

NABP PROGRESS REPORT (2020-2023)



Nepal Association of the Blind (NAB)

Central Office, Sukedhara, Kathmandu

This compiled report covers the major activities, achievements, and learning reflections conducted through NAB Central and its project offices from 2020 to 2023 A.D. under NABP project.

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Introduction

Nepal Association of the Blind (NAB) has been established in 1993 to work for the protection and promotion of rights and interests of the Blind and Partially Sighted (BPS) people in Nepal. It is also affiliated with World Blind Union (WBU) and Asian Blind Union (ABU), Social Welfare Council (SWC) and National Federation of Disabled Nepal (NFDN). It has now 7 Province Committees, 58 district branches and more than 50 Municipal Level branches throughout the country with more than 3000 active members.

With the support of Norwegian Association of the Blind and Partially Sighted (NABP), Norway, "**Improved socio-economic status, education and health of blind and partially sighted (BPS) people through service delivery and advocacy in the new country context of Nepal**" program has been started in 2020 for 5 years (2020-2024).

There are two major projects inside the program as under:

- 1) Inclusive education and inclusion of BPS in mainstream development in Nepal
- 2) Health and rehabilitation of BPS people

Project offices besides Central Office:

- Kanchanpur in Sudurpachim Province
- Sunsari in Koshi Province
- Gorkha and Tanahu in Gandaki Province
- Dhading in Bagmati Province

Evaluation of Results Achievement at Outcome Level

1. Human Rights and Advocacy

During the period (2020-2023), NAB has expanded its number of branches to one district branch and 28 new municipalities/rural municipalities after leadership training among new board members of each new branch. As a result, NAB district branches have mobilized NPR 6,751,762 from local and provincial governments, the OPD “Centre for Independent Living”, and banks for conducting vocational training and income generation activities. Not only have Blind and Partially Sighted (BPS) people benefited, also 186 persons, including 62 women with other disabilities, received vocational and income generation training.

Thanks to joint efforts of NAB and NFDN (among others), the Government of Nepal adopted the National Disability Policy 2080 in 2023. The Policy clearly outlines accessibility, provision of assistive devices, reproductive health, and free health treatment, among other aspects. However, the policy does not address all provisions in line with the Disabled Rights Protection Act. As the policy will be revised every five years, the upcoming project period will actively advocate for further improvements. Likewise, NAB also succeeded with its advocacy in Gandaki Province by ensuring free health insurance for persons with disabilities. This province also guaranteed 5% job reservation through the enactment of the 'Gandaki Province Civil Service Act, 2079'. To addition to that, the FY 2079/80 budget of the Nepal government addressed concerns of NAB by announcing plans to classify total blind individuals as Profound Disability and issue Category "A" Disability ID cards, as stated on page 43, point 207, under "Women, Children, and Senior Citizens". However, the decision is yet to be translated into implementation. Unfortunately, the first attempt of NAB to ratify the Marrakesh Treaty was unsuccessful due to parliament dissolution but ratification process is progressing smoothly. Similarly, the federal government has amended the teacher placement guidelines to allow newly recruited BPS teachers to select their geographical location of work. They cannot select the school but can choose the district and municipality.

Another major achievement towards this outcome is the inclusive modification of public transportation services in Kanchanpur district with additional seats, ramps, and other

essential facilities in buses. NAB achieved all these results through continuous advocacy interventions and human rights-related trainings. Moreover, to ensure good governance and management, NAB has developed 13 new policies, guidelines, and manuals within the project period.

2. Inclusive Education

NAB has provided scholarships to 50 BPS students for school level and university-level education. Among which, 6 of them secured teaching jobs in government schools. The scholarships have facilitated access for BPS people to university-level education, thereby improving job opportunities. Additionally, NAB has printed 2,285 sets of braille textbooks through the tender bidding process of Nepal Government Center for Education and Human Resource Development (CEHRD). Correspondingly, NAB Gandaki Province produced 16 different audio versions of textbooks for Grade 11 and 12 with the support of the Gandaki Province Government. As a result of continuous advocacy, CEHRD revised three teacher training curricula respectively on blindness, deafness, and intellectual disabilities. The process to revise these curricula was inclusive and participatory, yielding positive results.

The braille printing has helped BPS students to access school papers in braille, enabling them to study and participate in education on equal footing with others. In addition the braille printing also has contributed to the financial sustainability of NAB.

