai districts, namely: **Saptari, Siraha, Dhanusha, Mahottari, Sarlahi, Rauthat, Bara and Parsa) of province 2 in Nepal**, which are below the national average in terms of per capita income, educational attainment and human development index. In addition, the project will coordinate and collaborate with local implementing partners SCDC and JDC at Saptari, DJKYC at Siraha, CIC at Dhanusha, KMJS at Bardiya, EDC at Doti and PeaceWin at Bajura also FLeAG to conduct policy advocacy at local, provincial and federal level in regards to rights, emancipation and rehabilitation of **Haliyas, Harawa-Charawa and Kamaiyas-HCHaK** communities.

2. Objective:

- To identify the advocacy priorities and analysis, key issues to be systematically documented and prepared as report to be presented in the FF's workshop

3. Date and Venue for the consultation meetings:

SN	Date	Venue	Issues	Collaboration	No of participants
1	14th January, 2022	Dhangadhi (Province-7)	Haliya	PeaceWin Bajura, EDC Doti and Rastriya Mukta Haliya Samaj Federation Nepal	25
2	18th January, 2022	Butwal (Province-5)	Kamaiya	Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj (KMJS) Bardiya and Freed Kamaiya Society	19

7. Process of Pre-Consultation Meetings:

Coordination with the FF, AAIN and their partners and Agriculture Bonded Labours networks

- Selection of participants
- Invitation to participants through the FF/AAIN partners
- Invitation to the FF/AAIN
- Select the venue for pre-consultation meetings (separate meetings)
- Facilitate the pre-consultation meetings as per schedule
- Note-down the issues raised in the meetings
- Prepare the brief report and submit it to the Freedom Fund

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8. Methodology of meetings:

The province 5 and 7 consultations are a base for the joint strategy formulation towards ending the agricultural bonded labour in Nepal. The AAIN had recently conducted district level consultations focusing the Kamaiya and Haliya issues. They had conducted consultation in Bajura and Doti on the freed Haliya issue and conducted consultation in Kailalai, Kanchanpur, Banke, Bardiya and Dang on the issue of Kamaiya. They compiled the findings of the consultations. The findings were presented on the province level consultations. The participants discussed on the presentations dividing into two groups and identify local and provincial small changes. They prioritized 5/5 provincial and local small changes as a conclusion.

9. Details of pre-consultation Meetings:

As the Freedom Fund has planned to lead the joint strategy/ plan, RDN facilitated to organize 2 pre consultation events one day separately with Haliya and Kamaiya networks at province-7 and 5 respectively. The meeting also known as pre consultation meeting for joint strategy planning identified and prioritized the advocacy priorities and analysis, key issues to be systematically documented and prepared as report to be presented in the FF's workshop. Both meetings were facilitated by Mr. Bala Ram Bhattarai and Mr. Hukum Bdr. Sarki. At the beginning of the events, the participants were introduced with each other.

In the case of meeting at province-5, the inauguration ceremony was held. The meeting was inaugurated by Constituent Assembly member and chief guest of the program Binod Pahadi. During the inauguration, Pahadi said that a joint movement is necessary for the overall emancipation of the exploited people in Nepal. Pahadi said that a joint movement and organizational collective effort is indispensable to raise the voice of the voiceless. Giving the example that the government of Nepal bowed down to the agitators due to the 48-day Badi andolan in Kathmandu in 2064 BS, he said that there was no alternative to fight jointly. Ganesh Bishwakarma, Central Chairman of the RDN, stressed that the real liberation of Haruwacharuwa, freed Haliya and Kamaiyas, who are still a remnant of the Dash system, could not be realized as they could not realize their human rights and freedoms. For that, the beginning of a new era should be in a new way and environment, BK pointed out. Balaram Bhattarai, a consultant and legal adviser at The Freedom Fund, said there is a need for a common and solidarity campaign as there would be no abolition of forced labor as long as unfair labor relations remained in the society. He stressed on the need for the Government of Nepal to formulate necessary laws for the modern slavery system at all three levels and develop its effective implementation and monitoring mechanism. Central Vice President of GEFONT Kamal Gautam, Sujat Shramnera of Action Aid International Nepal, Central Secretary of Dayalo Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj Sangita Tharu, Chairperson of Mukta Kamaiya and Sukumbasi Sangam Samaj Bhakta Bishwakarma and President of Nepal Tara Thapa spoke on the occasion.

