

Assessing the Contribution and Achievements for Securing Child's Rights to a Healthy and Sustainable Environment:

A case of tdh Germany Nepal Project

Ex-post-evaluation of tdh Germany's Nepal program

(Ex-Post-Nep-BMZ-22)



Submitted to
terre des hommes Germany

Submitted By
RDM Consultancy Company Pvt. Lt

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RDM Consultancy

FINAL REPORT

On ex-post-evaluation of Four Selected tdh Projects Co-financed by the BMZ in Nepal (Ex-Post-Nep-BMZ-22)

Submitted to

terre des hommes Germany

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

AEPC/DCC	Alternative Energy Promotion Centre/District Co-ordination Committee
BMZ	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBOs	Community-Based Organizations
CDS	Community Development Society
CSC	Community Score Card
DAC	Development Assistance Committee
DFO	District Forrest Offices
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GBRV	Gender-based rights violations
GDI	Gender Development Index
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GHI	Global Hunger Index
HDI	Human Development Index
HuRENDEC	Human Rights and Environment Development Centre
INGOs	International Non-Government Organizations
KII	Key Informant Interview
MOFSC	Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation
MoFE	Ministry of Forest and Environment
MPI	Multiple Poverty Index
NGOs	Non-government Organizations
NPC	National Planning Commission
NTFP	Non-timber Forest Product
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
RSDC	Rukumeli Social Development Centre
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats
tdh	terre des hommes Germany
UN	United Nations

UN CRC	UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
VDCs	Village Development Committees
WASH	Water, Sanitation & Hygiene

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Summary

For the South Asia region, the Strategic Goals formulated by tdh Germany (tdh) in 2013 were

- Goal 1- Participation by Children and Youth
- Goal 2- Spaces Free from Violence and Exploitation
- Goal 3- Ecological Rights of Children
- Goal -4 Child Rights in International Policies.

The 2018 Strategic Goals were

- Goal 1-Promoting a Culture of Peace
- Goal 2- Improving Psychosocial and Educational Services for Forcibly Displaced Children and Youth
- Goal 3- Promoting a Child's Right to a Healthy and Sustainable Environment
- Goal 4- Fighting Gender Based Rights Violations.

For Nepal, as per the tdhstrategic goals mentioned above, the South Asia region has been addressing Goal 3 Promoting a Child's Right to a Healthy and Sustainable Environment and also some interventions linked to address goals such as Fighting Gender Based Rights Violations under the working areas of Health and Food, Protection against Violence and Exploitation, and ensuring an intact environment. The approaches so far used were capacity building of beneficiaries and partners, protecting the rights of children and youth, and empowering children and youth.

Against this background, the ex-post-evaluation on hand aimed at:

- analyzing the successes and impacts achieved by former tdh projects co-financed by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) in Nepal and to derive strategies for future programmatic orientation in the country
- providing reflection on the projects' outcome by pointing out what structural changes were achieved by the projects
- assessing the long-term effects of these projects and the sustainability of the individual project components
- evaluating to what extent individual project components can be transferred to and applied in other regions of Nepal
- identifying and outlining lessons learnt as the basis for tdh's future country programme in Nepal with strategic BMZ co-financed tdh projects.

During this ex-post evaluation, evaluation questions were administered based on the criteria set by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development - Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC), using mixed-methods approach for data collection. Using the so-called Community Score Card (CSC) methodology, around 145 indicators were considered to verify the current and desired status through the community, project partners, NGOs affiliated with the project intervention of tdh Germany Nepal projects such as HURED-CARC, RSDC, RUKUMELI and

HURENDEC. Additional information was gathered from Key Informant Interviews (KII) with discussions for verification. The indicators were developed and agreed upon in a workshop among tdh staff and consultants, based on the working issues of tdh in Nepal. Each indicator was measured for scoring, based on ranking them as 1: *Improvement needed*, 2: *Satisfactory*, 3: *Good* and 4: *Very good*. The scoring outlined the project interventions that could have been improved or were good and which could be further replicated or scaled up for future interventions.

Major Field Findings

The overall findings of the ex-post evaluation have been analyzed based on the Strategic Goals of tdh formulated in 2013 and again in 2018, primarily the goals *Promoting a Child's Right to a Healthy and Sustainable Environment* and *Ecological Rights of Children* because the major intervention of the programs by tdh in Nepal was focused on these goals. Considering the three main approaches of implementing the program in Nepal, tdh has been able to capacitate children, youth and marginalized groups such as Dalits and women. This project ensured to address the needs during the design phase. In Nepal, not much attention was given by the government authorities for conservation of environment and in such situation the selection of project sites, with the larger objective of environment protection, was appropriate.

Major events that were found to be participatory with children and youth being recognized as part of the development process. Other interventions such as empowerment of children, youth, and women have led to strengthening the community-based organizations through adaptation of organizational policies for working in child rights and integrating environmental issues in the design of other projects. Restoration of water sources, protection from landslides due to erosion, alternative energy and drudgery reduction through water mills have been the most effective programs and were found to be sustainable. One of the major structural changes over time was forming children and youth networks, which helped in reducing gender-based violence and exploitation that existed in the community. Formation of youth networks and capacity building are effective and good strategies for policy advocacy of youth concerns and issues. The mobilization of children and young people has not only positively influenced the protection of water sources and promoted environmental awareness but it has also contributed in reducing social malpractices like child marriage, chhaupadi¹ and other forms of domestic violence. Though there were no direct interventions in formulating policies at the local government level to ensure child and youth rights, the interventions lead to government realizing that constitutional rights should be addressed to develop policies on child safeguarding.

Based on the monitoring and evaluation data, the practice of knowledge sharing between BMZ project partners and exchanging ideas and experiences was found to be highly effective. The projects were monitored and reported regularly through a District Project Advisory Committee mechanism in each district, and Local Project Advisory Committees have been started to regularly conduct the monitoring and reporting on the project interventions, making the government more accountable and projects more transparent.

¹ Chhaupadi is social ill practice where menstruated women have to live in a separate hut or room outside their house during their period (4-5 days).

Conclusion

The interventions by the partner organizations CDS, Rukumeli and HuRENDEC have been implemented successfully by tdh Nepal Office within the given period, by managing the risk factors outlined in the project document. The tdh Nepal Office, partners, and beneficiaries mentioned that the projects were highly relevant as regards the issues of vulnerable groups, and effective in meeting the projects' objectives and goals. The field findings show that the current and desired status for some interventions range from satisfactory to very good, indicating that more could have been done. The relevance of the program appeared satisfactory and suitable, given that projects are extended and continued in future phases. Similarly, coherence to national context and addressing the needs of climate-vulnerable and remote areas with regard to the current needs for food security and raising nutritional values seems to be good. Beneficiaries still think innovations like drip irrigation, farming practices in dry land, crop variety selection, PICO hydro, improved grinding mill with less water, etc, increased networking, and local level context with respect to policies need to be addressed in future interventions. This means that exercises like stakeholder mapping and a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats)-Analysis, and priority mapping need to be done while designing projects. Besides that, planning needs to be done jointly, addressing government plans, trying as far as possible to align with global agendas such as the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), for instance *Zero Hunger, Climate Change, Life on Land*, etc. Overall, the findings indicate that while the relevance of the projects so far was good, their coherence to the relevant plans and policies first aligning to the government 15th year 5 yearly plans, climate change policy, agriculture policy, gender policies, local level plans and tdh Germany Strategic plans needs to be further explored and synergies need to be developed. Although, interventions were short term, tdh has been able to be effective. Efficiency, overall impact, and sustainability were perceived to be *good* and could be better in the future if the given recommendations are integrated into the intervention.

1 Introduction

Nepal is one of the poorest and least developed countries in the world. According to United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) Human Development Report 2020, Nepal's 2018 Human Development Index (HDI) value puts the country in the medium human development category, positioning it at 147 out of 189 countries. Nepal's Gender Development Index (GDI) value rose from 0.75 in 1995 to 0.886 in 2019, an increase of 18 percent (UNDP, 2021). Nepal has made substantive progress in reducing its Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) from 30.1 percent to 17.4 percent over a time frame of five years. In 2019, Nepal ranked 73rd out of 117 qualifying countries on the Global Hunger Index (GHI), and Nepal's GHI has improved, falling from 36.8 in 2000 to 20.8 in 2019, thus almost graduating from serious to moderate severity (NPC, 2019). Nepal made its commitment to undertake the Zero Hunger Challenge declared by the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development held in Brazil in 2012 and reemphasized again by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in its 69th Commission Session held in April 2013. These fora emphasized ending hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition by 2025 sustainably. The majority of the poor and marginalized groups in Nepal face food deficit and have to struggle hard to feed themselves and their family members. Nepal's vulnerability to high food prices, especially in the remote mountain areas, also drives hunger. The average food prices in the mountain and hill regions are over 100 percent higher than in other locations. Exploitation of children vulnerable to human trafficking is a big problem and the country is increasingly vulnerable to environmental degradation impacts. Though there may be studies relevant to climate change and resilience, very little data is available to explain the scenario of the direct impact of climate change on vulnerable groups like children.

Through its 15 years planning, Nepal has committed to attaining the SDG targets by 2030. The underlying concept is *Leave No One Behind*, with a priority to large investments in building human capital, expanding productive infrastructure and raising productivity in agriculture and industry. It commits to preserving the environment and building resilience to natural hazards and climate change and ensuring effective functioning of the federal governance system. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UN CRC), which Nepal ratified in 1990, guarantees that the basic needs of children and adolescents will be met as a fundamental economic and social right, and establishes that State Parties must implement such rights "to the maximum extent of their available resources" (UN, 1989, p. 2). The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) believes that investment in children is investment in human capital. The right to nutrition and care for children, especially during the first 1,000 days of life, including the time of pregnancy, can have a profound impact on a child's ability to grow, learn, and rise out of poverty. It can help break the cycle of poverty for families, communities, and countries which have adopted this practice. It can shape a society's long-term health, stability, and prosperity. Additionally, the Nepalese Children's Act from 1992 is the first act solely dedicated to the rights of the child and their concerns which was prepared based on the UN CRC and align again with the constitutional rights of the children in Nepal. The Act recognizes the rights of the child to identity, non-discrimination, non-exploitation, protection, education and development, and

juvenile justice, in the upbringing, development and protection of the child. Though this Act had been enacted in Nepal nothing much had been done in this regard at the level of the government of Nepal.

Various studies, for example Díaz et al. (2006) or Haines-Young and Potschin (2010), highlight that the global community depends on natural ecosystems not only for goods such as food, timber, and medicine, but also for the provision of a broad array of services such as fresh air and water, climate regulation, carbon storage, and the maintenance of aesthetic, cultural, and spiritual values. Ecosystem health plays an important role in human life; for example, 40 percent of the world economy is derived directly from biodiversity. Mountain ecosystems are particularly significant as they provide numerous critical goods and services (Schild & Sharma, 2011). Therefore, it is important to work towards conservation of the natural capital in the mountains and to augment the flow of ecosystem services. Maintenance of the flow of ecosystem services and avoidance of irreversible damage to the base for these services are a precondition for sustainable growth (Pant, et.al. 2012).

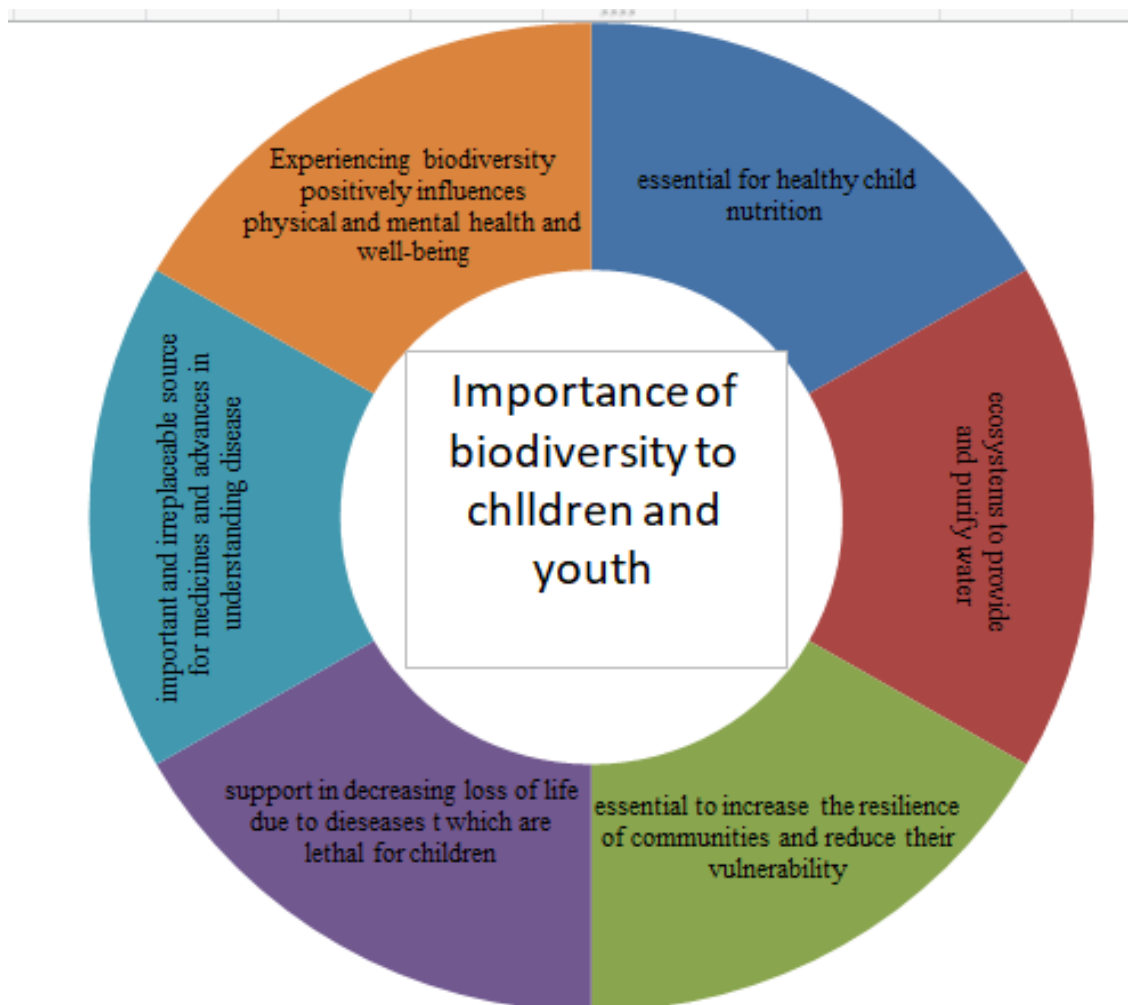
Nepal as a contracting party to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is committed to making a significant reduction in the rate of loss of biodiversity, through conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of biodiversity components, and fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the utilization of genetic resources (UN, 1992). Biodiversity is closely linked to the livelihoods and economic well-being of most of the Nepalese people. It touches upon almost every aspect of Nepalese life, including agricultural productivity, food security, building materials, human health and nutrition, indigenous knowledge, gender equality, culture, climate, water resources and aesthetic value to the society. Millions of rural people directly depend on forest biodiversity for meeting their daily subsistence livelihood requirements. Nepal is one of the first countries that signed the CBD during the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro on 12 June 1992, ratified it on 23 November 1993, and became a Party to the Convention on 21 February 1994.

The Government of Nepal has set a long-term *Vision of a Prosperous Nepal and Happy Nepali* in the constitution of Nepal (Government of Nepal, 2015). The development of a country largely depends on the productive abilities of its citizens. The enhancement of human capacities and their optimum utilization are therefore vital for achieving national prosperity. Nepal's current 15th Five-Year Plan for year 2019/20 to 23/24 has internalized the SDGs in its policies and programmes and commits to transforming Nepal from a least developed country into a developing country category. For Nepal, the National Planning Commission (NPC) develops five-year planning to address poverty issues by contributing towards safeguarding biodiversity and community livelihood practices.

According to the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MOFSC), since 2014 called the Ministry of Forests and Environment (MOFE), Nepal strives to achieve sustainable economic growth through wise use of its natural resources. The Government of Nepal has recognized that the efforts to economic growth would only be sustainable if undertaken through sound environmental management. Nepal has experienced community-based management of forests and agro-biological resources with some very successful conservation models in the country, which also have made a direct positive contribution to poverty alleviation.

Figure 1 highlights the fact that biodiversity is an important element in addressing the rights of children and youth to have healthy nutrition, to live in a pure ecosystem and to have access to safe drinking water as a support to keep in good physical and mental health. However, most ecosystems are facing challenges from factors such as a rapid change in the global climate change, loss of biological diversity, habitat degradation and loss, desertification, and environmental pollution.