3. Health and Rehabilitation

The Disability Household Survey (2020) identified 7,460 persons with low vision and 1,589 blind persons in the Rehabilitation program districts (Gorkha, Tanahun, Dhading) where, the final verification results (2022) portrayed 3,329 curable and 1,057 incurable cases (492 females, 565 males). Altogether, 1,049 received quality rehabilitation services tailored to their needs. The Orientation & Mobility (O&M) training, which includes white cane use, enabled access to the market and improved mobility and Life Skills training (DLS) have empowered members to increase their quality of life by gaining confidence to engage socially, attend school/university, make purchases, participate in self-help groups and community activities.

In the corresponding manner, the Rehabilitation program conducted 165 mobile screening camps in three program districts by hiring an ophthalmic assistant. The project examined 24,551 individuals (14,074 females, 10,477 males) where cataracts were identified in 3,499 individuals (1,990 females, 1,509 males). Altogether, 2,532, including 2,097 regained their vision through free surgery in eye camps conducted in collaboration with Bharatpur, Kirtipur Eye Hospitals, Rapti Eye Hospital, and respective local authorities. This has significantly facilitated their return to previous work and to conduct daily activities in easy manner. Moreover, many local government offices have begun allocating budgets for eye care.

4. Economic Empowerment

In total, 1,006 BPS people have received vocational training in various income-generating activities such as beekeeping, mushroom growing, livestock farming, confectionery making, soap making, furniture making, and traditional instrument playing. Out of these, 466 received start-up support and interest-free loans. Following the training, 12 self-help groups were formed. These groups meet monthly, pooling savings from all participants and providing loans with nominal interest which has also encouraged participants to save money, fosters a group culture, and advocates for their rights with clear demands.

The Rehabilitation program disbursed interest-free loans worth NPR 3,933,000 among 236 BPS individuals, of which NPR 2,142,300 has been refunded so far. According to the loan recipients, their average monthly income has increased from NPR 7,000 to NPR 9,000 through grocery shops and other small businesses they started.

Additionally, NAB has influenced local governments to allocate budgets for BPS people, empowering the target group to amplify their voices and achieve economic independence. NAB's influence on decision-making bodies has provided BPS teachers with the right to choose their geographical location for job placements, enhancing their confidence in teaching. Along the same lines, NAB led the development of training curricula in collaboration with stakeholders, resulting in systematic training programs and also spearheaded the printing of braille textbooks to ensure timely delivery to schools.

Deviations from the Plan/Adaptations

According to the original project plan, the annual targets for each year were set effective from 2020. However, the survey scheduled for 2020 was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In the Rehabilitation program, the Disability Household Survey continued until March 2021, impacting the achievement of targets for vocational training, interest-free loan support, teacher training, and self-help group formation under the Economic Empowerment component. However, NAB expects to meet the targets for vocational training and teacher training by 2024. Considering the identified number of BPS school-aged children and vocational training-aged group (18-60), the targets for inclusive education and economic empowerment were revised in 2022 under the Rehabilitation program.

1. Human Rights and Advocacy

The project aimed to establish 36 new municipal-level NAB branches by 2024 but NAB has successfully reached to 28 municipalities only. It was due to a high prevalence of BPS senior citizens, who do not prioritize organizational action. Altogether, 704 (362 females, 342 males) branch leaders/board members/staff have been trained in advocacy, leadership, and organizational management, surpassing the target of 250. This achievement was made possible through various trainings mobilizing resources from NGOs/INGOs, local governments, and other OPDs.

The ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty was a central target of the project for which NAB conducted a series of advocacy interventions to advance the ratification process in different concerned line ministries. Although the initial attempt failed due to political instability in 2021, NAB has restarted the ratification process. As of September, last year, agreements were reached with the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Social Welfare, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Inclusive Education

Many key stakeholders have been trained in inclusive education and early childhood development, monitoring the implementation of education-related articles of CRPD, CRC, and SDG. A total of 523 trainees (343 males, 180 females) benefited from virtual training sessions during the COVID-19 pandemic. The objective was to enrol 90 new BPS students in designated schools and educational institutions. However, bigger to

set target, a total of 141 students have been enrolled when including both schools and universities.

In the same vein, the target was to provide scholarships to 75 students, whereas only 50 students received scholarships for school and university-level education due to financial constraints. This experience has informed more accurate target-setting in the next program period.

