

FINAL PROJECT REPORT (FPR)

(1 June, 2019 to 30 September, 2020)



Title of the Project:
Network Capacity Building of Harawa-Charawa and their organizations in Nepal-NCB Project

Submitted to:



Submitted by:

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Progress Report Narrative – TA Providers

ORGANIZATION NAME:	Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal
PROJECT:	Network Capacity Building of Harawa-Charawa and Organizations in Nepal-NCB Project
REPORTING PERIOD:	1 June, 2019 to 30 September, 2020
COMPLETED BY:	Mr. Hukum Bahadur Sarki Team Leader Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal Contact: +977-9848671361 (Cell) Email: hukumsarki@yahoo.com

Please address each of the questions below regarding your Freedom Fund project, by filling in the corresponding white box. Please feel free to expand the boxes below and use as much space as needed. Please answer each question for the CURRENT 6-MONTH REPORTING PERIOD.

1. PROGRESS TO-DATE ON ACTIVITIES AND DELIVERABLES:

Please discuss the activities undertaken to achieve your deliverables in this reporting period.

The Final Project Report-FPR of "Network Capacity Building of Harawa-Charawa and their organizations in Nepal-NCB Project" has been produced in order to view the project progress for the period of 1 June, 2019 to 30 September, 2020. Key results and successes have been reflected in this report.

The project aimed to support each network's development, strengthening network members' leadership for advocacy, collective bargaining and negotiation skills, enabling members to challenge all the forms of exploitation and claim their rights.

The project was successfully implemented by Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal at 3 districts (Saptari, Siraha and Dhanusha) in province-2 of Nepal with the financial support of Freedom Fund (FF) 1 June, 2019 to 31 May, 2020. Due to the impact of covid-19 pandemic situation, some planned activities of the project could not be implemented within agreed time-frame. Therefore, the project period was extended until 30 September, 2020 as per mutual understanding between both parties (FF and RDN Nepal) and remaining project activities were planned accordingly.

Staff members of RDN Nepal have collectively contributed in producing this final progress report. It was rigorously reviewed and verified by Project management Team (PMT) and submitted secretariat of the organization. Finally, the executive board of RDN Nepal reviewed and synchronized the report against the Project Document and Work Plan and Budget and brought it into final shape to share the final report with Freedom Fund. The analysis and information contained in this report represent the work completed by RDN Nepal.

The overall activity performance during these twelve months reporting period was excellent. The target Vs Achievements of the project has been outlined as below:

SN	Activity	Unit	Total Target	Progress
1.1	HCF organizational Development			
1.1.1	Facilitate local level Harawa/Charawa meeting	Event	30	30
1.1.2	Facilitate district level Harawa/Charawa meeting	Event	12	12
1.1.3	Facilitate national level Harawa/Charawa meeting	Event	2	2
1.1.4	Organizational Capacity Building of HC networks through mobilization of Harwa/Charwa Activists	Person	36	40
1.1.5	Mobilization of project coordinator to conduct evidence based advocacy	Person	13	17
1.1.6	Harawa/Charawa Conference at Rural and Urban Municipality level	Event	6	6
1.1.7	Organize District level conference of Harawa/Charawa organizations	Event	3	3
1.1.8	Conduct national conference of Harawa/Charawa organization	Event	1	0
1.2	HCF Capacity Building			

Comment [MOU1]: Even still some activities could not be completed. For the report could you please state the activities that weren't completed and are carried over to the new contract?

Response: Due to the impact of COVID-19 impact, the following activities could not be completed as:

- Conduct national conference of Harawa/Charawa organization
- Orientation Program on government resources and services
- Provincial level round table discussion with policy makers and key stakeholders on issues of Harawa-Charawa

The activities which could not be completed mentioned as above have been carried-out to the new contract.

Comment [MOU2]: Against each of the activities mentioned can you please give some details on what happened:

When did it happen, did it happen more than once?

Where?

Who was involved?

What happened? Like agenda, training components etc

What was the outcome? Did it go accordingly to plan?

Was there any follow up?

ETC...