Figure 1: Importance of biodiversity to children and youth

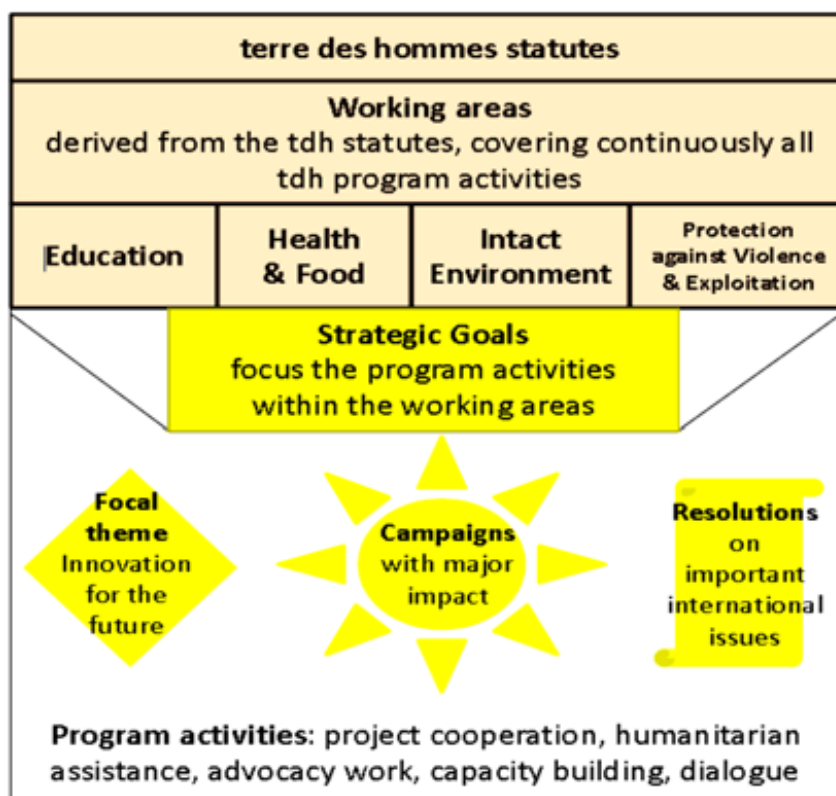


Source: UNICEF, 2020.

1.1 Background

terre des hommes Germany (“Earth of humanity”) is an international children's rights organization that has been promoting equitable development without racial, religious, political, cultural, or gender-based discrimination since 1967. tdh has a mission to stop violence against children, protect them from slavery, exploitation and abuse, and provide for education and training. It aims at strengthening children and realising children's rights for all children because every child has the right to live and to develop in the best possible way. tdh works with partner organisations to ensure that children can grow up in a healthy and sustainable environment that offers life chances to future generations as well. tdh understands itself as a citizens’ initiative and is looking for people in the South and North who will work with it to realise this vision. Strategically, tdh works in the sectors of health and food, protection from violence and exploitation, education and an intact environment as indicated in figure 2. tdh supported more than 243 projects in Latin America, Africa, Asia, and Europe together with local partner organizations in 37 countries. As an independent NGO in Nepal, tdh has been promoting civic engagement and the participation of children and youths in all aspects of its work. The work in Nepal has been focusing particularly on one out of four Strategic Goals within the current period from 2018 to 2023, namely Goal 3- Promoting a Child’s Right to a Healthy and Sustainable Environment and from 2013 to 2018 on Goal 3- Ecological Rights of Children.

Figure 2: tdh Result Chains for Strategic Goals



Source: tdh, 2018

Overall, tdh has been funding projects in Nepal since 1999; since 2015, tdh has been funding projects supporting the earthquake program. The tdh program in Nepal comprises six projects financed by BMZ which have been completed or are currently being implemented. BMZ funding mostly lasts for three years per project and the funds that tdh receives have been channeled through tdh Regional Office to Country Offices. Based on the strategic goals mentioned above, so far, the tdh Nepal project has been funded through the BMZ facility and are aligned to the BMZ Goal of *Adapting to Climate Change - CLAz*.

The rationale behind tdh's work in Nepal is linked with Nepal being one of the poorest countries in South Asia with a huge gap between the more developed cities and the poor rural regions, where the food situation of the population is extremely critical. Besides that, it addresses the issues of malnutrition in Nepal where almost half of all children under the age of five are malnourished. Other regional thrusts include: a conscious shift from needs-based to child rights-based approach in projects; the proper balancing of direct services, policy advocacy and strengthening of rights claimants in projects; partner dialogue and strengthening of project partners' competence; and programmatic advocacy work for mainstreaming child rights in the The Association of Southeast Asian Nations structures and processes.

In a discussion with tdh Administration Officer, it was mentioned that funding themes keep on changing and tdh would not repeat a project in one site longer than one project cycle, unless the country project presence is of high need and scaling up would have an impact. So far, the overall program in Nepal by tdh has been linked to BMZ goals as well as tdh's SDGs and also Nepalese priorities.

In Nepal, tdh's engagement builds on partnerships mainly with district level partner organizations, District Development Committees, District Agriculture Offices, and District Forest Offices. The project activities were implemented by local Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) such as mothers' groups, farmers' groups, youth networks, children's clubs, users' committees and co-operatives.

The following projects, which mirror tdh's Nepal program were chosen for the ex-post-evaluation:

The project with RSDC focused on *Improving the Food Security for Two Marginalized Rural Communities through Improved Ecological Agriculture and Structural Development in Rukum district of Nepal*. The main objective of this project was to increase the food security of marginalized mountain communities in the Village Development Committees (VDCs) of Rukumkot and Morawang by promoting locally appropriate organic agriculture, environmental education, and the creation of market access through the development of local structures. The project intervention supported small landholders in the mountain communities in converting their farms to ecological and commercially oriented agriculture while conserving biodiversity and natural resources such as water and soil. It also served to empower women through farming practices to enhance their livelihood through small income generation activities. tdh implemented this project with two local partners RSDC and HURED-CARC. The target group included 2,000 children and youth (50 % female, 50 % male), 1,000 male and female farmers,

and 1,000 women. Indirectly, 8,487 people from 1,854 households were to benefit from the project.

Similarly, tdh in collaboration with HURENDEC implemented the project titled *Sustainable Utilization of Resources in the Himalaya Region* (HuRENDEC I), aiming at improving the environmental conditions and restoring natural resources in 50 remote mountain communities of the Himalayas in Nepal. The second project phase (HuRENDEC II) addressed *poverty alleviation, livelihood improvement, and environmental protection in twelve Himalayan villages*. A major target objective of HuRENDEC I projects was to support CBO's capacity building for planning, execution and monitoring of project activities, engagement of district monitoring committee including their monitoring and evaluation capacity strengthening, through training and exchange visits, and awareness raising on environment issues through environment day celebrations and radio programmes through activities which were supported by the project. The project pursued the establishment of community structures for the dissemination of expertise and information on climate change and environmental protection with a focus on renewable energy. The target groups directly benefiting from the project included 25,000 inhabitants from 4,180 households. Among them were 6,200 children, 5,700 youths, and 13,100 adults (9,300 women).

HuRENDEC II was recommended by the first phases evaluation. The Second phase covered twelve mountain VDCs of the old administrative structure which now constitute seven municipalities. The direct target group encompassed 20,000 people from 4,000 households out of these twelve villages. Additional objectives of the project were the establishment of a strong cooperation between the communities and local authorities as well as environmental education for children and young people in order to perpetuate positive effects in the field of biodiversity protection.

The CDS project titled *Restoration of Ecosystem and Revitalization of Rivers in the Mid-Hills of Nepal* contributed to the adaptation to climate change in particularly affected Himalayan communities. The project started in 2019 and was meant to be completed by 2021, but due to COVID-19 pandemic starting in 2020, the project was given a continuation until June 2022. The project's aim was to sustainably preserve the biodiversity of the river ecosystems in the communities of Manthali and Ramechhap. The project was expected to reach 30,294 people from 6,600 households who will directly benefit from the project's climate change adaptation activities such as soil erosion control, water resource restoration, and biodiversity conservation. The beneficiaries come from marginalised and especially poor families.

Tables 1 summarizes the projects' evaluation reports, highlighting the local context prior to project interventions and the value addition after the project intervention that had shown some impact in those remote and vulnerable areas.

Table 1: Summary of project impacts on key issues after project completion

Projects	Situation prior to the project	Impact of the project
CDS	Sukajor and Ranajor water catchment of the Ramechhap and Manthali vulnerable to climate change and very dry area	Restoration of water recharge ponds, plantation along the landslide prone areas, enhanced horticultural practices River side plantation done along the Ranajor area to control erosion of the cultivated lands
	Swiss project worked with community forestry and women empowerment but after they left, both community forestry and women empowerment programs not functioning well	Re-formation and activation of women groups, women highly empowered, conservation programs linked with youth and children's network Government ownership of the programs implemented by tdh Establishment of 2 nurseries supporting plantation in the area and strengthening community forestry networks Water sources revived in Ramechhap area after conserving the community forest
Rukum	Rukum East strongly affected by 10 yearlong conflict; food insecure area, insecure livelihood options, high youth migration	Women farmers developed and supported, cooperatives formed, vegetable farming enhanced, youth income generation focusing on livestock and skill based improved, water restoration and upliftment program, plantation on slopes each household learnt to have a kitchen garden and grow their own vegetables and diversified their nutrition intake
	Rukum East project sites did only subsistence farming and women groups not organized	CBOs strengthened especially the women's group and Savings and Credit groups initiated. Women who were vulnerable due to conflict are now more empowered in the area
HURENDEC	Kalikot, Humla, Mugu, Jajarkot has the lowest growth rate contributing to GDP and is the area having second highest poverty rate- vulnerable to climate change and about one third of the population suffers severely from food insecurity, while half are moderately affected by food insecurity; high level of women drudgery	Support in growing vegetables, farming practices, restoration of traditional mills and solar lighting, reduced the drudgery of women and time saving to participate in various community development and livelihood activities
RUKUM & HURENDEC	Rukum East and HURENDEC projects working towards health and sanitation as they were weak in the area and fuel wood is difficult to find	Majority of the households supported in construction of eco-toilets with biogas plants. The eco-toilet pans had separate urinating pit. This has reduced the fuel wood consumption and improved the health of women. Men are also cooking with the biogas and had no

	<p>No waste management practices in the area especially Rukum East and Kalikot</p> <p>Most youth engaged in conflict with no opportunities of livelihood, high migration to India (seasonal)</p>	<p>problems with attached toilet as there is a shortage of livestock that could support the biogas plant.</p> <p>Garbage management done separating garbage, and environmental awareness increased among all the children, youth and vendors as well.</p> <p>Youth and Children's Networks involved in curbing child marriages, encouraging conservation efforts, and participating in politics in all project sites, and this has been a great awareness campaign led by them</p> <p>Youth migration difficult to stop as the areas were not industrial sectors, but some youths are involved in vegetable and livestock farming mostly in Rukum East and Kalikot areas.</p>
<p>All projects</p>	<p>Youth and children never involved in conservation activities and clubs or networks, persistent child marriages, youth migration for higher education, no child or youth clubs formed for a cause and to raise voices for their rights</p>	<p>Youth and Children's Network well established and given recognition by the municipality in Ramechhap and Manthali project sites</p> <p>Youth and Children's Network strengthened but yet to align with local government structures in Rukum East and Kalikot</p> <p>Ramechhap and Manthali schools have done a plantation to control erosion with multiple tree and fruit species and the active support of the school in the initiative.</p>
	<p>Coordination and collaboration with local governance limited after the formation of the new structures</p> <p>No linkages with sustainability practices</p>	<p>Strengthened the working relations with the local government and capacitated in governance practices</p> <p>Sustainability practices depends on people taking ownership and on accountability of the government. In Ramechhap in particular, majority of the project work is outlined in the local level plans and policies, with affiliation given to children and youth network This still needs to be done by Rukum and Kalikot projects.</p> <p>Another sustainable practice is skill training for maintenance of solar, water mills, improved cooking stoves etc. where youth are mobilized and still working</p>

Sources: Bogati & Bhuju (2021); Pokharel et al. (2019); Timsina & Dahal (2018).

1.2 Project sites' introduction

Figure 3 indicates the tdh project intervention sites.

Figure 3: Nepal's Map indicating the study area



Source: Topographical Survey Branch Survey Department, Government of Nepal, 2022.

The projects HuRENDEC I and II were located in Kalikot district in Karnali Province. The province reaches high levels of multidimensional poverty with an MPI of 0.169; that is 39.5% of people which is the highest level as compared to the other six provinces of Nepal. In Karnali, HDI value is 0.538 with GDI 0.902 (UNDP, 2021). The prevalence of sexual abuse of women and children is reportedly high in Kalikot district, as well as in other areas of the Karnali. Caste- and gender-based discrimination is very widespread in Kalikot. Discriminatory practices were greatly reduced during the conflict period but resumed since the peace process began. Kalikot lags behind the national averages on various educational indicators. Kalikot is vulnerable to many environmental hazards, predominantly landslides and soil erosion. Almost all wards are vulnerable to one or more types of disaster. The district has high youth migration and there has been a trend for migrating since a long time.

The RUKUM project was located in Rukum East District. The district is a part of Lumbini Province. Located in the western hill region, Eastern Rukum is a hill district with many valleys. It is bordered by five districts. Rukum East has a population of 57,962 with 28,226 male and 29,736 female (Central Bureau of Statistics, 2021); the district's HDI is 0.563 and its GDI is 0.474 (UNDP, 2021). Eastern Rukum is among the districts with a high prevalence of stunting, acute malnutrition, and anemia in children under five. Due to the challenging terrain, only a fraction of Rukum's land is arable. Rukum's topography makes it highly prone to landslides, and due to the road construction using excavators, the prevalence of landslides has greatly increased. Women suffer from gender-based discrimination in education, nutrition, as well as social and cultural norms. Women are less likely to be involved in economic activities outside the home and are marginalized in major decision making. Caste-based discrimination is still prevalent in district.

The focus of tdh projects, especially in Rukum and HuRENDEC has been on food security issues in the mountain ecosystem. Food security in a humanitarian context involves ensuring an adequate supply of food and meeting the nutritional needs and cultural expectations of people. The environment, food security and livelihoods are co-dependent. If land is degraded or prone to natural hazards, food production is low and significant food shortages can occur. Food-secure communities, especially those reliant on the environment for their livelihoods, require healthy and productive ecosystems.



Photograph 1: Landslide and road plantation in Ramechhap.
Source: tdh drone imaging (2022).

The CDS project was located in the Ramechhap District; the district known as Wallo Kirat Ramechhap with Manthali as its district headquarters and covering an area of 1,546 km² and a population of 65,347 in 2021. The district lies in Bagmati Province. The MPI in Ramechhap is 0.028-0.035, the HDI 0.661 and the GDI 0.929 (UNDP, 2021). Climatically, the region has 42

percent of subtropical areas with an altitude ranging from 300 to 5,000 meters and with a population speaking the following languages: Nepali, Tamang, Newari, Sherpa, Sunuwar, Majhi, Magar, Thami and Hyolmo/Yolmo. Ramechhap is one of the most vulnerable sites to climatic impacts due to the ubiquitous presence of climatic hazards such as landslides, floods, droughts, and glacial lake outburst floods, as well as poor social, economic and institutional capacity.

Bhujju et al. (2013) mentioned that people were experiencing an acute shortage of water, be it in the form of drinking water or water for irrigation purposes. These shortages have serious implications for agriculture and food security, forest resources, and human and livestock health. The major occupation of the people living in this region is agriculture and animal husbandry. As income from agriculture and animal husbandry is not sufficient for most families, a large proportion of the population, predominantly male, works in different cities in Nepal and abroad, especially in the Middle East countries. The youth tend to migrate out of the district mostly for higher education and for work. Prior to tdh initiatives in the area, SWISS Forest development worked in the region, strengthening community forestry projects.

2 Evaluation Objective, Use, and Scope

An ex-post evaluation is a highly valuable tool for determining how successful a development project has been after resources from (international) donor agencies have been withdrawn. Additionally, the evaluation format can determine the long-term sustainability of the outcomes for the community members who were engaged in the project. Ex-post evaluations can help determine if a policy intervention has reached the objectives it was aimed to achieve and, if not, for what reasons it fell short. This in turn can provide useful lessons for the better design of future interventions. More precisely, the ex-post-evaluation on hand is expected to serve a dual purpose of accountability and learning and is expected to feed into the planning of the foundations for the future Nepal program of tdh. The evaluation has a strong utility focus and looked particularly at two of the six OECD-DAC evaluation criteria:

- Impact which is expected to appear after a certain period of time after the end of the cooperation, to measure the extent to which the intervention has generated significant positive or negative, intended or unintended, higher-level effects. Impact addresses the intervention's ultimate significance and potentially transformative effects, that is holistic and enduring changes in systems or norms,
- *Sustainability* where evaluators look at whether the effect is continually produced after the end of the cooperation.

This kind of evaluation uses a holistic approach to development, which included and addressed socio-cultural practices, community development, promotion of indigenous knowledge, development of feeling of ownership, and the taking on of responsibility at the community level. The evaluation objective and its use have been mentioned as below:

- analyze the successes and impacts achieved by former tdh projects co-financed by the BMZ in Nepal and to derive strategies for future programmatic orientation in the country
- provide a reflection on the projects' outcome so as to point out what structural changes were achieved by the projects
- assess what long-term effects these projects had and how sustainable individual project components were
- evaluate to what extent individual project components can be transferred to and applied in other regions of Nepal
- identify and outline lessons learnt as basis for tdh's future country program in Nepal with strategic BMZ co-financed tdh projects.