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10. Identification of expected 5 small changes at local and provincial level on Haliya and Kamaiya Issues

A. Identification of expected 5 small changes at local level (Haliya issues)

SN	Expected Small Changes	Enabling Environment	Other Organizations working on the issues	Is it possible to bring the expected changes?	Is it necessary to advocate with government?	Is it necessary to coordinate with stakeholders to conduct advocacy? If yes, who will be?
1	Identification (Data-Collection of missed Haliya including verification and ID card distribution)	It is claimed that still 30% freed Haliyas are missed. Local government has not any concerns on this issue.	RHMSF-N, RDN, NNDSWO, PeaceWin, HRC, Missed freed Haliya Committee etc	Yes	Yes	Local Governmen
2	Local Government needs to conduct program for livelihood development of freed Haliyas (Need Based Program)	Only few programs have implemented but these are not effective. It is not practice of collection demands. The target groups are not identified and verified.		Yes	It seems to advocate from ward to rural/urban municipality	Local government, Office of home and Cottage, private sectors
3	Provide free health insurance and technical education (local government),	Tiny little initiative but not effective implementation and it is not sufficient		Yes	Yes]{	Local Government mechanism
4	There is Dalit Empowerment act at provincial level not effectively implemented	It is not effectively implemented		Yes	Yes	Provincial and local level
5	Freed Haliya friendly policy and program preparation and implementation	Freed Haliya friendly policy and program Inadequate Agriculture Bonded Labors friendly policy and program		Yes	Yes	From ward to rural/urban municipality
6	It is difficult to Haliyas for constructing their housing who are categorized in C. Therefore it needs to be appropriate classification/categorization	Policy makers and government officials do not willing power		Yes	Yes	Local, provincial and federal government
7	Establish and implementation fair and	Not implemented		Yes	Yes	Local government, private

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	equal wages					sectors and traders
8	Capacity Development Program of Freed Haliya-Needs to conduct trainings	Most of the program not related to Haliyas but generally linked up		Yes	Yes	Local government, private sectors and traders
9	Emphasize Haliyas in the prioritization of land commission (land distribution process)			Yes	Yes	Local and federal government
10	Grant support in production, promote leasehold farming, make easy access for making	The programs are not implemented regarding production		Yes	Yes	Agriculture, Industries. Vet nary and local government
11	Timely information sharing/dissemination for targeted program	Information delivery system is not effective as only accessible people get information		Yes	Yes	Local government
12	Cooperative management	Not any initiative		Yes	Yes	Office of the cooperative division, NGOs etc
13	Conduct Public Hearing regarding investment on Haliya sector	Not		Yes	Yes	Local government and NGOs
14	Conduct campaign against caste based discrimination			Yes	Yes	
15	Advocate on Haliya task force to be formulate at local level			Yes	Yes	
17	Adopt one-door system to implement integrated program to uplift the socio-economic status of Haliyas			Yes	Yes	

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B. Identification of expected 5 small changes at provincial level (Haliya issues)

SN	Expected Small Changes	Enabling Environment	Other Organizations working on the issues	Is it possible to bring the expected changes?	Is it necessary to advocate with government?	Is it necessary to coordinate with stakeholders to conduct advocacy? If yes, who will be?
1	Provincial government needs to formulate Halia Act	Ministry of social development is ready to discuss with ministry of council	Haliya Federation, RDN, PeaceWin EDC, NNDSWO, Haliya Campaign and Human Rights Activist	It is possible	It is necessary	Provincial Government, Leaders of political parties and their sister organizations, Media and Rights Activist
2	Decision of provincial government to collect the data of missed freed Haliyas including distribution of ID cards and rehabilitation and also send the authority to local government	Provincial government has allocated the budget in fiscal year 2078/79 and it needs to inform local government to implement the budget	Haliya Federation, RDN, PeaceWin EDC, NNDSWO, Haliya Campaign and Human Rights Activist	It is possible	It is necessary	Provincial Government, Leaders of political parties and their sister organizations, Media and Rights Activist
3	Allocation and implementation of budget targeting Haliya for their livelihood options (skill development and vocational trainings)	It is easy to take the budget in policy and program of local government	Haliya Federation, RDN, PeaceWin EDC, NNDSWO, Haliya Campaign and Human Rights Activist	It is possible	It is necessary	Provincial Government, Leaders of political parties and their sister organizations, Media and Rights Activist
4	Formation of provincial rehabilitation committee immediately to start the work	Formed at federal level but not at provincial level	Provincial Government (Ministry of social development and internal affairs and law), Haliya Federation, RDN, PeaceWin EDC, NNDSWO, Haliya Campaign and Human Rights Activist	It is possible	It is necessary	Provincial Government, Leaders of political parties and their sister organizations, Media and Rights Activist
5	Conduct empowerment campaign at all 88 local level	There is government	Provincial Government (Ministry of social development), Haliya	It is possible	It is necessary	Provincial Government,