Health and Rehabilitation

The set target was to provide basic rehabilitation services to 1,500 BPSpeople however, under the label of rehabilitation services, life skills training was provided to 456 individuals (215 males, 241 females), and Orientation & Mobility training was provided to 1,049 BPSpeople (541 females, 508 males). Correspondingly, the number of white canes distributed was 1,119, slightly below the target of 2,000. The deviation from the original plan occurred due of fulfilment of demand as white canes were distributed by local governments and other NGOs as well.

In terms of eye health services, significant progress has been made through collaborative efforts among Bharatpur and Kirtipur Eye Hospitals, respective local governments, and local clubs. The target was to perform cataract surgery on 2,000 curably blind people (50% female), but 2,532 curable patients (1,233 males, 1,299 females) received medical treatment free of cost from 2020-2023. Of these, 2,097 rehabilitation program and the rest were operated in Rapti eye hospital with the financial support of Siloam Foundation for the Blind Korea.

2. Economic Empowerment

The number of BPS individuals employed during the program period (until the end of 2023) exceeded the target. While the goal was to prepare 75 BPS individuals for employment in both government and non-government sectors, 105 graduates secured teaching positions. This success was facilitated by our support for preparatory classes conducted by the Teacher Service Commission.

The project achieved significant milestones through various activities, including online training sessions, entrepreneurship and vocational training, and preparatory classes for the Public Service Commission and Teacher Service Commission.

Moreover, the target for seed funds and start-up support was set at 370, but 446 individuals (187 female, 279 male) received interest-free loans to establish grocery shops, engage in animal husbandry, vegetable farming, and other businesses.

Risks and Mitigation

An update on the overall risk management of the project reveals proactive measures taken to identify, mitigate, and respond to risks. During the reporting period, challenges, including those related to achieving project goals and addressing cross-cutting issues such as human rights, women's rights, gender equality, climate, environment, and anti-corruption concerns, were effectively managed.

Anti-corruption

NAB has adopted an anti-corruption policy since 2020, comprising four distinct policies aimed at ensuring good governance and transparency. These policies, including the Anti-bribery Policy (2022), Anti-fraud Policy (2022), Policy on Preventing Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment (PSEAH) (2022), and Conflict of Interest Policy (2023), outline comprehensive measures to prevent, detect, and address corruption within the organization. Regular orientations and signing ceremonies with board members and staff ensure widespread understanding and adherence to these policies.

Cost-efficiency

The project's budget for the period 2020 to 2023 totalled NPR 141,106,004.05. Cost-sharing initiatives with local and provincial governments, such as vocational training, operation and maintenance training, and distribution of materials and assistive devices, contributed to effective cost management.

Sustainability

The sustainability of the project's outcomes is evident through ongoing partnerships with local governments, eye hospitals, and international organizations. Income-generating initiatives like the braille press and vocational training centres ensure financial stability beyond project completion. Continued advocacy and policy input in disability-related matters further reinforce the project's lasting impact.

Lessons learned

Key lessons learned include the importance of realistic target setting and maintaining consistency in objectives. Challenges in remote project areas necessitate adaptive strategies and localized approaches for effective implementation. Furthermore, addressing psychosocial needs and enhancing MEAL (Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning) competencies are crucial for future initiatives.

Evaluations and reviews

While the project faced initial implementation delays, annual financial audits and advisory committee meetings have provided valuable insights. Recommendations from stakeholders and periodic evaluations ensure continuous improvement in project management and financial oversight.

Success Stories:

1. Story of Mrs. Halima Khatun

Overcoming Challenges: and the strength of determination



Figure 1 Halima is standing next to the vehicle, reaching out to touch the irrigation pipe.

Mrs. Halima Khatun, a 36-year-old Muslim woman, resides in Gorkha Municipality 1, Banchauri. She has been congenitally blind with limited vision and lives with her husband, who also has low vision, and their two children. Their main source of

livelihood is farming. Halima's daily routine involves managing household chores, caring for her children, tending to a vegetable garden, looking after their pet animals and chickens, and handling various community matters. Her husband, Mr. Hasim Miya, is primarily engaged in farming and labor work.