It is expected that the results of this ex-post evaluation will be used to define the thematic and methodological orientation of tdh's future engagement in Nepal with BMZ co-financed projects, in alignment with the government's 5 Year Plans, and to provide support in achieving tdh's Strategic Goals. Where necessary, according to empirical findings, tdh will support partner organizations' organizational development processes. Furthermore, possible impulses for strengthening synergies between partner organizations within Nepal will be used and implemented by the tdh Nepal Office partner platform.

3 Evaluation Methodology

During this ex-post evaluation, the evaluation questions were limited to the questions in the terms of reference and key questions as provided to identify the indicators separately for each project. The scope of work was used as a guideline for the consultants to propose a methodology using the BMZ evaluation guidelines in conjunction with criteria set down by the OECD-DAC. Special attention was paid to the cross-cutting issues in the entire project cycle, namely, gender and diversity, equality and environmental sustainability to further scale up project interventions in Nepal. Project interventions were designed using the logical framework for different projects, based on the priority of addressing the goals and objectives of tdh Germany. Ecological restoration, food security, watershed management, securing sustainable livelihoods and addressing child and youth rights were identified as the core program interventions.

For this ex-post-evaluation, the direct target groups were poor beneficiaries, most vulnerable, and those from remote areas; among them women, children, youth, marginalized communities, and policy makers or implementers who were interviewed through either KII or Focus Group Discussions (FGD).

Key overarching question of the ex-post-evaluation: How successful have the selected projects been in achieving the goals set by tdh for the work in the South Asia region and especially in Nepal, initiating sustainable structural changes, especially for children and youth in the target regions?

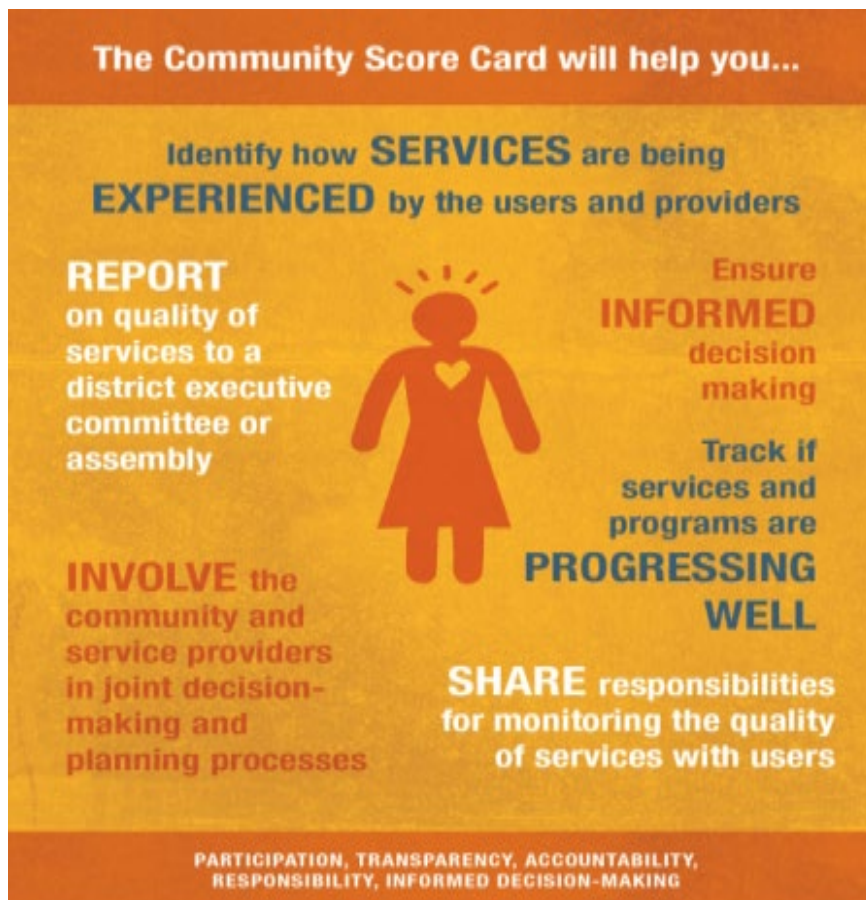
Additional overarching questions of the ex-post-evaluation:

- To what extent have the projects contributed to tdh's central field of work, strengthening child protection, in the target regions? Which measures were particularly effective in this regard?
- What were the obstacles and challenges regarding the activities in the field of child protection?
- Did the projects contribute to a reduction of gender-based discrimination in the target region?

Geographical scope: The evaluation covered numerous project implementation sites in the (rural) municipalities to get information on the overall learning and transformation for tdh to scale up the projects in the long run. During field visits major limitations occurred regarding accessibility and hindrances due to local level elections.

For the field data collection, the team visited the sites in Ramechhap with teams of tdhhead office in Germany and Nepal Office during the period April 17-21, 2002. Similarly in May 22-29, 2022, field visits were made to Rukum East and Kalikot. In the course of the ex-post evaluation, the evaluation team visited three target regions in person. Since the projects HuRENDEC I and HuRENDEC II covered the same target region, Kalikot, two of the four selected projects were covered by visiting this region. The study sites selection was done based on the following criteria and project implementation.

Figure 4: Use and value of the Community Score Card



Source: CARE (2013)

This data collection was verified based on triangulation, using quantitative and qualitative methods. Special attention was paid to participatory methods of data collection, which was carried out in close cooperation with the partner organizations and representatives of the target groups. An important consideration during the data collection was to ensure the questions were child-oriented, safeguarding child rights issues and sensitive to gender relations. The evaluation groups were encouraged to ensure no circumstances would be created hampering cultural norms and values while questioning the respondents. The ex-post evaluation used the comparator-based method (before and after approach), using the so-called CSC methodology developed by CARE in 2013. The CSC is a two-way and ongoing participatory tool for assessment, planning, monitoring, and evaluation of services. It is easy to use and can be adapted into any sector where there is a service delivery scenario. The CSC brings together the demand side (service users) and the supply side (service providers) of a particular service or program to jointly analyze issues underlying service delivery problems and find a common and shared way of addressing those issues (CARE, 2013).

3.1 Data collection methodology

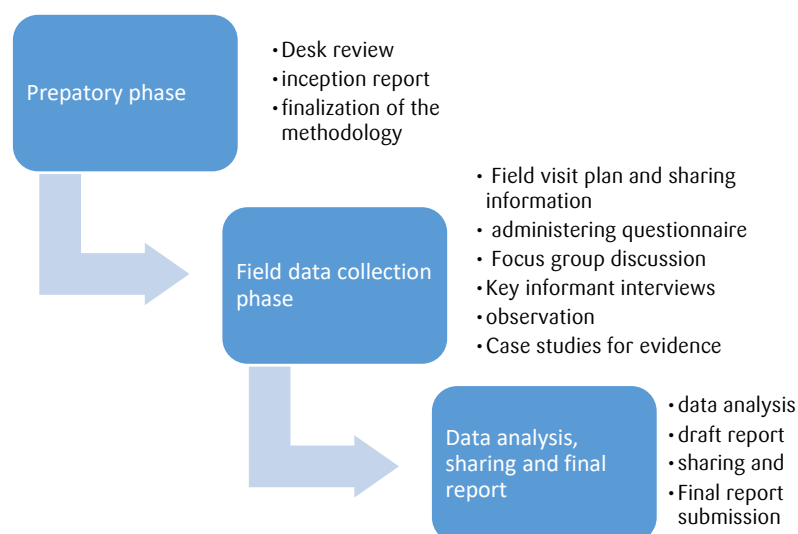
Three phases were adopted to collect the data from the field and secondary sources as given below:

Preparatory Phase / Document review: To gather information on the implementation, a desk review was conducted where secondary information was collected based on documents and data provided by tdh (Head Office in Germany, Regional Office in India, and Country Office in Nepal), the local partner organizations, and local and national authorities in the target regions, including project evaluations already conducted.

Other supporting policy documents, articles and journals were also consulted. The documents reviewed were project documents, annual reports, evaluation reports and specific district profiles, in order to gather information on the sites of implementation.

Field Data collection Phase: After finalizing the methodology, field visits were conducted in three different sites according to the action plan and schedules in Annex 1 and Annex 2. The relevant information collected as per the checklist provided with the key questions properly addressed. In some places, an in-depth survey was conducted with the beneficiaries of all these projects. For each intervention area, program focused survey tools in form of CSC were developed, not limited to the questions mentioned in the Terms of Reference. The difference between the current status (CS) and desired status (DS) revealed that for the projects to be in the good to very good status more work is required which is measured in terms of relevance, coherence, effectiveness and efficiency, impact and sustainability which needs long term investment and collaboration with local government and partner organizations. Traingulation done through community interactions and interviews with important stakeholders followed by interface meetings with all these stakeholders to ensure that all the indicators and responses were tallied and addressed in the similar manner (see figure 6).

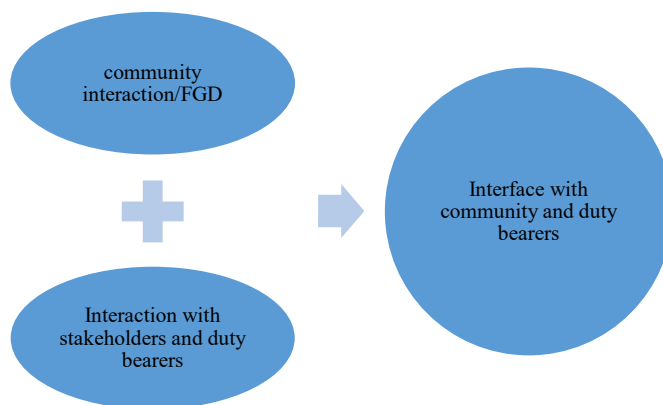
Figure 5: Final ex-post evaluation modality and approaches



Source: own design.

Community Dialogue and Interaction or Focus Group Discussion: Figure 6 illustrates on how the score card has been used. Initially, FGDs were conducted to get information on the effect of project interventions and for assessing its impact and sustainability practices among the direct and indirect beneficiaries. These discussions shed light on the knowledge level of the people on food security, agro-forestry practices, restoration of water systems and natural resource conservation and management impacting on their livelihood, health, and wellbeing. The respondents for FGD consisted of girls/women (above 18 years) and men and women who were the members of Forest Users Group, agro-forestry user groups, Disabled group, children and youth networks, cooperative members, women's group, water user groups and Farmers' Groups. In each FGD the team tried to ensure having at least 50% of women, disabled persons, or marginalized beneficiaries, and each group had at least three to five members. Field level coordinators, partners and facilitators were contacted to ensure as much participation of the target groups as possible. FGDs conducted during the evaluation have been updated as per the field visit outlines as listed below (list of participants in Annex 4). The ex-post evaluation conducted group consultations with nine community level interactions, three each at the government or other NGO level, and one mixed group or interface. The total participants for the interaction or consultations were 101 men and 103 women. That is, in each site, interaction took place with two community mixed groups, one with stakeholders and one interface interaction.

Figure 6: Illustrations for ex-post evaluation process



Source: own design.

Interaction and dialogue among duty bearers² and other stakeholders³ Interaction and dialogue was held among the representatives of municipalities, ward offices, civil society representatives, development activists, project stakeholders, media, etc. using the Score Card Tool. The

² Duty bearers here is known as the government officials or the local government.

³ Stakeholder here is known as other NGO partners and CBOs.

interaction among these were conducted because all tdh projects in Nepal need to be approved by the government and also because the consent and approval of the government was necessary for the local consultant to work in the area. While designing the project and during implementation efforts are made to collaborate with duty bearers and stakeholders in order to get technical inputs from them. As per the law of land, Government authorities (Social Welfare Council) are responsible to conduct social audit and validate the project intervention and support sustainability through developing policies and plans.

Interface dialogue between community and duty bearers and other stakeholders Interface dialogue was held at the municipality level among the representatives of the communities, target beneficiaries and partner organizations to verify and finalize the score card tool analysis and agree on how well the project interventions performed and what could have been the desired status. This helped the evaluators to gather the information and triangulate with peoples' participation, to ensure that the project has been relevant, coherent, efficient, effective, impactful, and sustainable. Table 2 shows the total FGDs and KIIs conducted in the areas.

Table 2: Stakeholder information

FGD/CSC	Number of Event	Male	Female	Total
Community level	9	46	68	114
District level Stakeholders	3	30	12	42
Mix Group (Community & District)	3	25	23	48
Total		101	103	204

Source: own design.

Key Informant Interview (KII) were conducted to get information from the key informants about the project intervention, addressing the questions related to the OECD-DAC criteria. KII informants interviewed were mainly the different stakeholders and partners, namely local government officials from the municipalities and rural municipalities, representatives of partner organization, representatives of CBO's, forest user groups, youth and children network, women's groups, and tdh and regional staff. Altogether 35 such interviews were conducted (list in Annex 3). A separate checklist was prepared and finalized before starting the field work for the KII for each stakeholder

Data analysis, sharing and final reporting Phase: The final phase comprised the data analysis. The data compiled was transferred to an excel spreadsheet and necessary charts for interpretation were prepared.

3.2 Prioritizing issues and indicators

The overall issues were discussed based on the project goals, objectives, and outputs relating with the social, economic, cultural, and political aspects that made an impact after the intervention. Based on the checklist of the questionnaire, around 129 indicators for CDS, 144 indicators for HuRENDEC and Rukum, were developed and analysed based on score card as given in Annex 3 a and b. Each indicator was measured for scoring based on ranking them as 1: Improvement needed, 2: Satisfactory, 3: Good and 4: Very good. The scoring outlined the project interventions that could have been improved or were good, and which could be replicated or scaled up for future interventions. Each indicator's finding is interpreted in the chapter of findings. The indicators developed for the score card methodology were given as:

- Youth migration
- Frequent change in leadership
- Awareness of multiple issues/sectors
- Priority of youths on what they know and have (skill-based)
- Participation of minority communities and groups (youth)
- Survival of plantations
- Continuation of CBOs created
- Insufficient infrastructure for water restoration and soil conservation
- Weak implementation of environment-related legislation – environmental impact assessment, policies, and laws
- Meaningful representation and decision-making position of women, children, and youth
- No land use planning and land use conversion, e. g., agriculture land converted into settlement
- Open grazing, soil erosion due to physical construction causing landslides
- Use of chemical fertilizer
- Food insecurity, alternative energy
- Drudgery of women and limited livelihood options
- Strong social and cultural norms hindering empowerment of women and marginalized groups.

Encountered methodological challenges included

- (i) The time limit was an issue as tdh had targeted to complete the ex-post evaluation by the middle of July so that its recommendation could be used in formulating new strategies and projects based on the lessons learnt. Thus, the evaluation concentrated

mostly on easily accessible sites and the results could be biased based on the observations and interactions done to measure the overall impact.

- (ii) Not all targeted key informants or beneficiaries could be interviewed due to concurrent commitments but where feasible, repeated calls were made to ensure greater coverage and depth in both stakeholder consultation and data triangulation.
- (iii) The field level consultations were somewhat hindered as regards full participation due to local level elections, but it also meant that both outgoing and new Municipality and Rural Municipality office bearers were consulted.

4 Evaluation Findings

The evaluation findings have been analysed and assessed in two parts. Section 4.1 deals with the evaluation findings and its implications based on the previous project documents, evaluation reports, and annual reports. In the second part, the findings have been analysed based on the field site observations and interactions with tdh staff.

4.1 Review of evaluation findings and implication

The projects so far implemented through tdh highlight the importance of these projects to address sustainability, food security, child rights and ensuring people's participation, sustainable use of the resources and restoring ecosystems, especially focusing on reviving water ecosystems in different vulnerable areas of Nepal. This concern has been indicated as a rationale for this study to be undertaken by the ex-post evaluation team members.

During the evaluation, previous evaluation reports were reviewed, and this showed that the findings regarding the project achievement and their recommendations had been mostly addressed by tdh in Nepal. Summary findings of the evaluation projects and actions taken are indicated below:

1. The project "Improved Food Security for Two Marginalized Rural Communities through Improved Ecological Agriculture and Structural Development" in Rukum district of Nepal was implemented for three years (2015-2018). The external and project completion evaluation for this project was conducted in 2018.
 - The project objective to form CBOs was completed in 2017 but this evaluation found out that very few of the previously formed CBOs were functioning.
 - The two agri-product sale centers were still functioning and women farmers and cooperatives still active. Women farmers were engaged in taking land on lease for agriculture farming and were being supported by the ward as well.
 - Establishment of veterinary centers again very effective for livestock breeding and as support for income generation activities. Only one farmer still doing buffalo farming.
 - Start up support for income generation in agriculture and livestock helped migrants but not all continued the activity; for example, poultry keeping was not continued after the project ended.
 - tdh interventions on eco-toilets supporting the Open Defecation Free program in Rukum which was a government program is doing well and all toilets are functioning
 - Plantations were done but due to free grazing in the area and dry area conditions, the majority of the plantation could not function well till the end of the project. Steep slopes and rapid urbanization in the area being converted for settlements, making plantation difficult.