Response: The project activities were implemented by following the detail implementation plan of the project from last June, 2019 to end of the May, 2020 based on the target. The planned activities were implemented in the project targeted area. As a result of this, the capacity of HC network strengthened. The agendas were fixed before the training and conducted accordingly. The outcomes of the overall activities implementation are outlined as:

- 19 Harawa-Charawa networks (local-15, district-3 and national-1) are functional
- 18 Harawa-Charawa conferences (local-15 and district-3) successfully conducted adopting democratic practice
- One constitution of Harawa-Charawa rights forum drafted to endorsed from upcoming election of national HC network
- 44 meetings of HC networks (local-30, district-12 and national-2) organized.
- HC network members capacitated on leadership development and collective bargaining
- Advocacy plan developed and implemented
- Local governments adopted the HC issues in their plan and policies

1.2.1	Leadership Development Training for Harawa/Charawa leaders	Event	1	1
1.2.2	Training on collective bargaining and basic negotiation skills	Event	1	1
2.1	Access to Government Services and Resources			
2.1.1	Orientation Program on government resources and services	Event	1	04
2.1.2	Current budget Analysis of Local Government	Times	3	30
2.1.3	Provincial level round table discussion with policy makers and key stakeholders on issues of Harawa-Charawa	Event	1	0
3	CROSS-CUTTING INTERVENTION			
3.1	Review and Coordination meeting with Freedom Fund Partners.	Times	2	2

Overall, the project successfully implemented as it met its target over the agreed period of project. The efforts have also been made to align with Government and Non-governmental projects/programs for sustainability aspects from the starting of the project.

Did anything unexpected happen this reporting period?

Yes, during the reporting period, some planned activities could not be implemented smoothly due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic situation. Therefore, we had to postpone these actions for the next. It has impacted the income generation of whole people for their livelihood options. Particularly, Harawa-Charawas who are engaged in daily wage work are facing the problem of joining their hands to mouth and also suffering from hunger. As a result of this, all the industries, educational institutions, transportation, tourism are fully closed and human life has become more suffering.

Please provide an assessment of and reflection on Freedom Fund partners in relation to the above activities and deliverables. Is there anything Freedom Fund should be aware of about a particular partner organization?

The coordination, collaboration and relationship with Freedom Fund and its partners at project targeted area was quiet satisfactory during this last twelve months. Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal established very good relationship in FF partners in 3 project coverage district by sharing the knowledge and skill for the effective implementation of the project.

The network capacity of Harawa/Charawa and their networks and organizations were built in close coordination and support of Freedom Fund partners so as to raise their voice and concern for advocacy campaigns. Relevant stakeholders and partner organizations of Freedom Fund in the project targeted area were intensively coordinated to bring the synergy and reduce duplication.

The Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) approach was adopted to implement the project that contributed to ensure the ownership of rights holders for the sustainability of the project. In addition, Freedom Fund partners supported to build the relationship with local government bodies, political parties and civil society organizations (CSOs) that contributed to create the enabling environment for the effective implementation of the project. Some examples can be shown as We have been reported through Harawa-Charawa activists that the displacement of H-C families in the name of road extension by government at HC communities was discontinued by Laxmipur Patari and Surung municipality once BIDC and JDS coordinated with municipality office. Similarly, CIC coordinated for collecting the data of Harawa Charawa at 9 wards of Sahidnagar municipality and 11 wards of Ganeshman Charnath municipality in close coordination with local government. Surunga, Khadak and Balan Bihul rural municipality have invited HC networks in their councils with good reorganization and identity so that the government budget was allocated to address the instrumental needs of Harawa-Charawa.

2. SUCCESSES

Please describe what you consider to be your greatest successes in this reporting period.

Based upon the result based participatory planning, implementation and monitoring of the project intervention, the project results have been achieved so far with quantitative and qualitative changes as outlined below:

1. The capacity of H-C and their networks/organizations strengthened on aspects of network and alliance

Comment [MOU3]: In 2019, we understand that some HC were officially elected by Wards or nominated to join local government committees? Would you be able to put together a list of these people and where they are from?