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	(government) at provincial level. Capacity Development and Empowerment (campaign against caste based discrimination and untouchability, Chhaupadi system, fair and equal wage, Haliya liberation and equal participation	mechanism at all 88 levels and enabling environment to work in close coordination with various civil society organizations	Federation, RDN, PeaceWin EDC, NNDSWO, Haliya Campaign and Human Rights Activist			Leaders of political parties and their sister organizations, Media and Rights Activist
6	Creating employment opportunities through industries at potential area by modernizing the traditional skill and marketing targeting Haliyas and Dalits	Provincial government is planning to endorse Haliya Act soon.	Provincial Government (Ministry of social development), Haliya Federation, RDN, PeaceWin EDC, NNDSWO, Haliya Campaign and Human Rights Activist	It is possible	It is necessary	Provincial Government, Leaders of political parties and their sister organizations, Media and Rights Activist
7	Free health insurance to freed Haliyas and provide opportunities to Haliya families for technical education (Doctor, engineer, Nursing and lawyer)	There is legal provision	Provincial Government (Ministry of social development), Haliya Federation, RDN, PeaceWin EDC, NNDSWO, Haliya Campaign and Human Rights Activist	It is possible	It is necessary	Provincial Government, Leaders of political parties and their sister organizations, Media and Rights Activist
8	Technical education (Doctor, engineer, Nursing and lawyer) to Haliya family	Constitutional provision for social inclusion	Provincial Government (Ministry of social development), Haliya Federation, RDN, PeaceWin EDC, NNDSWO, Haliya Campaign and Human Rights Activist	It is possible	It is necessary	Provincial Government, Leaders of political parties and their sister organizations, Media and Rights Activist

C. Identification of expected 5 small changes at local level (Kamaiya issues):

SN	Expected Small Changes	Enabling	Other Organizations	Is it possible to bring	Is it necessary to	Is it necessary to coordinate with
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		<i>Environment</i>	<i>working on the issues</i>	<i>the expected changes?</i>	<i>advocate with government?</i>	<i>stakeholders to conduct advocacy? If yes, who will be?</i>
1	Data collection and Identification of missed Kamaiya	Local government has rights to data collection and identification	SWAN, Action Aid, The Freedom Fund, RDN, Trade Unions	Yes	Yes	Land Rights Forum, Freed Kamaiya Society, Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj, Political parties their sister organizations, Trade Unions
1	Identification and verification of missed Kamaiya	Yes	SWAN, Action Aid, The Freedom Fund, RDN, Trade Unions	Yes	Yes	Land Rights Forum, Freed Kamaiya Society, Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj, Political parties their sister organizations, Trade Unions
3	Development facilities to Kamaiya settlement and safe housing	Yes	SWAN, Action Aid, The Freedom Fund, RDN, Trade Unions	Yes	Yes	Land Rights Forum, Freed Kamaiya Society, Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj, Political parties their sister organizations, Trade Unions
4	Loan without interest for creating employment opportunities	Yes	SWAN, Action Aid, The Freedom Fund, RDN, Trade Unions	Yes	Yes	Land Rights Forum, Freed Kamaiya Society, Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj, Political parties their sister organizations, Trade Unions
5	Provide the public fertile land for agriculture purpose	Yes	SWAN, Action Aid, The Freedom Fund, RDN, Trade Unions	Yes	Yes	Land Rights Forum, Freed Kamaiya Society, Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj, Political parties their sister organizations, Trade Unions
6	Need identification of Kamaiyas while receiving agriculture facilities	Yes	SWAN, Action Aid, The Freedom Fund, RDN, Trade Unions	Yes	Yes	Land Rights Forum, Freed Kamaiya Society, Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj, Political parties their sister organizations, Trade Unions
7	Legal provision to establish fair and equal wages	Yes	SWAN, Action Aid, The Freedom Fund, RDN, Trade Unions	Yes	Yes	Land Rights Forum, Freed Kamaiya Society, Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj, Political parties their sister organizations, Trade Unions
8	Ensure the equal participation of Kamaiya in decision making forums during policy and program design	Yes	SWAN, Action Aid, The Freedom Fund, RDN, Trade Unions	Yes	Yes	Land Rights Forum, Freed Kamaiya Society, Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj, Political parties their sister organizations, Trade Unions
9	Needs to formulate the inclusion policy for missed Kamaiya	Yes	SWAN, Action Aid, The Freedom Fund, RDN, Trade Unions	Yes	Yes	Land Rights Forum, Freed Kamaiya Society, Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj, Political parties