2. Sustainable Utilization of Resources in Himalayan Region HuRENDEC I (2013-2016). The critical findings of phases I and II of the project were:
 - PICO-hydro supporting the lighting system and reducing women drudgery needs to be scaled up in future planning
 - Alternate energy solar in 50 communities supporting families without electricity supply: some villages have still not been electrified
 - Improved cooking stoves and biogas with eco-toilets: functioning well and well accepted by the local community; needs scaling up as the skill provided is also generating income.
 - Supported installation of water storage tanks, construction, and installation of cisterns (rainwater harvesting tanks) and promotion of eco-toilets improving health and hygiene, and most of the storage tanks and eco-toilets functioning well

3. Sustainable Utilization of Resources in Himalayan Region HuRENDEC II (2017-2019) project was upscaled using the lessons learnt and incorporating the evaluation recommendations of Phase I project.
 - CBO capacity building and addressing power roles in the society has dealt with women empowerment issues which have been well addressed. Women in the area feel more empowered and there is reduced discrimination in development programs. The impact has been greater after the Maoist conflict.
 - Strong performance in mobilizing child and youth networks in support of environmental activities which are well accepted by the local government. However, the local government has yet to set up a plan to ensure children and youth involvement and to certify these networks. Youth participation in global forums and sharing of learnings for social, political and environmental change has been very impressive, where youth not only collaborated with existing programs but also initiated their own programs and they generated funds themselves.
 - Poverty alleviation and learnings from phase I of HuRENDEC project contributed to upscaling in Phase II, with a growing focus on green enterprise and marketing strategies-recommended for further upscaling and replication in other sites of Karnali Provinces

Basically, the overall HURENDEC project highlighted the importance of the mountain ecosystem and has been relevant in addressing issues like water scarcity, food production, alternate energy, drudgery of women, youth migration and providing skill training. These need to be further upscaled in collaboration with municipalities. Some other key factor observed, and evaluations pointed out were the need to address the discrimination and empowerment issues among Dalit families and address social norms which has been playing a large role in restricting women inempowerment issues, environmental concerns and grazing pressure to be reduced to save plantations. The points mentioned above still persisted that needed to be addressed.

4. IKU-CDS Preserving biodiversity through ecosystem restoration and revitalization of the rivers-Sukajor and Ranjor with greater participation, as also capacity building of residents' communities Nepal is being implemented in Ramechhap District of Bagmati Province. The major findings and its implications are given below:

- Ramechhap is vulnerable to climate change and plantation activities are hindered by lack of water which also hinders agriculture production. The hindrances have been addressed to some extent but as the area of intervention is large, concrete impact is difficult to observe
- Conservation and horticultural practices in schools and by farmers is impressive and impact can be observed where soil erosion has been controlled. This program can be further upscaled in future with attention paid to the right choice of tree species for use in dry land areas.
- Supporting traditional practices by restoring water recharge ponds supporting downstream land use, is a good model, and this can be replicated in Rukum East or Kalikot areas where water is scarce and plantation survival is a challenge.
- Government support for the Children's and Youth network through their affiliation was appreciative and it was again recommended that the project work with the local government from the beginning to ensure child and youth rights are addressed at all levels of development and decision making
- CDS having a strong network and good coordination with local government structures and District Forrest Offices' (DFO) engagement is seen to strongly take up the plantation to make it a success.
- Income generation among women to be scaled up by providing refresher course or by tying up with other project interventions, for when tdh is no longer supporting this project.

Again, the evaluation report shows that overall, the project had been relevant, coherent, effective, cost efficient, and sustainable. At the impact level, income generation by empowering women to grow vegetables has supported their efforts to deal with their economic issues. However, it would take a while to observe the overall impact of restoring water recharge ponds and doing plantations.

In conclusion, though tdh has implemented or is in a current state of implementation of projects through BMZ, the area of intervention and projects were of a different nature as per the given in figure 1 linked to the issues with child's right and youth participation for environmentally friendly development. The recommendations made by the internal or external evaluations on lessons learning has been a crucial step that was addressed by tdh Nepal office to scale up and respond in other parts of the working area. For example, climate change practices were initiated through farming practices supporting nutritional values, non-timber farming production (NTFP) initiated for income generation, conservation efforts stopping landslides, etc.

4.2 Key field findings and analysis

The working area of tdh in Nepal has been basically focusing on the protection of ecological rights of children or their right to a healthy and sustainable environment as one of its strategic goals. In the context of anticipated outcomes and impact envisioned by tdh while planning / implementing projects in Nepal, tdh important approaches included capacity building and socio-economic empowerment of communities, protection of rights of the children and youth.

4.2.1 The projects' relevance

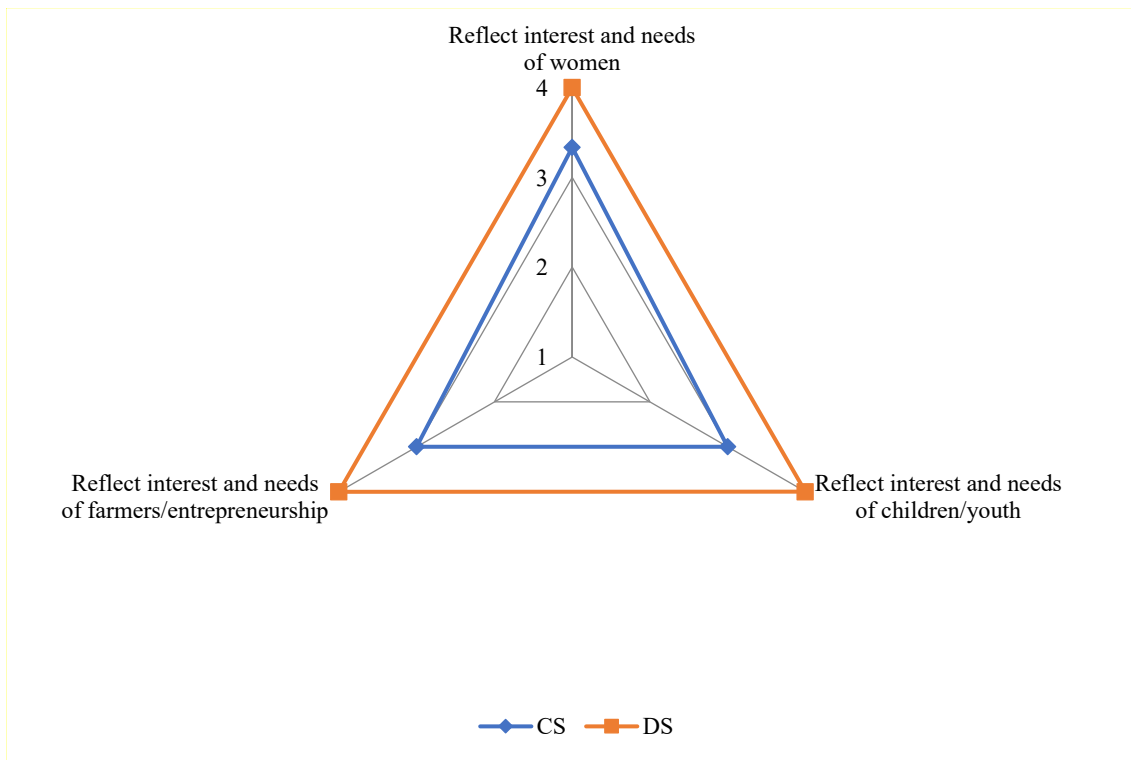
Relevance here was analyzed to examine the extent to which the desired objectives and designs responded to target groups' needs and priorities. Understanding (gendered) power dynamics and reflecting on the commitment to leave no one behind are crucial to understand the relevance of this programme. The key question concerning the relevance criterion was whether tdh in Nepal did the right things in implementing the four prescribed projects in Nepal.

Reflecting the needs of target groups

As indicated in the previous chapter, marginalized communities, youth and children have never been considered as major stakeholders in development projects dealing with issues like climate change, health and food in Nepal. Though the rights of children and youth were the investigated projects' focus, the intervention for the project implementation had been done throughworking with women, farmers and forest user groups as the point of entry, reaching out to target groups. Therefore, tdh tried to reflect the needs of the women, farmers groups and other target groups as a means of ensuring that the child and youth rights are addressed, convincing adults of seeking to see the point of view of children, and to ensure that children and youth themselves take the lead in the activities and advocate for themselves.

Based on the interaction with communities, CBO's and local government representatives, the projects reflected the needs and interests of the primary target groups (women, youth, children, farmers group, and natural resource management groups) which were found to be relevant towards improving the rights of women, children, youth, and farmers groups. Overall, the program is appropriate and accommodates the issues and concerns of women, children and farmers. Figure 7, taking the average of scores, indicates that the projects reflected the interests and needs of these core target groups. Although the results indicate the current status of meeting target groups' needs as "good", the respondents expect it to be better in future. Based on the findings, participatory planning and awareness raising while designing projects and plans was found to be very important. It means gaps in community or participatory planning were uncovered as an issue and community people also reflected that their participation was not considered very often while designing the project in early stages of the project intervention. However, NGO partners claimed that they consulted randomly with community groups and beneficiaries while designing the project.

Figure 7: Reflecting the needs



Rating scale: 1- Improvement needed; 2=Satisfactory; 3=Good and, 4= Very good
CS- Current Status and DS-Desired Status

The overall status of the tdh program in Nepal could have been “very good”, if from the beginning of the intervention, the roles and needs of children, youth, women and marginalized groups had been identified. Some major needs that could have been identified better were

- capacity development,
- youth led awareness,
- extent of participation required from youth and children

Meanwhile, policy reforms, environmental degradation and its effect on the welfare of the target groups, child rights-based approaches and advocacy initiatives were relevant to reduce the gender-based rights violations (GBRV) by establishing the rights of farmers, girls, and women.

Alignment with outcomes and outputs

tdh and the partners expected that in all project intervention sites it would contribute to engaging youth and children in deepening awareness and prioritizing issues concerned with issues of a healthy and sustainable environment.

Among the investigated projects, the major outcomes and outputs varied. They comprised

- improving livelihoods
- child rights issues
- youth networking.

HURENDEC and Rukum projects focused on major issues like climate change adaptation, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) and alternate energy. Some key interventions to combat climate change were adaptation practices like growing vegetables in tunnels to generate income. Another intervention to support livelihoods where firewood was not available were improved cooking stoves. Other interventions were biogas and PICO hydro as well as the WASH program with eco-toilets.

As each project implemented by tdh in Nepal was unique and had different objectives, it was intended that partners would involve children and youth in environmental activities such as plantation, campaigns and create networks or train them for environmental protection measures.

Investigating the relevance of these measures, for example. conservation activities were stronger in Ramechhap with youth, women and children engaged in restoration of landslide prone areas, school plantation and roadside plantation. While such activities were less in Rukum where forest user groups were more active in conserving vulnerable sites. Food security and health has been the strength of the Rukum project where female farmers were engaged in growing vegetables and introduced to maintaining kitchen gardens. Farmers groups were engaged in producing non-timber forest products in Kalikot such as Satuwa (*Paris Ployphylla*) used for medicines.



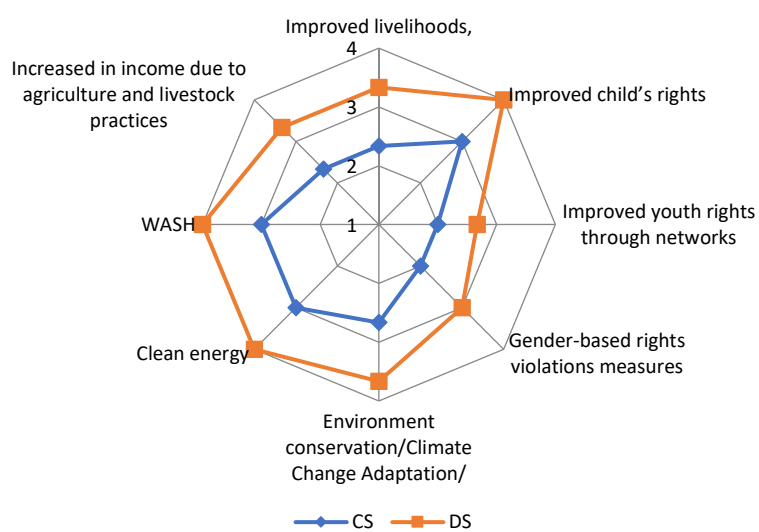
Photograph 2: Community plantation in Ramechhap.
Source: tdh drone imaging (2022)



Photograph 3: School plantation in Ramechhap / Source: tdh drone imaging (2022).

The evaluation interaction found the perceived current and desired status of the different project measures to be average (see Figure 8), while highlighting the fact that livelihood improvement, GBRV, youth and child rights network were ranked "good" in Ramechhap, while there is significant need for improvement in these areas in Rukum East and Kalikot. Addressing child rights and environmental issues with regard to climate change is already experienced as "good" and could be "very good" if the respective measures were scaled up.

Figure 8: Alignment with outcomes and outputs



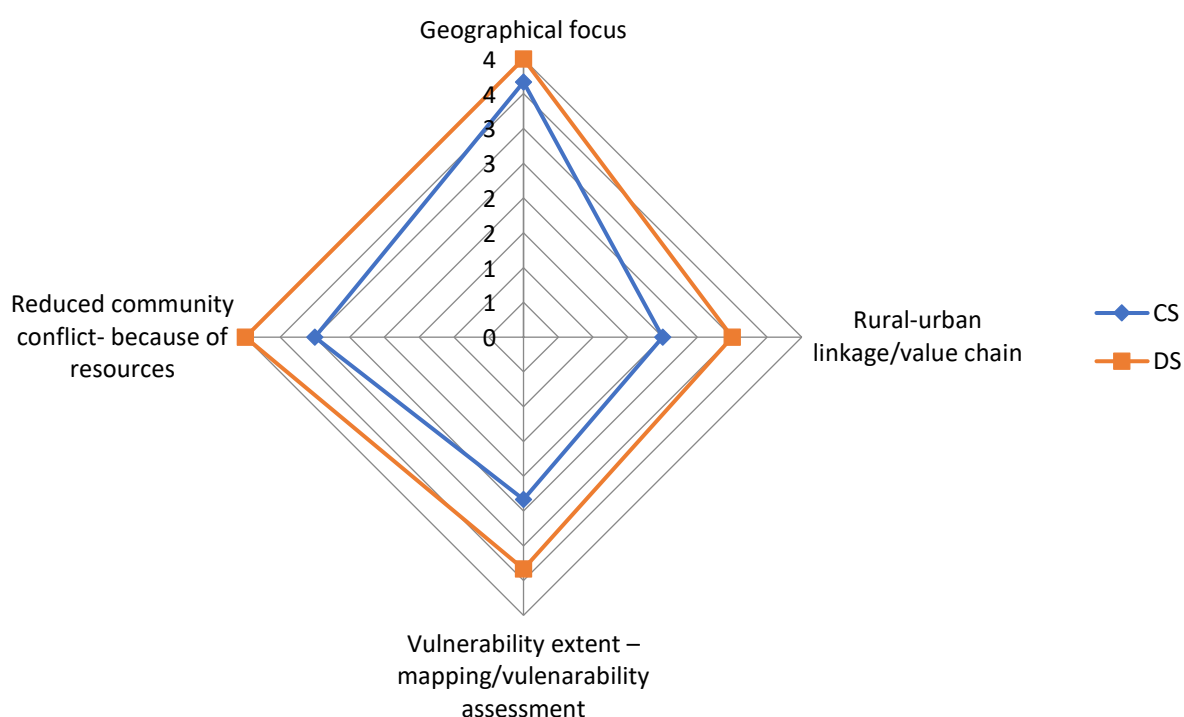
Rating scale: 1- Improvement needed; 2=Satisfactory; 3=Good and, 4= Very good
CS- Current Status and DS-Desired Status

Additionally, the findings indicate the need for tdh to collaborate with the local government and partners to ensure that environmental protection activities, ecosystem-based adaptation, building children's and youth's awareness, are furthered strengthened. Main shortfalls were limited awareness among all target groups and local partners to prioritise these issues in their respective plans. WASH and climate change adaptation practices need to be scaled up in future initiatives and children and youth can be part of the local or community action plan preparation working on climate change adaptation plans. Alternate energy outputs not only reduced the drudgery of women but also improved the health of women with the reduction of respiratory diseases and eye infections. Economic incentives for poverty reduction can happen if income generation activities are conducted. In the case of tdh, it has linked livelihood issues to strengthen target groups' economic empowerment, which can further support children and youth in future, for example, by educating the children. Income generation through livestock and farming has been a link not only to address climate change adaptation but also to ensure a sustainable livelihood system in the long run.

Relevance of project locations

The project site selection, which community and interface meetings rated as “very good”, was appropriate. The interaction results as shown in figure 9 indicate that based on the current status, tdh selection of working sites/geographical focus was "good". Community conflict was present prior to the resource use and extent of vulnerability was "good" and "satisfactory" during the intervention time of the project phases. However, the perception of a rural urban linkage to add value to the production by increasing income through agriculture and livestock was limited to certain groups only, making the project only “satisfactory” in all the sites. tdh Prior to the project intervention women, children and youth did not have any opportunities to participate in development processes and had no knowledge of growing food using new technologies to mitigate the effects of climate change. The desired state here indicates that while the value chain and the rest of the intervention has to some extent supported them to increase their income, geographical upscaling is required in similar locations as not all villages were covered by the investigated project interventions. For example, local communities have become vulnerable to disasters both natural and man-made like flood, earthquake and climate change. The issues of the forcibly displaced children and youth issues still have to be addressed in the coming future.