Response: yes, some Harawa-Charawa leaders have been officially elected by wards of nominated to join local government committees. List of elected representatives from Harawa-Charawa communities is being collected through mobilization of our field staffs (HC activists) and will be shared with you for your kind information and update.

Comment [MOU4]: ork of the activists. Can you please give some detail on what each of the activists have done over the past year?

Response: The detail of each activity during the reporting period has been outlines as below:

- Facilitate local level Harawa/Charawa meeting: A total of 30 events on meeting of HC networks at local level conducted to discuss on issues of HC
- Facilitate district level Harawa/Charawa meeting: 12 events of meeting at 3 districts (4 meetings in each district) on organized on periodic basis.
- Facilitate national level Harawa/Charawa meeting: two events of Harawa/Charawa rights forum at national conducted to discuss on the overall emerging socio-economic and political agenda of Harawa/Charawa.
- Harawa/Charawa Conference at local level: 15 events of Harawa/Charawa Conference organized by rights holders networks at local level to elect new committee adopting democratic process

Comment [MOU5]: Could you provide a list district wise of the network groups so we can understand the current structure? You don't need to provide names but numbers of members of each group would be helpful.

Response: Considering the organizational structure of Harawa-Charawa organization, the individual Harawa-Charawa households (HHs) are organized in groups. Approximately, there are 20-25 HC HHs in each group. The local level Harawa-Charuwa rights forums at rural municipality and municipality are formed with the representation of HC groups. There are 7-11 members at local level network of Harawa-Charawa. The district level HC network is formed with the representation of local HC networks at rural municipality and municipality level. There are 11-15 members in district level

- building, importance of leadership skill, institutional development, effective communication, and evidence-based advocacy, campaign management and movement building.
2. Haruwa-Charawa networks are more functional through their mobilization and regular meeting to discuss on organizational development
 3. The action plan developed to conduct evidence based advocacy campaigns at local, district and for the emancipation of H-C
 4. The elected government and political parties at local, provincial and federal level are sensitized towards the agendas of Harawa/Charawa also known as forced labours and agreed in course of emancipation this system through political initiatives.
 5. A total of 25 Harawa/Charawa leaders enhanced their advocacy capacity by participating in collective bargaining and negotiation skill to systematically claims for their rights and entitlements
 6. The network and alliance of Harawa-Charawa developed with other forced labours organizations such as freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas etc
 7. Harawa-Charawa capacitated on constitutional and legal provisions so as to raise voice against social discriminatory practice. While H-C network members hear the cases regarding social discriminatory practice, they go to field to identify the issues with the support of FF partners and then take necessary action to get the justice from concerning agencies
 8. Increased capacity of Harawa-Charawa and their organizations to successfully conduct the conference with an aim to generate new leadership for the growth and developments of Harawa-Charawa organizations/networks
 9. The newly elected body of Harawa-Charawa network at Spatari, Siraha and Dhanusha is at hand through democratic norms and practices

3. CHALLENGES

Have you faced any challenges or obstacles in this reporting period? If yes, please describe the challenges or obstacles and discuss how you addressed them.

The following challenges have been observed during the implementation of the project;

- COVID-19 threat and continued lockdown
- Harawa-Charawa cannot have been emancipated yet through structural transformation of the nation
- There is no exact definition of Harawa-Charawa and their authentic data is not at hand
- There is not any formal agreement between Harawa-Charawa and government of Nepal
- H-C and their networks/organizations at local, district and national level do not have common understanding and clear agendas regarding the emancipation and just rehabilitation
- The learning of freed Haliyas and ex-Kamaiyas rehabilitation program cannot have been assimilated
- Lack of public/private resource mobilization
- Although rights holders (Harawa/Charawa) are generally aware on their rights including government policies, they have to face series of obstacles/hindrances while systematically claiming for their rights and entitlements.
- Due to the cold wave, it became delay for participants to reach in conference venue in time and also less easy to manage the budget to successfully conduct the election process of HC network at Dhanusha.

Do you need any additional assistance to address these challenges? If yes, is there anything that FreedomFund can do to help you overcome these challenges? Or, is there anything that Freedom Fund could have done to help?