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						their sister organizations, Trade Unions
10	Ensure equitable participation of Kamaiya while conducting skill development trainings	Yes	SWAN, Action Aid, The Freedom Fund, RDN, Trade Unions	Yes	Yes	Land Rights Forum, Freed Kamaiya Society, Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj, Political parties their sister organizations, Trade Unions
11	Free technical education as well as higher education to Kamaiya children	Yes	SWAN, Action Aid, The Freedom Fund, RDN, Trade Unions	Yes	Yes	Land Rights Forum, Freed Kamaiya Society, Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj, Political parties their sister organizations, Trade Unions
12	Establish child care centers for Kamaiya families	Yes	SWAN, Action Aid, The Freedom Fund, RDN, Trade Unions	Yes	Yes	Land Rights Forum, Freed Kamaiya Society, Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj, Political parties their sister organizations, Trade Unions

D. Identification of expected 5 small changes at provincial level (Kamaiya issues):

SN	Expected Small Changes	Enabling Environment	Other Organizations working on the issues	Is it possible to bring the expected changes?	Is it necessary to advocate with government?	Is it necessary to coordinate with stakeholders to conduct advocacy? If yes, who will be?

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1	Identification, verification and rehabilitation of all missed Kamaiya, Kamhlaris, Bukrahi, Chhekrawa and Gayawa and provide rice/grain cards based on the identity card of Kamaiya	<p>The current stats of Kamaiya is follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Kamaiyas do not have ID cards All freed Kamaiya are living in Kamaiya camp Freed Kamiya are deprived from rehabilitation package Government provisions are not fully implemented 	Government line agencies, national and international organizations	Yes	Yes	Ministry of land, labour, forestry, finance, Different national and international organizations
2	Ensure the representation of Kamaiya women in decision making forums same as like Dalit women	Due to high competition, Kamaiya women cannot have reached in decision making process	Government line agencies, national and international organizations, political parties	Yes	Yes	Office of the chief minister, ministry of law, political parties, Member of parliament, related national and international organizations
3	Ensure the reservation (free) for Kamaiya children (10% in each seat) in higher level technical education	Policy makers do not have willing power to create the reservation for Kamaiya	Government line agencies, national and international organizations, political parties	Yes	Yes	Ministry of land, fiancé and education, related national and international organizations
4	Ensure the reservation (10% according to number of sear) for Kamaiya in job sectors announced vacancy by government office and national and international development organizations, Ensure the	There is provision for reservation for Kamaiya and they are deprived from government resources and resources as well as they do not have access in banking and micro finance institutions (MFIs)	Government line agencies, national and international organizations	Yes	Yes	Concerned ministries, national and international organizations, private sectors

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	reservation (10% according to number of sear) for Kamaiya technical and vocational trainings Provide 20 Lakh as loan without interest for industries and entrepreneurship development					
5	Prioritize homeless Kamaiyas in people housing program of government	Freed Kamaiyas are deprived from people housing program of government	Concerned government line agencies	Yes	Yes	Different government and non-government development agencies
6	Provide social security allowance to freed/missed Kamaiya in the age of 60	Now they are getting social security allowance in the age of 70	Concerned government line agencies	Yes	Yes	Different government and non-government development agencies

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11. Prioritization of expected 5 small changes at local and provincial level on Haliya and Kamaiya Issues