Figure 9: Relevance of project locations



Rating scale: 1- Improvement needed; 2=Satisfactory; 3=Good and, 4= Very good
 CS- Current Status and DS-Desired Status

In Nepal, differences between local communities which have access to natural resources and those not having access to resources tends to create conflict situations. The resource conflict seems to be minimized to some extent in all project areas and participants agreed that this issue could be reduce further in future projects (phases).

4.2.2 Coherence and partnership (tdh and local government)

tdh implements its projects and programs in Nepal through partners from the federal to the local level government (youth networks are there in the federal level and is connected through the regional and local level), aligning with national, global and partner/institutional policies and priorities. Partners highly value their partnership with tdh for its mutual trust and respect, flexibility and quality of dialogue. The findings suggest that that the partners coordinated well with each other and communications in all the interventions were done in a transparent manner. Project objectives were found to be linked with two of tdh’s strategic goals:

- fighting GBRV
- a healthy and sustainable environment.

Example of government and partner synergy was- some major synergetic activities done along with government office and local ward level offices contributed to infrastructure development such as irrigation structures, PICO hydro, water mills, taking care of roadside plantation in Ramechhap and restoring water recharge ponds. The interaction clarified on the coherence of the program implemented by tdh in Nepal and partnership with the local government. Government officials indicated during the investigation that their role at all stages in the project cycle, from planning to implementation and also monitoring and evaluation of the project interventions, was highly important, valued and respected.

Further analysis was carried out to look at the coherence and partnership aspects to determine the extent to which other interventions (particularly policies), support or undermine the intervention and vice versa. During the ex-post evaluation, internal coherence (within one institution) including compatibility with internal norms and standards, and external coherence (with other actors' interventions in the same context) was also studied. Coherence included concepts of complementarity, harmonisation and co-ordination, and the extent to which the tdh intervention has added value while avoiding duplication of efforts to achieve national and international goals of tdh. The field consultation and KII interviews verified why tdh work is important and relevant to Nepalese context. The answers from the relevant stakeholders mentioned that "when tdh developed the project document, it had outlined some challenges and issues in the working site, namely that after the formation under the new government policies, Rukum, Kalikot, Humla, Mugu, Jajarkot and Ramechhap had weak governance, faced environmental challenges, and had problems with food security, equality, rampant development and lack of community awareness". The villages were not accessible by road and irrigation facilities and the education system was in a poor state. Problems at the socio-cultural sphere, a weak economy, political disturbances, and lack of programs focusing on children and youth were prominent issues. Both, FGD consultations and KII in Ramechhap and Rukum indicate that the project intervention for income generation is quite relevant to Nepal but could have been done better to get maximum benefit, coverage and impact for all the beneficiaries.

Coherence with tdh

The country strategy program developed in 2013-2018 and again in 2018-2023 by tdh regarding South Asia, indicated the relevance of the project that fitted well with the projects in Nepal. Reviewing the tdh Regional Strategy documents and relating with tdh Nepal, it was clearly observed that their focus has been aligned with the strategic goals by promoting the rights of the most marginalized groups such as women, children and youth, with regard to education, water and sanitation, environmental restoration and access to decision-making and service delivery. The Country Strategy builds on previously achieved results, focusing on sectors in which Nepal has strong ownership and where tdh had experience, expertise and value to add. The project coherence with tdh indicates that its mission in strengthening children and realising child's rights for all children because every child has the right to live and to develop in the best possible way has been aligned. At tdh, they seem to be convinced that sustainable development is possible for all people if the interests of children and future generations are respected and realised. Thus, even when children and youth may not be the focus of the program, the overall

integrated program will reach the youth and children through their families. For example, women groups involvement in income generation had led to women earning their own livelihood which resulted in women supporting their children financially for their studies. Another example is of children learning kitchen gardening with their family and learning the importance of organic farming that supported a healthier lifestyle and of eating fresh food from their own garden.

Cohesiveness and synergies with local government

The findings indicate that so far tdh Nepal Office was doing "Good" and hopefully if it is scaled up could do "Very Good" regarding having a synergetic relationship with government and partners. One of the key examples of synergetic effort was the HuRENDEC I project, which was upscaled by addressing poverty and livelihood projects for sustaining and conserving mountain ecosystems. In this case, HuRENDEC focused on supporting and developing water mills by replacing the traditional mills which could only be reached by the women walking for hours to grind their grains. The government already had a plan for this but did not have sufficient funds and tdh helped them achieve this. The timesaving achieved made it possible for the women to do other jobs in the home and to learn new skills to overcome their poverty by participating in income generation activities such as growing vegetables, sewing, tailoring or growing NTFP products that had market value, as for example weaving clothes out of stinging nettle.

tdh does not have the sole responsibility of fulfilling all development demands in regions where vulnerability and requirements are very high. tdh has focused on programs with limited time frames and budgets to show impact and to make it coherent with government and local partners. The major synergies developed with other partners and local government was, on the one hand, in supporting hardware initiatives such as construction of check dams, school plantation, waste management, irrigation canals, water lifting, plantations, and, on the other hand, capacity building as well as supporting youth and children for their campaigns and advocacy on rights-based issues and conservation efforts. Synergies during the field implementation were found to be necessary not only to address the national goals and strategies, but to strengthen the partnership. Some other examples of synergy and working in partnership were irrigation canal maintenance, PICO hydro, restoration of water recharge ponds, water mill restorations and biogas installations.



Photograph 4: Water restoration and water recharge ponds in Ramecchap. Source: tdh drone imaging (2022).



Photograph 5: Plantation in Ramecchap. Source: tdh drone imaging (2022).

Further, the government policies and constitution of Nepal indicate the relevance of addressing the rights of women, children and youth, which is aligned with tdh's rights-based approach. For example, Nepal's government's 15th 5 yearly plan also has the goal to foster a federal, democratic, inclusive and resilient Nepal. The Country Strategy has addressed two major contemporary challenges: it supports building back better and greener and restoration of an

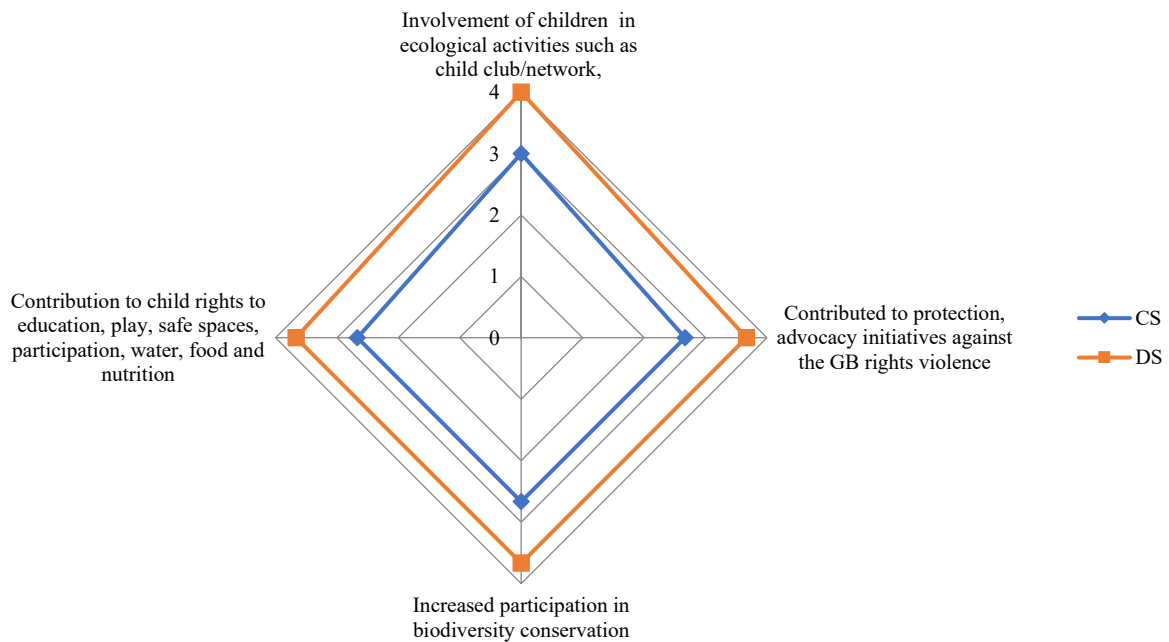
environment supportive of livelihoods, as well as institutionalisation of federalism with its implications for local governance and capacity development of local authorities. As tdh in Nepal works in the area of sustainable livelihoods, equality and environmental sustainability, it ensures that the project intervention in Nepal is relevant to government policy and their program in Nepal contributes to the desired impacts, goals and objectives. That is, the program is relevant by addressing constitutional rights of children, women and youth, climate change policy, food security and sovereignty, Disaster Risk Reduction policies, safeguarding environmental policies such as National Adaptation Plan of Action, Agricultural Strategy and Forest Strategy and securing better livelihood.

Youth and children rights

Prior to the project intervention on child and youth rights, no organization in the development sector had focused on this issue. tdh was the first organization to address this issue, not only because tdh has mentioned this as priority in the strategic goals of 2013-2018 and 2018-2023, Strategic Goal 4 Child rights in international policies and Goal 2 Spaces free from violence and exploitation, has been the focus of tdh program in Nepal and tdh Nepal Office worked in the sectors of ecological child rights during both periods. Many campaigns organized to advocate for the right to education, safe spaces for playing and addressing the need for good health and food. Participation of children and youth were ensured in campaigns and advocacy initiatives, which were found to be coherent and in synergy with local governments, especially in the case of CDS, thus highlighting the project to be "Good", indicating youth and children were satisfied by this project intervention. Even during the stakeholder consultation, youth and children were the ones who raised their concern over the status ranking. This means tdh's intervention has strengthened their participation in raising awareness of environmental rights of children as their participation has been observed in environmental conservation activities, such as plantation, sanitation, and awareness activities (day celebration, campaign).

Participation and involvement of Women's groups/ Farmers groups in ecological activities was found to be "Good", and the work needs to be upscaled and continued in order for it to be "Very Good" (Figure 10). The children and youth believe that this is just the beginning, and more awareness needs to be done in the community and at the government level to ensure stronger participation in the development process as well. Linking the child and youth rights at the local level with planning still needs to be done in Rukumeli and HuRENDEC project, which was realized by the Municipality representatives during the interaction. For this tdh should help the local government to give priority to addressing the issues on rights of children and youth and align them with constitutional rights. The local governments need to review the policies on child and youth rights and to address them in their action plan with a separate budget for campaigns and advocacy programs.

Figure 10: Addressing Child and Youth Rights



Rating scale: 1- Improvement needed; 2=Satisfactory; 3=Good and, 4= Very good
 CS- Current Status and DS-Desired Status

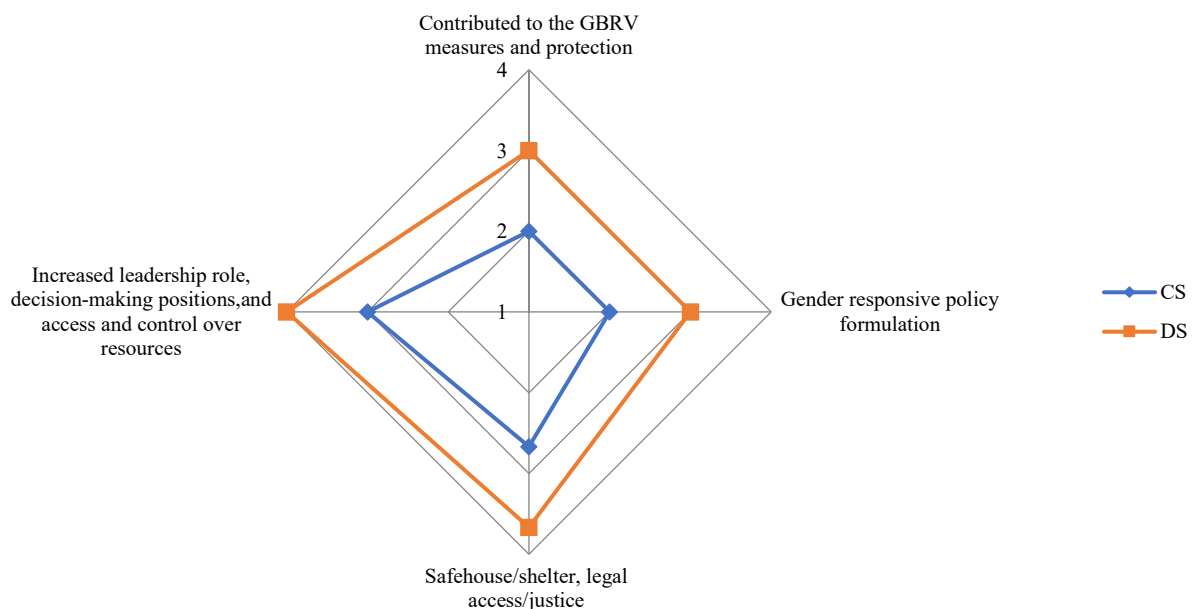
So far, for the network of youth and children to play a significant role in changing social norms and values and also to play a role in reducing violence, networking at the regional, national and local level is important and there need to be more campaigns and awareness raising activities. tdh Germany sponsored some youth to take part in international conventions where they shared their experience. Today, these youth are playing a significant role in the political arena, where they campaign for youth leadership and some of the youth network leaders also became ward chairpersons.

Formation of youth networks and capacity building are effective means and good strategies for policy advocacy of youth concerns and issues. Capacity building, awareness raising, and empowerment programs have been the means for the women, children and youth to become socially empowered. This intervention has led women groups, youth, and child clubs to be active in claiming their rights. They became vocal and put forward their issues and concerns with local governments. Similarly, they play an increased leadership role in decision-making positions, with increased access to resources particularly from the local government. The Evaluation team however found that while tdh partner organizations have adopted and practiced child protection and safeguarding policies, the project partners were not able to influence the local government to formulate such policies especially in Rukum and HuRENDEC project sites. This could not happen in these areas as awareness and priorities focusing on children and youth activities were not part of the government plans except for supporting regular game events and a few

celebrations. Women groups and child club members reflected their views that they had less opportunity to share and exchange ideas and knowledge outside the project area to focus more on the youth and child rights.

The project intervention in increasing leadership roles, decision making and having positions within the executive body was found to be "Good" initially in all the project sites and needs to be "Very Good" (Figure 11) among the marginalized groups or the target beneficiaries of all the project sites. tdh further needs to work on the campaigns and raising awareness as to how gender-based violence can be reported and how to capacitate the community in their rights-based approaches. Whereas the responses to address gender-based violence and having gender responsive plans and policies was said to be “satisfactory”, it would be "Good" if local government takes this issue seriously and tdh strongly focuses on social norms and values to have all the projects and programs GESI friendly. Some information was shared where children and youth played a significant role in stopping under-age boys and girls from getting married by complaining to the police from the perspectives of youth and child rights. Compared to the CDS project, women groups in the Rukum and HuRENDEC project were found to be more vocal and in forest user groups women were in decision making positions. One of the reasons for women being more vocal in Rukum and HuRENDEC area could be that the women participated in the 10 year long conflict and learnt about their right to participate, make decisions and have access to and exercise control over resources. Another factor is that most of the men have migrated out of the district and women play the major role in managing the household, which empowered them. Hence, policy development on gender and protection, as indicated by the community and beneficiaries as an area for improvement, could be important for future plans and programs.