The continuous guidance and technical backstopping as well as financial support from Freedom Fund is required to address the above-mentioned challenges.

4. ORGANIZATIONAL AND/OR CONTEXTUAL CHANGES

Have there been any other changes that have affected the project in a positive or negative way during the reporting period (not discussed above)?

Organizational changes:
Have there been organizational changes (positive or negative) that have affected the implementation of the project? If yes, describe the changes, the impact of the changes, and anything the organization did to address the changes.

For example, changes in executive leadership, facilities, location, and programmatic capacity. Have there been changes to the staff roles and degree of time involvement in the project?

Comment [MOU6]: Can you provide an assessment of the capacity growth of the network across the contract? What happened? Any examples? It might be good if you can do this district wise.

Response: At the beginning of leadership development training of Harawa-Charawa network members, RDN Nepal conducted the overall capacity assessment through SWOT analysis of HC network by ensuring the equitable participation of HC leader from local, district and national level. There is no separate district wise assessment but the fact and findings of overall assessment are outlined below.
 S=Strengths

Comment [MOU7]: What type of capacity and skills they need within their team to be more functional, in your experience?

Response: We have direct engagement in the area of network capacity building of Harawa-Charawa and their networks since last 1 April, 2018 and have been indirectly working in the issues since last 2014. As per our past learning and working experience with Harawa-Charawa, the

Comment [MOU8]: Have you analyzed in terms of effectiveness of the networks for protecting the rights of HC labours?

Comment [MOU9]: Can you please share it? If you have already shared don't worry

Response: Yes, we had already shared it.

Comment [MOU10]: Can you provide some examples?

Comment [MOU11]: How can we materialize this strengths?

Comment [MOU12]: Following the training, have you done any follow up?

Comment [MOU13]: Can you provide examples?

Comment [MOU14]: Can you provide some examples?

Comment [MOU15]: Can you say anything about what the newly elected

Comment [MOU16]: I think definition is there, but their classification is needed.

Comment [MOU17]: I think it will be better to edit the sentence. Otherwise will be contradictory with success point 7.

Comment [MOU18]: Can you give examples?

Comment [MOU19]: Is it necessary to mention?

Comment [MOU20]: It will be better to elaborate in respect to the above-mentioned challenges.

The project was well managed by providing specific responsibilities to the staffs in Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal. There were some changes in staff level occurred in regards to the organizational management. During the project period. Due to the untimely demise of Mr. Raslal Ram, Harawa-Charawa activist of Siraha, we had decided to hand-over the responsibility to Mr. Shyam Sundar Sada as HC activist.

The capacity of executive committee members and project staffs of RDN Nepal was strengthened by participating in various trainings, orientations and consultation meetings as outlined below;

- Participation in Discussion on bonded Labor organized by US Embassy and US Department of Labor to share the Harawacharawalibreation first according the learning thaKamaiya and Haliyabeing co-ordinator of FLeAG
- Participating in forced labour, child labour and collective bargaining training at Italy organized by International Labour Organization (ILO)
- Participation in organizational development training organized by Collective Campaign for Peace (COCAP)
- Participation in Green Climate Fund (GCF) workshop organized by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Similarly, the coordination and collaboration was done with various stakeholders for the makers in close coordination with Bala sir and FLeAG members as well for the following purposes mentioned as;

- Conduct meeting with the Hon. vice-chairperson and member of National Planning Commission (NPC) to incorporate the socio-economic issues of disadvantaged groups such as forced-labors in upcoming planning and budgeting
- The ministry of land management, Poverty Alleviation, cooperative, agriculture and livestock development was coordinated to form land problem solution commission regarding solution of problem. As a result of this, government of Nepal is in the process of formation.
- The consultation meeting of civil society organizations was held with ministry of women, children and senior citizens through video-conference. As a result of this, honorable Parbat Gurung, delivered his commitment to follow the equitable approach during relief distribution.
- The online meeting was conducted initiated by Dalit NGO Federation. The objective of the meeting was to pressurize the government for providing the relief to needy people belong to marginalized communities who are involved in daily wages.
- Coordination and collaboration has been made with International Labour Organization (ILO) and Forced Labours elimination Advocacy Group (FLeAG) members to share and update the current situation-update.
- The memorandum was submitted to the ministry of land management, Poverty Alleviation, cooperative to be allocated the budget for Harawa-Charawa through forthcoming planning and budgeting
- Facilitated the civic conference focusing the socio-economic rights of forced labours;Harawa-Charawa
- Submission of memorandum to Land Problem Solving Commission as well as other constitutional commissions (NHRC/Madedi commission) to be prioritized the issues of HC during their emancipation and land distribution process
- RDN became member of social welfare ceremony/day celebration committee so as to raise the issues of HC strongly in various forums
- Coordination with UN-Women and DNF to distribute the relief to HC families in Saptari and Siraha