We first encountered Halima in 2020 during a Disability Household Survey. Despite her visual impairment, we noticed she is an active, talkative, and energetic individual. She expressed a desire for social interaction and engagement in income-generating activities. However, her limited mobility posed a significant challenge, restricting her movement within the village. In light of her circumstances, we began offering counseling for mobility training, vocational skills development, seed funding for income generation, and membership in the Gorkha Association of the Blind (GAB). As Halima became more prepared to participate in various activities, we arranged a week-long Orientation and Mobility (O&M) training for her in her local area. A female fieldworker, who shared her Muslim background, was appointed to assist with the training. Following this training, Halima gained the ability to independently attend vocational training sessions held in the central city of Gorkha as part of the NAB rehabilitation program.



Figure 2 Halima with her husband and two kids

Inspired by the training, Halima decided to take out two loans for goat rearing, a popular occupation due to the presence of nearby forests. With her determination and after successfully repaying the first loan, she became a member of GAB and even secured a position on its board in April 2023. Her aspirations include expanding her goat rearing business and cultivating vegetables for additional income. However, challenges such as water scarcity and the potential threat of tiger attacks affect not only her but also the entire village. During a visit by Ms. Lykke, the Director of the

NABP program, in May 2023, Halima received water supply pipes initiated by the NABP program. This intervention significantly improved her daily life, making tasks like dishwashing, vegetable gardening, and sanitation much easier. Halima is grateful to both NAB and NABP for their support.

2. Story of transformation and power of supportive community

- A story of Gangaram Pandit

Gangaram Pandit, the son of Mr. Biran Pandit and Mrs. Rupadevi Pandit, resides in Ward Number 6 of Devangunj Rural Municipality, Sunsari . He was born on B.S. 2075/02/16. As the youngest member of the Pandit family, they belong to a middle-class background and rely on agriculture for their livelihood. Gangaram Pandit has had partial vision loss since birth. Despite their partially sighted, his elder sister and brother attended school and Gangaram had not received formal education until the age of five. He displayed shyness, passivity, and a lack of interest in schooling. Although his parents were keen on his education, his siblings made attempts to teach him, Gangaram showed disinterest in studies and learning. He remained mostly silent, rarely engaging in conversation. His parents were concerned about his reserved nature and lack of enthusiasm for education.

During the data collection period, Ms. Pragya Khapung Limbu, a Social Mobilizer, along with Ms. Sanju Pandit, a member of Sunsari Association of The Blind, visited Gangaram Pandit's home. They understood that Gangaram's parents are interested in educating their youngest child but were unaware of suitable special schools. The family had no contact with other visually impaired individuals and Ms. Limbu and Ms. Pandit informed the family about Shree Purwanchal Gyan Chakshu School.

Initially, the family was intrigued by the idea of the special school, but Gangaram remained uninterested. Ms. Limbu and Ms. Pandit attempted to counsel him, but he avoided them. After two days, Ms. Limbu returned with chocolates and biscuits to engage in conversation. She encouraged him to attend school, assuring him that he could also participate in sports like football. As Gangaram started showing interest in studying, Ms. Limbu persuaded his parents to visit Purwanchal Gyanchakshu School.

Ms. Limbu shared information about Gangaram Pandit with the school administration. The following day, school officials visited Gangaram's home and request his parents to explore the educational and supportive facilities the school offered for children like Gangaram. Eventually, the appeal of education and sports drew Gangaram Pandit to enroll at Bal Sikshya by Shree Purwanchal Gyanchakshu School within the school's hostel.

3. Towards Independence and Empowerment

- A Journey of Karan Saud

Karan Saud, a 35-year-old resident of Krishnapur Municipality-2 Kanchanpur district, was born completely blind. He is the only son of his parents. In 2065 BS, he married Sunita Saud, and they now have two sons and one daughter. They live in Krishnapur Municipality 2, where Karan successfully manages his household.



Figure 3 Karan Standing in his shop

Karan received training in making Harpic and Phenyl through the NAB Kanchanpur Project. Utilizing the training skills he started a grocery store called Kirana Pashal in his own home. Apart from selling groceries, his store also offers seasonal vegetables, copies, books, shampoo, homemade pickles, and other household items. Karan mentions that his household expenses are well-managed. The inspiration behind opening the shop was the training he received in making Harpic and Phenyle through the NAB Kanchanpur Project. His wife, Sunita Saud, who is also blind, support him in running the store. Currently, their monthly earnings range between 12,000 and 15,000. Karan is currently in the process of registering his shop. Karan's daughter has the opportunity to pursue her education at a government school, with the financial support of the Rest Organization and the coordination efforts of NAB Kanchanpur.