Figure 11: Contribution towards reducing GBRV and increase leadership and policies



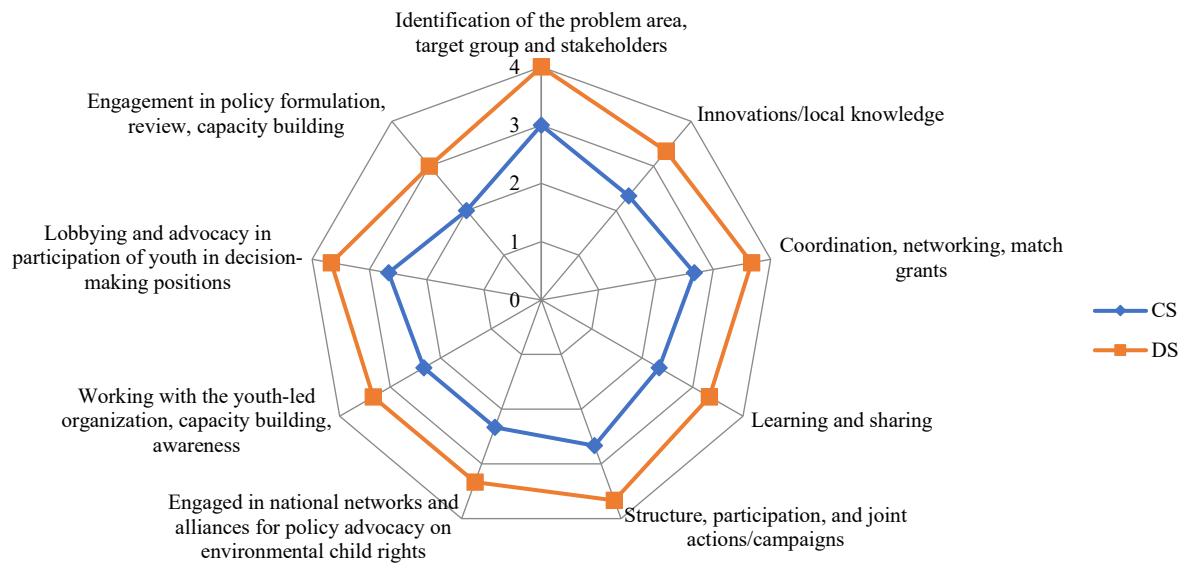
Rating scale: 1- Improvement needed; 2=Satisfactory; 3=Good and, 4= Very good
 CS- Current Status and DS-Desired Status

Complying to Nepal's strategic needs, policies and technologies

tdh with its partners mentioned that without the stakeholder consultation it would not have been possible to identify the target groups, problems and stakeholders at the start of the projects, indicating the ranking for complying this project intervention and indicated so far in the start was "Good" and this effort needs to be encouraged to get the best desired status in future. Most of the information here was gathered from the project partners and local government, as the community stakeholder knew little about the actual goals and objectives of tdh in general. But score card ranking was done among the community consultation to measure only their perception and not to judge how the project actually started up the project and if the activities really aligned with the logical frameworks. As a suggestion, in future, tdh and its partners should share the intention behind the project interventions and let all know about the objectives and process of working together, for them to be involved in policy formulation, review, making decisions or ensuring meaningful participation in the overall phases of project intervention.

Figure 12 indicates that overall, tdh's interventions and approaches to work align with the organization's strategic goals, needs to address innovation and upscaling good local knowledge, which was not done enough throughout the project interventions. To improve the current status from "Good" to "Very Good", there is need to coordinate and develop networking, share lessons learnt, engage people by leaving no one behind in participating in policy formulation, capacity building, awareness or getting access to regional and national networks. So far, the perception is that tdh has done best where it has worked in remote and inaccessible areas supporting groups who never thought they would get an opportunity to have a better livelihood.

Figure 12: Alignment to strategic goals and partnership



Rating scale: 1- Improvement needed; 2=Satisfactory; 3=Good and, 4= Very good
 CS- Current Status and DS-Desired Status

Some examples of working areas that were addressed, linking to strategic goals and developed through participation, were technology needs addressed in the project sites. Another example mentioned by the community was that priority was given to the production and plantation of indigenous forest/fodder trees species such as Bakaino (*Melia, azedarach*), Shiris (*Albizia lebbeck*), Nevaro (*Ficus roxburghii*), Tanki (*Bauhinia purpurea*) etc. to conserve biodiversity. Similarly, use of plastic tunnel, mulching and drip irrigation for vegetable production were new practices found to be adopted by women groups in East Rukum. Practices found to be innovative were improved cooking stoves and the installation of biogas; improved water mills in Kalikot; distribution of incinerators and gully control by means of bio-engineering techniques in Ramechhap. Such practices can be expanded and further explored in new areas for climate change adaptation and mitigation measures. Hence, the communities and stakeholders rated improvement in the use of innovations and local knowledge as needed areas in future projects. Local partnership with lead NGOs and co-partners was found to be an appropriate approach for local dynamism and resource mobilization, as they were able to work closely with the local government, agriculture office, and district forest office to achieve the projects' goals and objectives.

4.2.3 Effectiveness of the project

Effectiveness of project implementation strongly depends on the ownership and accountability of the community, government and implementers through the inputs and proper planning. Strengthening of civil society is often combined with advocacy activities at local or national level. These are less about getting new laws adopted and more about getting an issue on the policy agenda and/or holding duty bearers to account for the implementation of commitments of policy or practices. This evaluation looked at the effectiveness of project implementation by measuring the extent of the achievements, intended and unintended, and objectives resulting in support of project interventions, and livelihood support programs aimed at the betterment of local livelihoods in project areas. The evaluation identified several examples of projects working with both community target groups and government stakeholders to ensure that existing policies or legislation respond to the needs of the poor and marginalized, and to meet the projects anticipated outcomes and outputs.

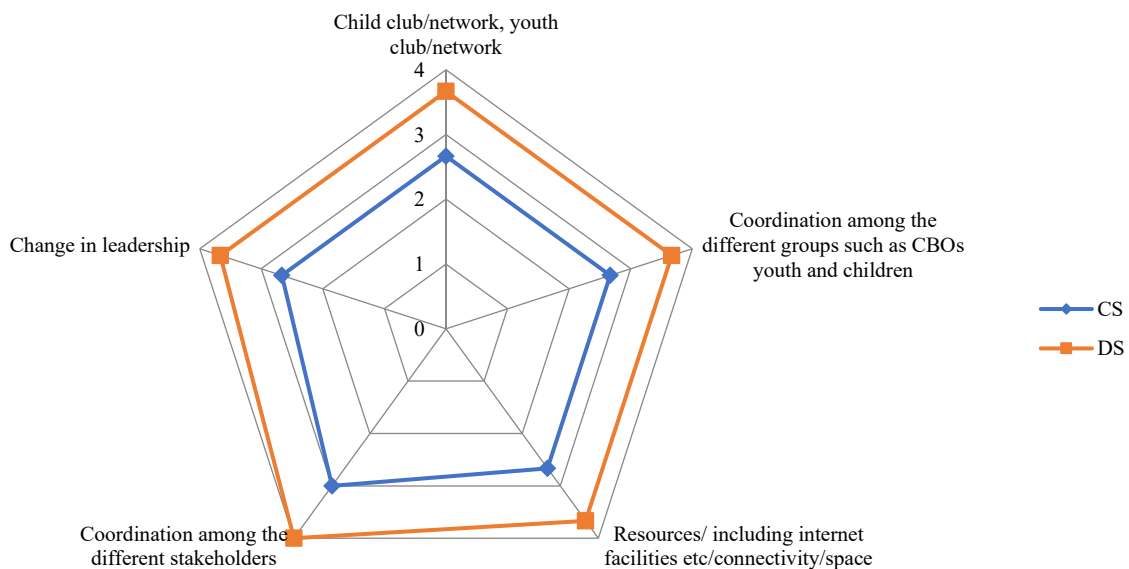
Conducive project interventions for addressing children and youth issues

The Regulatory and legislation framework of Nepal provides a conducive environment for social inclusion and harmony. tdh's key support program was to increase the participation of children and youth and mainstream their voice in the development process. The factor that was conducive to participation by addressing the constitutional rights of children and youth. tdhOne key outcome of tdh addressing children and youth issues, was that they had not yet been mainstreamed in the development process and that for the first time, partners have just started implementing children and youth focused programs. Up to now, policies on health and sustainable environment from local to national level had not prioritized children and youth participation, and it was critical that these issues now had to be looked into. For example, though the constitution and Children Act exist, the awareness level of policies and provisions is low at the community level and is not a developmental priority. tdh prioritized the issues within the country context to show how networking and empowerment interventions could reach these target groups. Thus, tdh developed a platform to address children and youth rights and address the family through forming and mobilizing women groups, youth and child clubs and networks. Women and girls reported domestic violence and discrimination had reduced after project interventions such as raising awareness and interactions at household and community levels and supporting them with skill-based training and income-generating activities in majority of the project sites.

Figure 13 shows the current and desired status on addressing children and youth rights issues, which is a very important and priority objective for tdh in Nepal. During the consultation it was agreed that the current status concerning the functioning of child clubs networking was weak compared to that of youth. It was observed that youth and children structures were found to be functional only up to the ward level of local government and was limited to awareness and knowledge on biodiversity and ecological activities. The youth became active and local government and political bodies began to listen to their issues and concerns only after tdh intervened. Youth members are also taking leadership positions in recently held local elections. For example, "one of the provincial network members, Mr. Tapendra Jung Bista was elected as

Ward Chairperson in Melauli Rural Municipality Ward 8, Baitadi District" as reported by the youth from Kalikot. Another example was the youth being appointed at the Youth Club Network as expressed by tdh Nepal Office. One of the key outcomes of the project intervention by tdh is the youth networking platform in all the project sites. A model was provided for such networking through the development of children and youth networks and connections at local government, province, national and south Asia region was found to be very good. Similarly, the youth and children responded well, so that policy advocacy by youth networks was found to have been very impressive in minimizing child marriages and exploitation of children. tdh is yet to see a rapid change in the environmental conservation sector and the climate change adaptation practices due to the short duration of project interventions. Free grazing and not having sufficient access to alternate technology and energy also hinders change.

Figure 13: Project intervention supporting children and youth participation



Rating scale: 1- Improvement needed; 2=Satisfactory; 3=Good and, 4= Very good
 CS- Current Status and DS-Desired Status

The evaluation consultation also indicated, as agreed upon by all the child and youth networks, that so far tdh in general through the intervention of forming networks, coordination among the networks, and change in leadership among youth and child has been ranked as "Good" and could be "Very good" (Figure 13) in the long run if the groups were further supported by local government in the case of Rukum and HuRENDEC projects than Ramechhap the youth clubs and networks would do better. Both in Rukum and HuRENDEC project yet to work with local government to get the affiliation letter.

There were several gaps observed during the consultation which can be closed firstly by the government recognizing the children and youth network and giving them certification of affiliation; changes in leadership were observed to be very frequent, which could be solved by giving 8 or 9 graders leadership roles instead of the more senior students and connecting these students with college level youth. There would be regular interaction conducted based on community action learning to discuss child and youth related issues sector wise, with 6-monthly meetings to share lessons learnt and outcomes. Awareness in proposal writing for resource generation and speaking classes should be organized for them to become advocates and voice raisers for future generations and to participate in programs for reducing child marriages and child-exploitation.

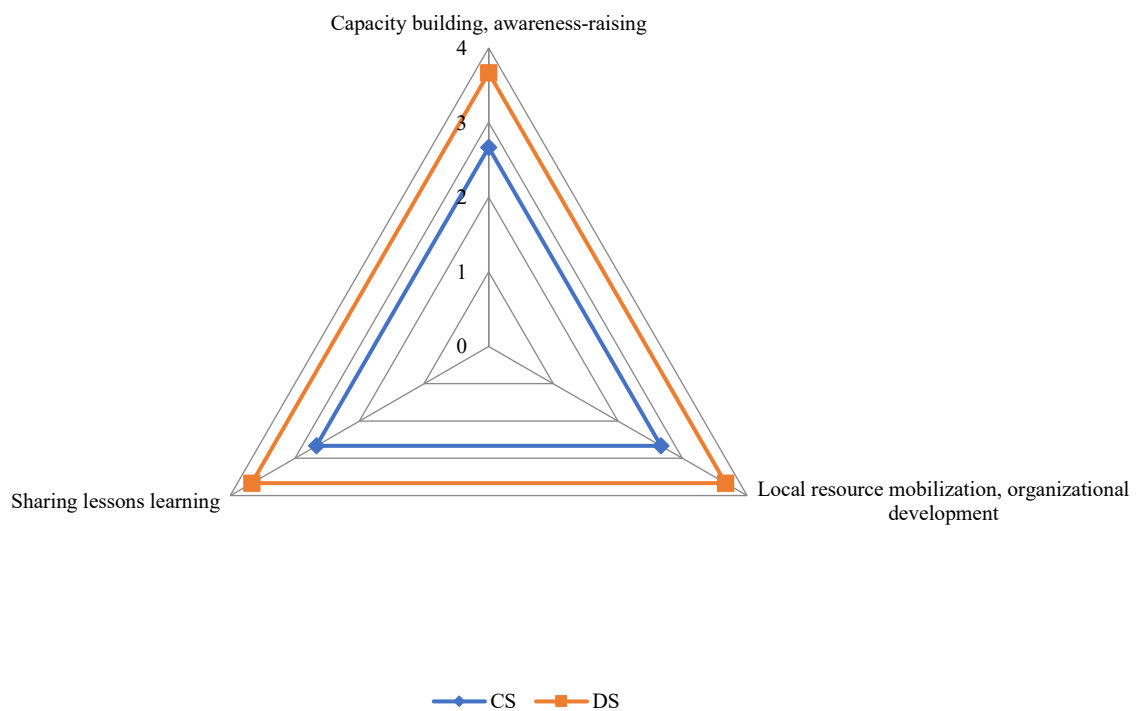
Interventions that worked well

As elaborated above, one of the key positive interventions in which tdh was successful, was the capacity building and awareness raising of youth and children to be part of the events in the villages. After the formation of these groups, they have been effective in joining in actions with district line agencies and local government offices, which included agriculture exhibitions, day celebrations (World Environment Day, Children's Day, Youth Day, 16 Days of Activism etc.). Besides that, the youth groups report that tdh has been successful in managing to get resource contribution by mobilizing local resources such as free spaces for plantation and playgrounds. Some good examples of resource sharing were first found in the Ramechhap Municipality giving affiliation to the child and youth network. Similarly, the local government coordinated with the Alternative Energy Promotion Centre/District Co-ordination Committee (AEPC/DCC) in the construction of an irrigation channel and the installation of micro-hydro structures, improved water mill, and cooking stoves. However, the community has stated that the results were not reaching all the target groups and that further efforts are needed for resource sharing, adopting new technology/innovation. According to the respondents, they feel that very few targeted people got the benefits and opportunities as the activities were too scattered. They also found that learning and sharing practices between the project partners and youth networks, helped the community to learn from each other's good practices and failures. Though, the project interventions were rated as "satisfactory" (Figure 14) in the current state, the youth and children think that it could be "good" if capacity building and awareness raising with lessons learning was done throughout the network in Nepal and shared regionally.

So far, because tdh has developed these groups within the site-specific areas and few participated in international conventions, their learning has not been shared widely to ensure youth and child participation in rights issues. They have recommended having regular network forums and interactions and promoting learning by doing. Another key intervention that worked well is mobilizing women groups through income generation activities. Women of Ramechhap mentioned that the earlier Swiss project mainly focused on community forestry initiation and though they were part of the program, they were not able to be part of the decision-making level. The respondents suggested that the positive influences that should be upscaled and continued by this project or other partners to achieve the desired level included capacity building in technologies and skill development such as vegetable farming, livestock raising and

marketing; awareness in equal participation and reducing gender discriminations; mobilizing the local resources that local government has control of, and sharing the best learning practices such as water recharge ponds, forest user groups, cooperatives and strengthening of CBO's institutional capacity for their effective participation in the development process.

Figure 14: Positive interventions influencing participation



Rating scale: 1- Improvement needed; 2=Satisfactory; 3=Good and, 4= Very good
 CS- Current Status and DS-Desired Status

Some issues and examples of capacity building and influencing positive factors where tdh was effective in ensuring participation were agro-forestry, vegetable farming, youth and children advocacy, livestock breeding for income generation, biodiversity conservation and environmental issues, and addressing climate change issues. Raising awareness was conducted through education materials for campaigning and advocacy in the sectors as mentioned above.

This is the example of interventions that worked well supporting the effectiveness of this tdh project. The establishment of agroforestry farms, production, and plantation of indigenous forest/fodder/fruit tree species on public and private land, and water source protection were found good practices for environmental protection and biodiversity conservation. There is a good example and visible effect of roadside plantation in Ramechhap, whereas most of the plantation done in Rukum and Kalikot could not flourish due to grazing pressure. The activities such as installation of improved water mill, improved cooking stoves were found to be effective,

particularly for women because of the multiple benefits associated with these programs. Manjit BK from Khadachakra (HuRENDEC) said “I am fully employed in the improved water mill and collected grain against the charge of flouring grains in my mill, which I used to sell to cover the household expenses”. He further said the mill “saved a significant amount of women’s time spent in grinding flour”. Livelihood improvement activities were more effective in Rukumeli and HuRENDEC project sites as compared to the CDS area. This could be due to project focus and because of differences in geographical terrain and climate which is more favourable in the Rukumeli project area, which also has more arable land as compared to the CDS and Hurendec areas. They are growing fruit and medical plants, but this needs time for income generation.

A case study showing success stories



The livelihood improvement through crop diversification, increased farm production and households have adopted the improved ecological farming practices in the rural area of Ramechhap and HuRENDEC. The project has different activities at the household level to increase farm income and self-employment opportunities such as vegetable farming, fruit plantation and domestication of aromatic and medical plants.

Photograph 6: Agroforestry in Ramechhap. Source: Evaluation team.

The evaluation consultation indicated that the training materials and education materials helped raising awareness beyond the main beneficiaries. The evidence of change observed were women farmers doing group farming using tunnels and growing of seasonal crops to address food insecurity especially in Rukum East. Women's groups were activated and involved in agro-

forestry programs, horticulture production, restoring water ponds, restoring forests, growing vegetables using climate-smart technologies. Some of the trainings were organized jointly with local NGOs, local government and INGOs working in the project sites, indicating multiple joint efforts in reaching the targets. As a new farming technology, women friendly tractors had been handed over to women farmers groups especially in Rukum East which has been supporting the expansion of agriculture farming practices and reducing the drudgery of women. In Rukum East a vehicle was provided to sustain farming practices, but as there was no mechanic and because of the inability to meet the operational costs of the vehicle, they are facing problems and whatever income is generated through the farming is spent on the vehicle maintenance. Here tdh was unable to link the operation and management of the vehicle with the marketing process. They recognize that it has been a burden for the women groups to manage the vehicle and want to look for an alternative way.