Considering the covid-19 pandemic situation, the network capacity building of HC was strengthened as below;

- Regular telephone conversation with field level staffs (Sanjay, Lagendra-Saprati, Raslal-Siraha and Shreeprasad-Dhanusha) to get the current situation update
- Guide, coach and support field staffs to monitor the relief distribution process by local government authorities in regards to increase the access of Harawa-Charawa
- Coordination and collaboration with leaders of district and national Harawa-Charawa networks
- Coordination with the local implementing partners of Freedom Fund (FF) at Saptari, Siraha and Dhanusha
- Coordination and collaboration with Jiyam sir and Bala sir to share the update and current situation

Comment [MOU21]: Thank you for sharing these achievement, so much has been achieved despite the challenges this year. Thank you.

Comment [MOU22]: You mean UN women staff's contribution for the relief?
Response: RDN is member of COVID-19 response team at national level led by Dalit NGO Federation (DNF). Some of the Dalits from Americal provided their support for COVID-19 affected Dalits in Nepal. Connecting to this, 74 HHs of Harawa-Charawa were provided relief support in Siraha and 300 HHs in Saptari in close coordination with FEDO and UN-women. There was no cash contribution of UN women staff but collaboration was made for the initiative.

Comment [MOU23]: Please give some examples of what they have done.

Contextual changes:

Have there been contextual changes (positive or negative) that have affected the implementation of the project? If yes, describe the changes, the impact of the changes, and anything your organization did to address the changes.

For example, elections, disasters or conflicts, media coverage, etc.

We have to face great challenges of covid-19 pandemic. As a result of this, all the industries, educational institutions, transportation, tourism are fully closed and human life has become more suffering. Similarly, The government of Nepal has planned to implement the fundamental rights of citizens by formulating relevant bylaws and procedures and also approved the annual planning and budgeting for this fiscal year. The government of Nepal has initiated to solve the problem of land by forming land problem solving commission.

Because of the poor health mechanism of the state, it has more difficult for the government to take the necessary action for the preventing, controlling and treatment of covid-19. The development initiatives; particularly, infrastructure and social activities of the nation are falling behind. The low level of economic activities and lack of labor marketing has directly impacted in long run to the daily lives of people in the country. Therefore, Harawa-Charawa are facing the problem of starvation who are regarded as most marginalized and deprived groups in the community. The government initiatives such as relief, employment and health services from local to federal level are being carried-out which are insufficient and limited.

Please describe any significant policy or implementation changes by governments to improve anti-slavery prevention or response at national, state and local levels or significant improvements in anti-slavery safeguards/remediation by business during the reporting period.

During the reporting period, some significant and foresight actions have been carried-out. The government of Nepal is eager to implement the fundamental rights of citizens by formulating relevant bylaws and procedures. The budget session of federal government is being kicked-off. Honorable Yuva Raj Khatriwada, ministry of finance emphasized that the allocated budget will prioritize the corona-virus (covid-19) affected people. The budget has also tried its best to address the socio-economic rights of Harawa-Charawa. Under the same provision, the food for work including minimum wage has been ensured. The budget has shifted into advancing dignified lives of forced labor in which the issue of child protection of Dalits has come into existence. The federal government has also planned to provide the land to landless people and people housing program. The budget has also prioritized the livelihood of the Harawa-Charawa. It has also incorporated the scholarship and school nutrition program.