Figure 4 Products displayed at Karan's store



Furthermore, Karan holds the position of president in the Krishnapur Apangata Samuha. He attributes his ability to lead the organization to the confidence he gained through participating in various training programs conducted by the NAB Kanchanpur Project. Karan is experiencing a great sense of

satisfaction with his life at the moment. He feels content and fulfilled, and is grateful for the opportunities and experiences he has had so far.

4. Planning to make better contribution in disability sector: Janaki Bhatta from Kanchanpur

Janaki Bhatta, age 23, is a low vision person from Laljhadi, Kanchanpur. She was the second child to her parents and only one in the family having disability by birth. Her uncle helped her get enrolled in Panchodaya School in Dhangadhi, kailali at the age of around 6. She was average in study and has completed 12th Grade.



While she was still in Grade 12, she came in contact with NAB. NAB Kanchanpur president Prem Bohra and NAB Kanchanpur Project social mobilizer Padam Bahadur Badaila helped her in getting the membership of NAB Kanchanpur. With this, the door of opportunities has been opened to her. She participated in leadership and personality development training provided during the formation of Laljhadi Netrahin Sangh. She has been selected as a board member of the municipal branch. This along with the reproductive health training has helped her understand the qualities of a leader and the issues she needs to consider along with the measures of precautions as an individual. She also received the orientation and mobility training that helped her in being independent while walking with the appropriate mobility techniques. She has also received the incense stick making training which added confidence in her that she can also make some earnings through her own works, utilizing the learnt skills

whenever needed. But currently, the project has convinced her to continue with her studies and her incense stick making work can be done only in her leisure.

She remembers the moment when she used to feel very sad for having the only one among five brothers and sisters (one elder brother, two sisters and one younger



brother) to have visual disability. She used to think that she was weak and helpless before coming in contact with NAB and its project. But after acquiring the first position in the braille writing competition organized by NAB Kanchanpur Project on the occasion of international

Braille Day in 2021, she has become motivated with positive feelings towards life.

After the completion of 12th grade, she was thinking about dropping the education then and there. But with the counselling and motivation by the district leaders and project staffs, she has now been enrolled in the first semester of bachelor level at Kailali Multipl Campus, Dhangadhi. She now plans to continue her studies and after graduation, she plans to contribute well in the disability sector to improvise the life of many other fellow blind people. She has observed a great change within herself and now considers herself as a different lady who is bold, determined and content in comparison to the meek, fragile and gloomy school girl. "I am very thankful to NAB and the project for this transformation within myself", she said, "I will certainly contribute in disability sector once I complete my studies".

5. Change in the behaviour of Mr. Samyog Karki from Sunsari

Master Samyog Karki is a 4 years old low vision child living in Itahari Sub-Metropolitan city. He is the only child of his parents who belong to middle class family and runs a shop for their living. He has lost his vision partially from his birth. He had not received his formal education until the age of 4. He was enrolled in the local school for his formal education but the school administration had rejected him after one month due to his strange behaviour. According to his mother he used to scream and quarrel with friends and ironically, at such a young age, he got restricated from the school. His mother was worried about her child's behaviour and access to education because of his behaviour and reluctance of nearby school for his admission.



At the time of data collection Ms. Pragya Khapung Limbu, Social Mobilizer and Mr. Padam Thattal, Secretary of Sunsari Association of the Blind visited his house and came to know that his mother was interested in education of her child but couldn't figured out the availability of the special school for kids like her son. Till date, the family were also not in contact with any other BPS people in any form. So far, they had only heard the words of sympathy of giving the birth of low vision child.

After hearing about Samyog Karki, Ms. Limbu and Mr. Thattal had shared the information about Shree Purwanchal GyanChakshu School to Samyog's family. After hearing about the special school for BPS, at the onset she was confused whether to send her kid to school which has a hostel mandatory for distant pupils. As the mother was more worried on the behaviour of her child, she had doubts on whether her child will stay or not in the special school. However, after proper counselling from Mrs. Limbu and Mr. Thattal regarding the facilities and teaching experience the school had, she agreed to send Samyog, her only son to the aforementioned school based in Dharan.