Similarly, capacity building of eslf-help groups, farmers groups, community forest user groups and youth networks was supported to ensure active participation to implement the project interventions. Children and youth clubs formation, with affiliation with the Ward has been a great initiative to retain the migrant workers at home and to help them earn their own livelihood through income generation, and to participate in planning, implementation and monitoring of the project. Agro-forestry training with contributions from tdh helped in controlling soil erosion and in scaling up multiple farming practices for improved livelihood and for generating income. So far, to maintain good governance practice and to be transparent, social audits and public hearings have been held and tdh Nepal Office has coordinated well with Municipalities and RM to make them accountable as well. The evaluation found that this component was highly effective and there is a visible impact where local leaders give time to participate in community development events.

But effectiveness of the project intervention also depends on the principles of involving and empowering the employees of the project partners, local government, and communities by involving them in decision making, and recognizing their achievements. It is believed and observed that when people are valued, they work to their best potential because it boosts their confidence and motivation. When employees from the project implementors are wholly involved, it makes them feel empowered and accountable for their actions and this statement was strongly agreed to by all the respondents. Though the sites were hardly accessible compared to other parts of Nepal, the partner staff were able to mobilize local youth and children's networks, women's networks and cooperatives for the project to be more efficient through awareness raising and capacity building. Stakeholder participation at the ward level with involvement from the ward leaders was appreciated, and tdh partners and staff have played a great role to coordinate all the programs with the ward in organizing events.

tdh used different mechanisms for supporting the beneficiaries through cash and kind, not only for income generation, but also for capacity building, infrastructure or supporting networks. The existing mechanisms of tdh used the cooperatives and groups to channelize all the funds. The



strategic document of tdh highlighted this working modality for project implementation. Photograph 7 here indicates on how resource sharing has been done to carry out the empowerment is carried out and who will be benefitted.

tdh worked to strengthen the institutions and processes that existed before. That is, tdh in close coordination with the regional office worked with and strengthened the existing youth and child clubs, women groups, forest

Photograph 7: Information posting
Source: Evaluation team.

user groups, civil society organizations, cooperatives and users' committees to make them more aware of their rights and entitlements, as well as the obligations of the state institutions and service providers. A quarterly review and reflection meeting with Municipalities, Rural Municipalities and ward level stakeholders was organized to review the programs and update them. Likewise, programs for the sensitization and empowerment of marginalized people, women, youth, children and their institutions on various human rights instruments and national action plans were conducted regularly. This kind of regular meetings and updates strengthened the local partners relationship by making them aware in what is happening. Sharings of lessons learnt were done to improve the working modality and increase government partnership and ownership. One great example here was the school management team of Manthali School which got support to make the plantations survive and keep the environment clean. Another example was the water grinding mills installed in Kalikot which were maintained by the ward and similarly, irrigation support was provided through the match grant approach to the local government in Rukum indicating co-financing here is an example of good practice.

Economic benefits for sustainable livelihoods

From the economic point of view, the project has supported various income generating activities based on farming and resource management. The project has just started horticulture farming and vegetable farming where income generation is limited. The tree plants are still too immature to generate income. For example, so far, local livelihood of more than 40 % of the participants has improved through income generation activities. Economic benefits not only support poverty reduction, they also make means of better livelihood and opportunities for alternative income

generation accessible. Women and marginalised groups benefitted less compared to other community groups as they were not directly involved in small business like livestock keeping, goat farming or chicken farming. For the majhi community in Katari area, where landslides had been a major problem and where most of the men migrate for work outside their area, livelihood opportunities were few. The area was under pressure by lack of controlled grazing, but the nearby Tamakoshi river provided the majhi community a livelihood through fishing for income generation. The tdh intervention helped the fishery program among the majhi community and is now generating income through fishery as observed in the picture.



Photographs 8 & 9: Fish farming in the majhi community and plantation work
Source: tdh drone imaging (2022).

Due to the livestock and agriculture training, more young men and women were found to be engaged in buffalo raising, and vegetable farming. The market linkages are not that strong but farmers are able to sell their products in nearby markets. As the vegetables grown are mostly organic, the prices were found to be expensive and locals buy cheaper products making it difficult sometimes to sell the home grown products.

Majority of the grant support by tdh interventions has been one-time and a sustainability mechanism is yet to be developed for long term benefits of the groups formed. The projects have been implemented among the target groups who were poor and vulnerable, and the majority of the beneficiaries were found to be highly dependent on forest resources. During the field interaction it was noted that the project interventions were short term for only three years and participants think the project intervention could have started earlier to get the desired impact.

Interventions not working well

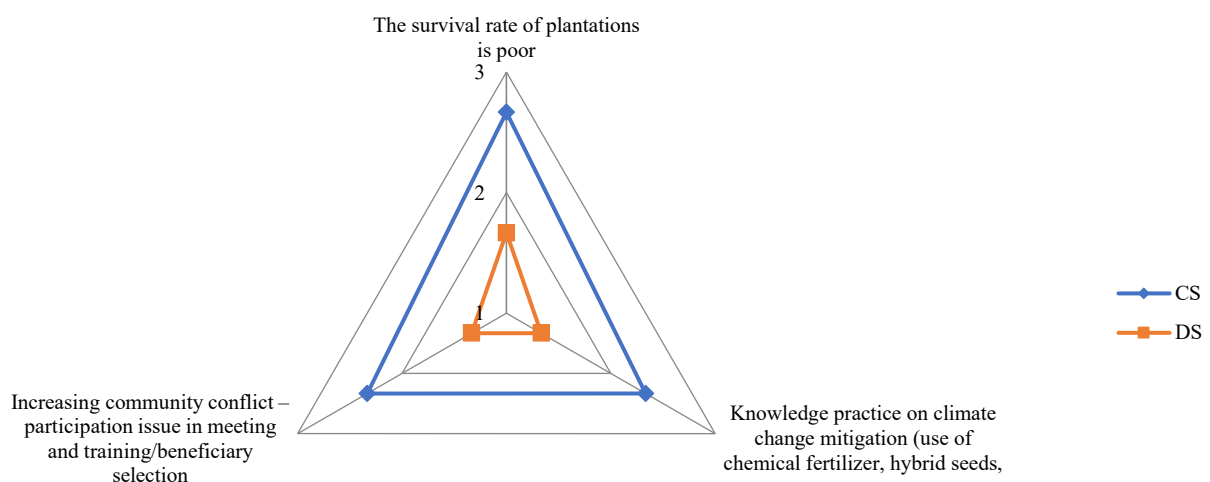
tdh had two major interventions related to livelihoods and ecological restoration in the mountain and climate vulnerable areas. tdh introduced climate resilient farming practices especially in Rukum and HuRENDEC areas, but when it comes to farming practices, traditional farming practices today have been replaced by using chemical fertilizer. Though the farmers were more occupied in subsistence farming, use of chemical fertilizer is high due to planting hybrid varieties of crops. Linking to better health and food goals, tdh intervened to do organic farming and capacity building of women farmers. Women farmers growing vegetables complained that they were not able to compete in the local market where cheaper vegetables were sold. Therefore, women groups doing farming are compelled to use chemical fertilizer to increase their production. Similarly, the survival rate of plantation was found to be only 40%-60% in all sites. The main reason of failure outlined by the community consultation was that the plants were not ideal for dry zones and water scarcity and insufficient rainfall hinders the survival of the plantations. Another factor observed in Rukum and HuRENDEC area was the practice of free grazing in the forest as there was limited access or space for grazing.

Figure 15 shows that plantation failure needs to be reduced through choosing the right species that are resistant to drought, and by having nurseries to grow such species. Local communities and even the government staff may not have sufficient knowledge in practices creating resilience against climate change, use of chemical fertilizer or growing hybrid crop varieties. Hence capacity building and awareness generation is needed in all the sites to minimize negative effects from climate change, soil degradation due to chemical use and health problems from not eating good food. The trend here indicates that the current status is low, as some interventions such as plantations had not done well, perhaps because the choice of species was not appropriate to dry zones, and this should be improved in future. It also means that the negative effects of project interventions need to be reduced by addressing the key issues like changing the farming practices of using chemical fertilizer to the practice of organic farming.

Factors that were hindering community participation was community conflict in receiving benefits and resource sharing, with the majority of people taking part in the training and playing

leadership roles being members of the elite groups. Though tdh does not discriminate in ensuring equal access and opportunity for all, discrimination that already persists within the social system was not fully addressed. It has been recommended by the community consultation groups, that community groups themselves should be allowed to select the direct target groups to reduce discrimination and ensure equal access and benefit from the project intervention and resource inputs. The community also mentioned that capacity be built regarding the social norms and values that hinder broader participation, decision making and leadership by having equal access. Therefore, discrimination and negative impacts can be removed or reduced through the use of proper technology and tools to sustain their livelihoods. Community conflict and discriminations persists due to elite capture and programs not focusing the needy groups. Such dicriminations can be reduced if the government and partner organizations regularly conduct public hearing and audit practices whenever resources are distributed, and beneficiaries are selected in a transparent manner. Thus, figure 15 indicates that several aspects of the interventions need to be addressed to make them lower.

Figure 15: Interventions not working well



Rating scale: 3- Improvement needed; 2=Satisfactory; 1=Good
 CS- Current Status and DS-Desired Status

Challenges and obstacles observed

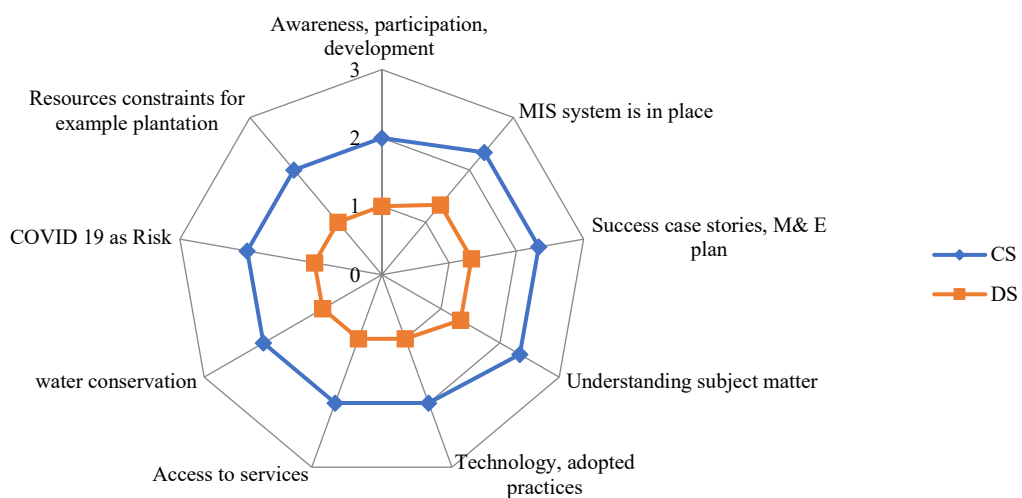
Though the projects increased the awareness level of farmers and communities on ecological farming practices and bio-diversity conservation, the project design targeted only a few people to get the direct benefits. It was believed that if one farmer got the opportunity to upgrade his farming practices, the other farmers would learn from that and conduct their program on their own. But

this did not happen because the villages or the houses that got the benefit lived quite far apart from one another. For example, getting to the Subhakalika area of HuRENDEC project it takes three to four hours by foot and the villages in the area are so scattered that even conducting a training for twebty people was impossible. Therefore, tdh and the partner developed a pilot site in Khandachakra Municipality where all the project interventions from plantation to water mill, biogas with eco-toilet, vegetable farming and livestock raring can be observed and the experiences from that site can be shared easily while conducting training programs.

Although a progress reporting mechanism was established, it was difficult to measure the change effects since there was no baseline status to compare them to. The midterm and final evaluations of all projects had made recommendations for future project phases. For example, livelihood interventions were included in the second phase of HuRENDEC project and made a good impression on farmers. Though the local governments were found to be very positive with regard to the projects, resource constraints hindered then to provide matching funds or include them in their planning process, because it was difficult for the government to leverage resources on time and moreover, the government focused more on the development priorities such as supporting drinking water, road construction and school management and tdh focused on other parts of the government priorities.

Figure 16 indicates that the awareness level, opportunities to participate in development process, resources to carry out initiatives related to environment conservation, watershed development still need to be enhanced and they were mentioned as challenges and obstacles for the beneficiaries to do better. It is worth mentioning here that they considered these challenges even more intense prior to the intervention of tdh. Improving the challenges mentioned above may be possible through more capacity building to make communities and target groups understand the context, regularly monitoring the project interventions and mobilizing resources efficiently.

Figure 16: Challenges and obstacles observed



Rating scale: 1= Good; 2=Satisfactory; 3=Improvement needed

CS- Current Status and DS-Desired Status

For example, the perceived challenges and obstacle were difficult to adopt in climate change mitigation measures and technology transfer by farmers due to limited knowledge and skills in most of the sites. The communities need constant support for visible effects. The stakeholders felt that the existing challenges were to be found to be

- A lack of awareness and meaningful participation
- Haphazard development
- Projects not having adequate management information systems
- Regular joint monitoring for addressing the issues and gaps in subject matters.

While capacity building among the government staff, project partners and communities has been going on regularly, the training should focus on issues that are more currently important like organic farming, climate resilient technologies, GESI issues, rights of youth and children, market and value chain production etc.

One-time skill and knowledge sharing is not enough for farmers to showcase livelihood improvement. The impact of the projects on restoring the ecosystem, forest and biodiversity conservation cannot be observed in a short period of time and most of the plantation and agro-forestry failed to give results.

Learning from the project intervention, it was found that it has generated mid-level impact and needs to be better. The consultation with stakeholders and interface meetings revealed that public hearings/social audit, coordination, community initiatives, capacity of the staff, replication/transformation and replication approaches then was done only partially. Participants agreed that in all sectors, further project intervention is needed to address the agro-forestry, conservation, livelihood, water restoration and child and youth programs to really see an impact. The major factor for the overall impact to be somewhat low is the short duration of the projects and because tdh has covered large areas rather than concentrating on few villages with focused programs.

Change in Food security

The majority of the project sites were found to be vulnerable to food insecurity and as the areas do not have sufficient irrigation, and the land is dry and undulating, limited food crops are grown. Very little rice was eaten then as compared to now and little value-addition crops were grown in the regions. Most of the terrain in the project areas is suitable only for cultivating maize, wheat and millet where irrigation facility is less and where crop production depends on rainfall. Therefore, women farmers were provided with skills and knowledge in farming, and they grew off season varieties that was even sold in the market. After the project interventions, the local communities' food intake diversity increased, making the children and mothers in particular healthier. During the consultation, respondents were asked to rank the impact of vegetable farming on supporting their livelihood, and they ranked it to be very impactful as they had learnt to grow and eat different foods. This also helped in achieving food sufficiency but there is no data measuring who were able to get sufficient food.



In Rukum Bhume this gentleman learnt to practice horticulture and he returned from India after working there for many years. He now has more than 200 varieties of fruit trees, medical plants and he is doing agro-forestry, growing crops along with trees. He has also been generating income by selling fruit tree plants as well as fruits such as oranges.

The Project has supported the establishment of multi-purpose nursery for supplying fodder, fruits and medical plants in the local area by providing orientation and material support to the farmers. The purpose of the nursery was to develop entrepreneurship at the local level. According to the nursery owner, Mr. Dal Sur Shahi, shown in photograph 10, Suvakalika-6, Kalikot, the income earned from the nursery was about NRs. 150,000 in 2021 and this is likely to increase in subsequent years.

Photograph 10: Nursery in Rukum Bhume. Source: Evaluation team.



Commercial vegetable farming in Rukum created new income opportunities and fostered the development of entrepreneurship. Similarly, the development of an alternative energy infrastructure and sanitation programs has resulted in multiple benefits in the project sites. The formation and strengthening of youth and child networks have a long-term impact on their ability to exercise their rights. Their participation in biodiversity conservation activities (through awareness campaigns, and the plantation of trees, fodder, and fruit species on private, school, and community land) has had a visible impact.

Photograph 11: Community meeting in Rukum Bhume/Morawang.

Source: Evaluation team.

Restoration of biodiversity areas and watershed management

During this evaluation, issues based on biodiversity conservation and ecosystem profile were discussed. It was reported by the respondents that introducing biodiversity as a concept, helped the forest user groups to identify indicators to keep track of the condition of forests, as participants became more curious about the concept of biodiversity and chose to include biodiversity indicators in their monitoring plans as they developed their views on which species and habitats were useful, and the number of species in the forest.

Photograph 8 indicates how a water recharge pond supported terraced farming practices in Ramecchap to get the water leached as drainage and further helped the plantation grown in the slopy areas. The method helped to stimulate discussions about useful indicators of the condition of the forests and encouraged thinking and discussion about what had changed and why.



Photograph 12: Restoration of water recharge ponds and plantation in Ramecchap.