Issues	Local Level	Provincial Level
Haliyas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification (Data-Collection of missed Haliya including verification and ID card distribution) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial government needs to formulate Halia Act
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Government needs to conduct program for livelihood development of freed Haliyas (Need Based Program) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision of provincial government to collect the data of missed freed Haliyas including distribution of ID cards and rehabilitation and also send the authority to local government
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freed Haliya friendly policy and program preparation and implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct empowerment campaign at all 88 local level (government) at provincial level. Capacity Development and Empowerment (campaign against caste based discrimination and untouchability, Chhaupadi system, fair and equal wage, Haliya liberation and equal participation)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timely information sharing/dissemination for targeted program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating employment opportunities through industries at potential area by modernizing the traditional skill and marketing targeting Haliyas and Dalit
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct Public Hearing regarding investment on Haliya sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free health insurance to freed Haliyas and provide opportunities to Haliya families for technical education (Doctor, engineer, Nursing and lawyer)
Kamaiya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection and Identification of missed Kamaiya 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the representation of Kamaiya women in decision making forums same as like Dalit women
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loan without interest for creating employment opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the reservation (free) for Kamaiya children (10% in each seat) in higher level technical education
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide the public fertile land for agriculture purpose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the reservation (10% according to number of sear) for Kamaiya in job sectors announced vacancy by government office and national and international development organizations, Ensure the reservation (10% according to number of sear) for Kamaiya technical and vocational trainings and Provide 20 Lakh as loan without interest for industries and entrepreneurship development
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the equal participation of Kanaiya in decision making forums during policy and program design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritize homeless Kamaiyas in people housing program of government
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free technical education as well as higher education to Kamaiya children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide social security allowance to freed/missed Kamaiya in the age of 60

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**Annex: I (Schedule of the Program):
Province: 7**

Time	Activity	Methodology	Responsibility
8:30 AM-9:00 AM	Registration		RDN
9:00 AM-10:00 AM	Breakfast		
10:00 AM-1:0 AM	Introduction and Objective Sharing	The participants of pre-consultation meeting will be introduced each other by articulating their names, organization and their position. Similarly, RDN will share the key objectives and process of the meeting	Hukum
1:0 AM-12:00	Sharing the issues/conclusion of district consultation meeting by implementing partners:	The implementing partners of the FF/AAIN will share the conclusion of the district consultation meetings as AAIN has already facilitated to organized district consultation meetings at Bajura and Doti.	Bajura: PeaceWin Doti: EDC Doti
12:00-1:00 PM	Lunch		
1:00 AM-2:30 PM	Identification of the key small changes at local-provincial level on the issues of Haliyas	Group-Work Presentation *The participants will be divided into 2 groups. One group for local level and next group for provincial level. The Group-1 will thoroughly discuss on issues of agriculture bonded labours and identify the key small changes at local level. Similarly, Group-2 will thoroughly discuss on issues of agriculture bonded labours and identify the key small changes at provincial level	All

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2:30 PM-2:45 PM	Tea/Snack		
2:45 PM-4:00	Prioritization of the key 5 small changes at local and provincial level on the issues of Haliyas	Group-Work Presentation *The participants will be divided into 2 groups. One group for local level and next group for provincial level. The Group-1 will prioritize key 5 small changes at local level, Similarly, Group-2 will prioritize the key small changes at provincial level.	All (The conclusion of the pre-consultation meetings will be systematically documented to be presented in national level strategy development workshop.
4:00 PM-5:00 PM	Closing		

Annex: I (Schedule of the Program): Province 5

Time	Activity	Methodology	Responsibility
8:30 AM-9:00 AM	Registration		RDN
9:00 AM-10:00 AM	Breakfast		
10:00 AM-10:30 AM	Introduction and Objective Sharing	The participants of pre-consultation meeting will be introduced each other by articulating their names, organization and their position. Similarly, RDN will share the key objectives and process of the meeting	Hukum
10:30 AM-12:00	Sharing the issues/conclusion of district consultation meeting	The implementing partners of the FF/AAIN will share the conclusion of the district consultation meetings as AAIN has already facilitated to organized district consultation meetings	Mukta Kamaiya Samaj and KMJS: Kanchanpur, Kailali,

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	by implementing partners:	at Kanchanpur, Kailali, Bardiya, Bankey and Dang.	Bardiya, Bankey and Dang
12:00-1:00 PM	Lunch		
1:00 AM-2:30 PM	Identification of the key small changes at local-provincial level on the issues of Kamaiyas	Group-Work Presentation *The participants will be divided into 2 groups. One group for local level and next group for provincial level. The Group-1 will thoroughly discuss on issues of agriculture bonded labours and identify the key small changes at local level. Similarly, Group-2 will thoroughly discuss on issues of agriculture bonded labours and identify the key small changes at provincial level	All
2:30 PM-2:45 PM	Tea/Snack		
2:45 PM-4:00	Prioritization of the key 5 small changes at local and provincial level on the issues of Kamaiyas	Group-Work Presentation *The participants will be divided into 2 groups. One group for local level and next group for provincial level. The Group-1 will prioritize key 5 small changes at local level, Similarly, Group-2 will prioritize the key small changes at provincial level.	All (The conclusion of the pre-consultation meetings will be systematically documented to be presented in national level strategy development workshop.