The mother made a visit to Shree Purwanchal Gyanchakshu School before enrollment of her son. She was so impressed with the school she immediately agreed to send her kid to the Shree Purwanchal Gyanchakshu School. After admitting in the school Ms. Surya Maya Limbu, Grade teacher of Bal Siksha has informed that Samyog's behaviour has become changed drastically. Now Samyog plays with his friends and his interest in study is growing. His strange behaviour has also changed within 2-3 months. At present, Samyog's family are very happy and appreciated the NAB/NABP project for the coordination.

6. Happy to be an entrepreneur: Santosh Darji from Tanahun

Mr. Santosh Darji is a blind person of 39 years from Shuklagandaki Municipality-5, Belchautara. At the age of 25-26 years old, his vision started to decrease slowly. His vision started to blur in the evening. After that, he went to Himalayan Eye Hospital, Pokhara for his eye treatment. As per the doctor's suggestion, he treated his vision for six months but in vain and vision getting worse. After frequent check up and follow ups, the



doctor diagnosed that he was suffering from glaucoma diseases in his vision which was not curable. Finally, he became fully incurable blind at the age of 30 years old. By that time, he had already become a father of two children. He has one daughter and one son. He was under stress He used to be under stress thinking that he could not do anything for his family. He usually used to walk around the neighbourhood surroundings. His spouse Ms Ganga Maya Darji is a housewife. Due to the poor economic condition, his wife started to work in a factory that makes blankets and bedding to feed her family.

In the meantime, NAB Rehabilitation Program was conducting disability household survey in 2020 in three program districts. He was found during door to door household disability survey at the first time. He was found living at home in stressed mood doing nothing. After the completion of disability survey, NAB Rehabilitation Program started the intervention and program activities for BPS people. During the home visit, he was provided counselling, motivation by our field staff Ms. Mina Hamal Malla. In the second visit by field staff, he was provided with DLS and mobility training to enhance his confidence to walk independently. After many follow ups and motivation, he decided to take interest free loan from the project for poultry farming. Prior to this, he was supported for receiving disability identity card and took recommendation letter from his concerned ward office for seed money process. After the proper documentation process, he received the interest loan from the project which he invested in poultry farming business as per the agreement. It is very tough to do poultry farming for BPS people with to take proper care of the chicken and to feed them on time without being trained. In the meantime, NAB Rehab program conducted animal husbandry training



for BPS people targeting the person are interested in animal husbandry or have taken seed fund for the same purpose. He participated in the animal husbandry training and gained more knowledge on how to take proper care of chickens, feeding a balanced diet and vaccinate on time. At first, he had started his poultry farming with 15 chickens. He has generated Rs 2,000.00 from each chicken at the rate of Rs 500.00 per kg and each reached around 4 kg weight in six months. Thus, he has earned total Rs 30,000 thirty thousand from 15 chickens. After the success of poultry farming, he bought a sound system with wireless mike from the profit of poultry farming. He is very much

interested in singing and hence he bought the sound system which can play the track of the songs he wants to play. After some time, he found his voice sellable and these days, during his free time, he shows his talent of singing in nearby market place. In return, it also generates some income. But his primary business is poultry farming which is supported by his family as well. He has increased number of chickens to strengthen business. He keeps the chicks in turn so that there is always a continuous income. Nowadays the monthly minimum income is Rs 5000.00 from poultry farming. He saves some money for his children education and rest of money uses for his family needs. Now his family and neighbours are also happy to see his progress. Finally, he expressed that it has been all possible with support and motivation by NAB Rehabilitation Program on time. He and his family expressed their gratitude towards NAB Rehabilitation program for their valuable support.

7. Kashi Ram's Journey from general people to board member

Mr. Kashi Ram Rai, aged 30, lives in Itahari Sub-metropolitan city-20, Tarahara, Hasposha. Total blind by birth, he is the 4th child among 6 of Mr. Jaya Bahadur Rai and Mrs. Mauli Maya Rai. Being born in agro based middle class family and having blindness, he has gone through a lot in his life. His blindness and his parents ignorance prevented him from receiving any formal or informal education. Till last year, he was not in contact with any other BPS or organizations working for BPS.