Similarly, the provincial government has also prepared the budget for the fiscal year 2077/078. Based on the analysis of the budget of province-2, the Harawa-Charawa friendly planning and budgeting has not in properly placed. The budget has focused the Dalit housing planning, employment, deprived resilient program, Dalit development committee and high level caste based discrimination monitoring committee. The budget has also addressed the issues of Dom, Halkhor, Mestar and Mushar by provisioning special programs. The details of budget belong to local government bodies are in the process of finalization.

The government of Nepal has initiated to solve the problem of land by forming land problem solving rural commission. The commission has provisioned to provide the land to landless Dalits. The special authority has been given to this commission as per law. The federal government has also planned to participate Harawa-Charawa in regards to operate the land bank under ministry of land management, cooperative and poverty alleviation targeting to Harawa-Charawa. Recently, Nepal has revised its constitution.

5. PLANS FOR NEXT 6-MONTHS

Please list any significant events/plans for the next 6-months.

The following significant events/plans have been planned for the next-3 months;

- National conference of Harawa-Charawa network
- Facilitate district Harawa-Charawa network meeting
- Orientation Harawa-Charawa on government plan, policies and guidelines to access to service
- Provincial level Webinar Policy Dialogue

Are there any anticipated changes that will affect your ability to carry out work planned in the next 6-months? If yes, please describe.

The anticipated changes that may affect our ability to carry out work planned in the next 3-months. Due to the impact of COVID-19, there is problem in field mobility and mass gathering.

Comment [MOU24]: Can you give any examples?

Response: Land problem solving commission prioritized HC issues to be addressed. Similarly, it has also proposed to alleviate the debt. The commission is preparing the guideline to prioritize HC as there will be not any fees for land registration in the context of Harawa-Charawa.

Comment [MOU25]: Is it the Prime Minister employment scheme or different?

Response: It is not prime minister employment scheme. It is different regarding the food security.

Comment [MOU26]: Janata Aawas ?

Response: it is janata Aawas

Comment [MOU27]: Some municipalities also mentioned Harawacharawa in their policy and programs and they also allocate certain budget to HC community? If you have information in this regard, you can add them too.

Response: Some local government bodies have allocated the budget to address the instrumental needs of Harawa-Charawa. Examples can be shown as We have been reported through Harawa-Charawa activists that the displacement of H-C families in the name of road extension by government at HC communities was discontinued by Laxmipur Patari and Surung municipality once BIDC and JDC coordinated with municipality office. Similarly, CIC coordinated for collecting the data of Harawa Charawa at 9 wards of Sahidnagar municipality and 11 wards of Ganeshman Charnath municipality in close coordination with local government. Surunga, Khadak and Balan Bihul rural municipality have invited HC networks in their councils with good reorganization and identity so that the government budget was allocated to address the instrumental needs of Harawa-Charawa. Some examples of budget allocation by local government are outlined as below;

- NPR 1,200,000 from Surunga municipality of Saptari
- Skill development training for HC at Dhangadhimai municipality at Siraha
- Budget allocation for community building of HC from

Comment [MOU28]: Can you say a bit more about how you intend to interact with the commission?

Response: We intended to interact with commission through the submission of memorandum in close coordination with FLeAG members and HC network as well.

6. CONSENT TO SHARE INFORMATION

Full Consent:Our organization gives Freedom Fund consent to use **any** information or photos provided in this report for promotional purposes.

Yes No

Partial Consent:If your organization gives Freedom Fund consent to use **some** information or photos provided in this report for promotional purposes, please describe what information or photos **cannot** be shared.

Representatives' photos:



Figure 12: District HC Network Conference at Saptari



Figure 2: District HC Network conference at Siraha



Figure 3: RDN Chairperson, Mr. Ganesh BK, expressing his views on the occasion of inauguration ceremony of district HC network conference at Siraha



Figure 4: District HC network conference at Dhanusha



Figure 5: Mr. Jyam Shrestha, expressing his views on the occasion of of inauguration ceremony of district HC network conference at Dhanusha



Figure 6: 3 days Harawa-Charawa Leadership Development Training