During data collection, Ms. Pragya Khapung Limbu, Social-Mobilizer was able to contact with him. While talking with him he was found totally unaware about any organization related to blind and was not in contact with any BPS people and also unknown about the works that can be done by BPS people. While further conversation with Mr. Kashi Ram Rai he expressed his willingness to make friends and wish to be associated with the organization related to BPS people.

After that, NAB/NABP Sunsari Project had invited him in Sexual and Reproductive Health Training. Till then, he had never gone outside the house by himself and never used the white cane. So, he was very much interested in taking mobility



Mr. Rai introducing himself



Mr. Rai during mobility training



Mr. Rai learning to make rudrakshya garland

training. The project included him in the mobility training and now he can walk around independently using the white cane. He looks very happy and confident. He has also received the vocational training and got selected as the member of the entrepreneur group 2021. His group has received the seed fund support after training and now engaged in making rudrakshya garland.

Recently, he has been nominated as the board member of SAB. It is a great change observed in his capacity. At the first time when he attended SRHR training, he did not talk with any other persons and now he mixes up with people very easily and he is very expressive. He says, "I am very grateful to Sunsari Association of the Blind (SAB) and NAB/NABP Sunsari Project for bringing change in my life. It has given me a new hope."

Table1: Target Vrs Achievement of NAB/NABP (2020-2023)

Output (Should be as per Project Agreement)	Physical Target of project period	Unit	Physical Target of reporting period	Achieved during reporting period
1.1 At least 250 NAB members, staff and its branch leaders will be trained on leadership and organizational management.	250	persons	200	704
1.2 Special women empowerment programme including sensitization training (legal literacy/self-defense etc.) will be conducted for at least 300 BPS women of the project area in five years period.	300	persons	240	249
1.3 Orientation will be provided to at least 100 elected representatives and political leaders on human rights of BPS people.	100	persons	80	368

1.4 Programme will prepare at least 75 BPS persons competent for the employment in government and private sector jobs in five years period.	75	persons	60	105
1.5. Scholarship (including education materials) will be provided to 75 students in higher level education	75	Persons	60	26
1.6. 300 slate stylus (educational materials) will be distributed to BPS students.	300	sets	240	293
1.7. 50 resource teacher, blind teachers and BPS youth will be provided training on assistive technology to promote inclusive education.	50	persons	40	68
1.8. Vocational training and seed fund will be provided to 300 BPS for economic empowerment.	300	persons	240	186 seed fund, 529 voc. training
1.9. Programme will support 200 BPS for job oriented preparatory class.	200	persons	160	162
1.10. 22 self help group will be formed for rehabilitation.	22	groups	17	7

Images from different programs:

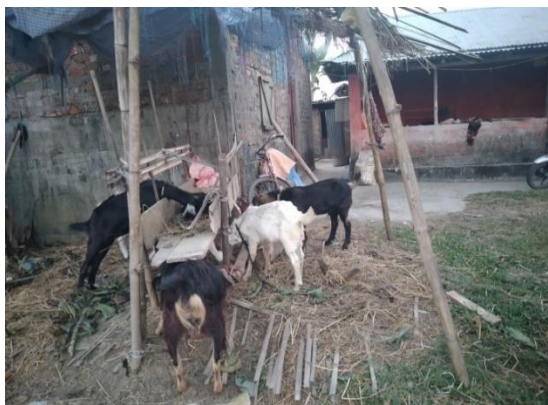


Fig1: Goat rearing



Fig 2: Interaction with Parliamentarians



Fig 3: Interaction with Prime minister



project advisory committee meeting at Bhimad Municipality of Tanahun district



Fig 5: MPAC meeting at Jwalamukhi Rural municipality



Fig 6: Development of Soaps by BPS people after the training



Fig 7: Printing braille textbooks



Fig 8: Banding textbooks



Fig 9: Ready to dispatch braille textbooks



Fig 9: Computer Training A



Fig 11: Computer Training B



Fig 12: Computer Training C



Fig 13: Inclusive Education Monitoring coordinator Mr. Gyanendra Lamsal, submitting the report of the Inclusive Education Monitoring to the Municipal chairman



Fig 14: Surgeon examining cataract patients after surgery at Netrawati Dabjong Rural Municipality



Figure 15: Photo captured during multi stakeholders meeting meeting



Figure 16: photo captured in IMPAC meeting Tahanun



Figure 17: Phenyl and liquid soap making training in Tahanun



Figure 18: Field worker providing Orientation and Mobility training