Source: tdh drone imaging (2022).

In addition, it provided a useful framework for highlighting differences between individuals in terms of what they value. This is an important foundation for exploring who makes decisions based on whose values. By making such differences explicit and transparent, the approach helped to enhance consciousness of the quality of the environment and on equity in decision-making and benefit-sharing, which can in turn contribute to stronger biodiversity values. Conversely, the interaction showed that where institutional and organisational aspects were insecure or poorly understood, forest-quality and silvicultural experimentation were low priorities. In short, the social and technical go hand-in-hand, such that when the ground rules are sorted out, the way is cleared for the development of ecological values and knowledge which helps community forestry contribute to conservation.

Environmental conservation and climate change adaptation

So far, the interventions on conservation awareness have raised the awareness of youth, children, and farmers groups to address conservation issues and realize the importance of conservation and the wise use of water resources. Likewise, private plantations, roadside plantations, and community plantations support the increase in vegetation coverage, decrease landslides and soil erosion and restore water sources. Farmers groups are adopting agro-forestry practices but not to an extent that could highly impact climate change. High value crops are being recognized as a potential source of income and also to restore the greenery. Biodiversity conservation initiated the protection of indigenous species and raised awareness in protecting biodiversity.

It was well noted during the field interaction that the needs and expectation of local communities were addressed on food security, adaptation practices to climate change, restoration of natural resources and conserving the traditional practices for cultural benefits. tdh clearly understood the need to address this link and move forward to develop the leadership among the communities and staff to ensure good governance and quality management for effective project implementation and thus to increase the impact on sustainable livelihood.

4.2.4 Efficiency

Partnership and cost allocation

This evaluation also explored the efficiency of the project interventions. Efficiency is measured in terms of the outputs – qualitative and quantitative – in relation to the inputs. Though it is an economic term, efficiency signifies that the financial support by tdh uses the least costly resources necessary to achieve the desired results and tdh Nepal Office also followed the same pattern by minimizing the costs.

In Nepal, tdh has a small office and limited number of staff. The Coordination Office for South Asia in Pune supports the colleagues in Nepal for execution and monitoring of projects. From the year 2013, the number of projects has increased in Nepal and is being efficiently managed with the small team. The projects' process was found efficient because of

1. a good correlation between inputs and outputs in terms of resource use,
2. incorporated learning in the ongoing project and the next phase to improve program quality,
3. coordination for synergy and joint actions,
4. building knowledge, skill, and understanding through capacity-building that promotes establishing rights, dignity and confidence, particularly of women, children and youth.

Financial project reports for the projects supported by BMZ have been prepared as per the sanctioned project proposal. Staff in Nepal Office has been regularly updating these reports. The institutional mechanism for financial management is in place and is being followed. Nepal Office sends the disbursement request to the South Asia Coordination Office in Pune/India and after verification of utilization of the previous disbursement, the request for the next disbursement is made to the Head Office in Osnabrueck/Germany. The Head Office makes the disbursement to the Nepal Office which then transfers funds to partner organisations in Nepal. Yearly budget plans were prepared for all the projects and as per the given tables shown below, program costs were broken down under three headings

- investment,
- operational costs,
- and personnel costs.

The cost given in the tables below does not consider the tdh Nepal Office operational costs which were directly covered by the Regional Office. This also indicates that grant management has been done professionally by ensuring trust, timely disbursement, flexibility and user-friendly templates. The evaluation team conducted the financial evaluation on the basis of documents made available by the Nepal Office. As per the reports provided, the evaluation team didn't find any major concerns regarding financial project management as the process followed was clear enough to ensure transparency and accuracy of the documents.

Rukumeli project had an allocated budget of NRs 56,116,489 and expenses were recorded as 56,108,459 and less than 0.01 % of the budget remained unspent.

Table 3: Explanation of Financial Expenditure Rukumeli

FOR THE PERIOD: 1 November 2015 to 31 December 2018					
FOR THE PROJECT: Rukmeli- Improved food security for two marginalized rural communities in Nepal supporting ecological agriculture and structural development					
	PARTICULAR	Total Budget	Total Expenses	Variation	Variation in %
A	<u>By Investments</u>	22,219,528	22,275,887	-56,358	0%
		40 %	40%		
B	<u>By Operation Costs</u>	17,630,272	17,080,594	549,678	3%

		31 %	30%		
C	By Personnel Cost	16,266,688	16,751,978	-485,289	-3%
		29 %	30%		
	Total	56,116,489	56,108,459	8,030	0.01%

Source: Project audit report.

From the table it was observed that the total budget allocated for HuRENDEC I was NPRs 78,175,472.55. While investments costs were planned to take up 33.13 % of the total budget, in the end, the budget line took up 41 %. Savings occurred in other budget lines respectively. Thus, 100 % expenses were incurred during the project intervention showing a high efficiency of cost disbursement and use.

Table 4: Explanation of Financial Expenditure HURENDEC I

Human Rights and Environment Development Center (HuRENDEC) -Nepal Kalikot							
<u>CUMMULATIVE BUDGET VS ACTUAL STATEMENT</u>							
FOR THE PERIOD: 2013 To 31 March 2017							
FOR THE PROJECT : Sustainable Utilization of Resources In the Himalayan Region							
							Amounts in NPR
	PARTICULARS	TOTAL BUDGET	Exchange Gain/(Loss) up to 2017	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL EXPENSES	VARIATION	VARIATION %
A	INVESTMENTS	24,379,900.52	1,582,221.44	25,962,121.96	31,847,589	(5,885,466.95)	-23%
		33.13%		33.21%	41%		
B	RECURRING COST	19,157,698.00	1,227,962.56	20,385,660.56	16,681,498	3,704,162.63	18%
		26.04%		26.08%	21%		
C	PERSONNEL COST	27,449,718.00	1,787,073.52	29,236,791.52	29,577,385	(340,593.79)	-1%
		37.31%		37.40%	38%		
	Reserve	2,590,898.51	-	2,590,898.51		2,590,898.51	100%
	TOTAL Budget (A+B+C)	73,578,215.03	4,597,257.52	78,175,472.55	78,106,472	69,000.40	0.09%

Source: Project audit report.

HuRENDEC phase II budget vs expenses indicated that in 2017 there had been gains from the changes in exchange rates and with the budget in reserve, further scaling up was done. The total budget allocated for phase II was NPRs 66,782,435.78 of which 100 % was spent.

Table 5: Explanation of Financial Expenditure HURENDEC II

Human Right and Environment Development Center(HURENDEC) Nepal Kalikot											
CONSOLIDATED CUMMULATIVE BUDGET VS ACTUAL STATEMENT											
FOR THE PERIOD : 1st September 2017 To 30th April 2020											
FOR THE PROJECT : Sustainable Utilization of Resources In the Himalayan Region- II Phase											
Project Code :HuRENDEC-Nep- BMZ 17-19, Project no :670041											
PARTICULARS	Sanction Budget 2017	Exchange Gain 2017	Total Budget 2018	Total Budget 2019	Total Reserve fund budget with exchange gain 2020	Total Budget	Total Expenses	Variation	Variation (%)		
A	INVESTMENTS	7,707,266.39	1,017,954.28	10,945,944.95	6,817,006.51	762,905.17	27,251,077.30	27,941,452.20	-	690374.90	-3%
							41%	42%			
B	OPERATION COST	2,723,698.32	268,312.37	8,811,950.80	6,706,389.21	703,459.17	19,213,809.87	18,565,976.72	647,833.15		3%
							28.77%	28%			
C	PERSONNEL COST	2,648,992.55	17,594.00	8,040,583.03	7,394,784.37	992,592.66	19,094,511.86	19,094,511.86	34.75		0%
							28.59%	29%			
	Evaluation External	-	-	-	1,223,002.00	-	1,223,002.00	1,180,495.00	42507.00		3%
	TOTAL (A+B+C)	13,079,957.26	1,303,860.65	27,798,478.78	22,141,182.09	2,458,957.00	66,782,435.78	66,782,435.78	0.00		0%

Source: Project audit report

The IKU-CDS project budget vs expense report indicated that the total allocated budget was NPRs 102,558,645.15, NPRs 97,336,020.43 was spent, showing a variation of NPRs 5,222,624.72. The budget utilization was hindered by COVID 19 and a no-cost extension had been implemented until June 2022.

Table 6: Explanation of Financial Expenditure CDS

Community Development Society (CDS), Ramechhap					
BUDGET VS EXPENSES					
FOR THE PERIOD : 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2021					
FOR THE PROJECT : IKU-CDS-Preservation of biodiversity through ecosystem restoration and revitalisation of the Sukajor and Ranajor Rivers with participation and capacity building of local communities					
Project code & No : Project code CDS-BMZ-Nepal-19-21 (670046), Project no 3684					
S.N	PARTICULARS	Allocated Budget Total	Total Expenses	Variation	Variation In (%)
A	INVESTMENTS	29,835,640.41	29,125,730.12	709,910.29	2.38%
		29%	30%		
B	OPERATION COST	37,823,702.72	34,727,629.10	3,096,073.62	8.19%
		37%	36%		
C	PERSONNEL COST	34,899,302.03	33,482,661.21	1,416,640.81	4.06%
		34%	34%		
	Total cost (A+B+C)	102,558,645.15	97,336,020.43	5,222,624.72	0.05

Source: Project audit report.

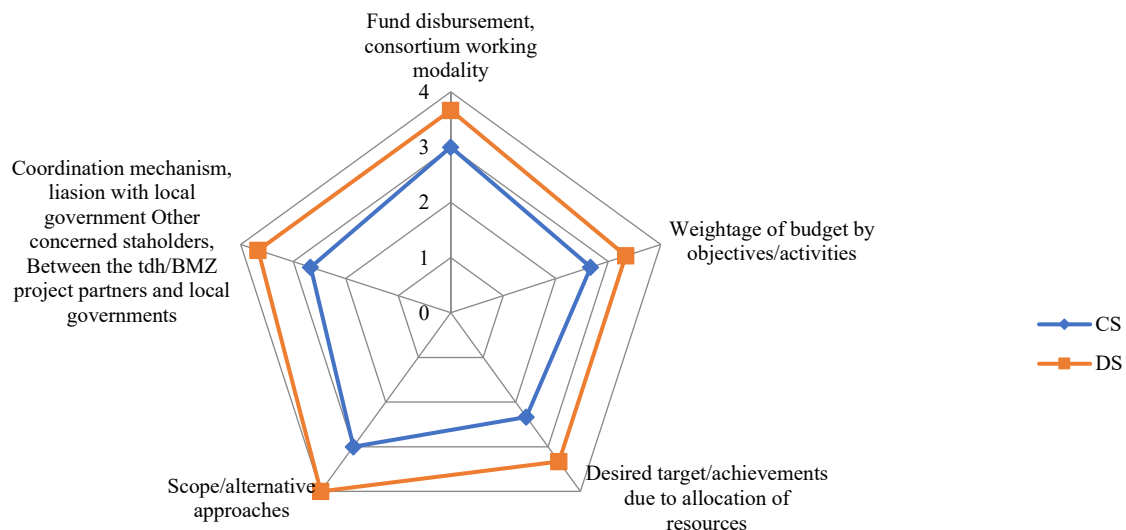
The overall budget expenses indicate that around 29-34 % of the projects' budget was spent on professional cost which appears to be very high. As per the social welfare norms, program costs should be 80 % and administration costs 20 %. The evaluation team understood clearly that the entire budget allocated was taken as program cost and this also seemed to be high and should be inbuilt within the program cost. For example, it would be good to lump all the investment cost with the programs or activities. As we see monitoring cost is also included here and some audit costs too, that could be lumped with professional costs and hence the financial structure needs to be reviewed.

Implementation approaches and risk management

The project interventions in Ramechhap were hindered by the COVID 19 epidemic. The overall ranking for the project efficiency is based on the knowledge on how project partners contributed to ensure tdh programs were able to reach its targets. Figure 17 indicates that though coordination and desired outcomes were not fully achieved due to short duration of project implementation, the overall perception of the implementation approach was "Good" and could

be improved to be "Very Good" in future. Some major concerns for the project to look at would be coordinated planning, inclusive designing, joint monitoring, and using a weighted average of fund allocation based on priority of the objective, outputs and interventions.

Figure 17: Implementation approaches



Rating scale: 1- Improvement needed; 2=Satisfactory; 3=Good and, 4= Very good
 CS- Current Status and DS-Desired Status

The project has a high level of efficiency as most of the program activities were accomplished as planned and the budget spending is also 95 % against the target in CDS project and 111 % in HuRENDEC II, though budget analysis was done for two years. On the basis of community interaction and interface meetings, the evaluation team found the overall rating of efficiency is “Good” due to the following reasons given by the communities and other stakeholders:

- There is clear working modality in partnership with local NGOs, district level line agencies, local government and CBOs in all projects.
- Projects considered efficient (good) in terms of mobilization of external resources from the government to implement the project activities such as micro-hydro, biogas and improved cooking stoves and plantation in Ramechhap.
- tdh has been efficient throughout the project intervention having clear project design and implementation modality and performing well with the cost allocated for a limited time period and less effort due to partners owning to the project.
- Because the project was in the remote areas, the communities took the intervention as a gift to them and took ownership of the programme. This increased the efficiency of the

project with outcomes that were cost effective because of strong partnership between project and community.

- One major factor here for tdh to be efficient was the communication of project interventions and transparency through public hearing and audit, which helped in communicating all the successes and failures of the project interventions and initiating learnings for further upscaling.

Establishment of good working relationship by CDS and HuRENDEC with local government institutions and other NGOs were found to be moderate in East Rukum though regular communication.

Management of the program

During the evaluation consultation meetings, it was clearly mentioned that the staff and social mobilisers have been an asset in achieving the required outcomes and outputs. tdh as an organization has encouraged the employees to constantly improve their skills and maintain consistency to work towards attaining the goals and efficiently mobilize the funds.

As far as HuRENDEC I and HuRENDEC II are concerned, the project efficiency was assessed keeping in mind the remoteness of the area where transportation is extremely difficult, low level of awareness among community for environment conservation and livelihood programs. HuRENDEC phase I implemented its programs in a cost-effective way by collaborating its program with government plans. Similarly, very good example of M and E was observed here that was a team was formed with government and partners to ensure that the work would take place in cost effective way and timely efficient.

Taking forward the recommendations of the evaluation of Hurendoc phase I, phase II was implemented including new project areas with a focus on environment conservation and poverty alleviation initiatives. The green enterprises initiated in phase I were further strengthened in phase II and farmers started processing of NTFP products and adding value so as to increase the shelf life of the products and to have a better market.

4.2.5 Impact

Regarding the projects' impact, the evaluation was concerned with both intended and unintended results and included the positive and negative impact of external factors, such as changes in terms of trade and financial conditions that helped in transformation and upscaling of the tdh project interventions. Thus, it tried to address what needs to be improved, what knowledge can be transferred, learning cost efficient ways of implementing projects and accordingly strategising for new projects that will be developed in future.

Structural changes and social transformations

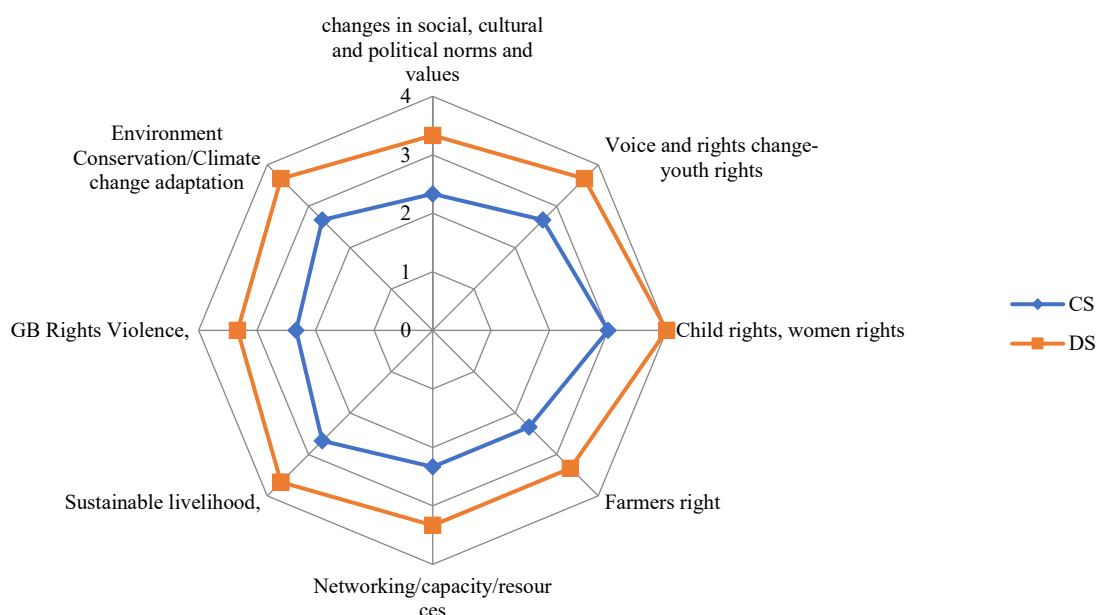
Through its various income generation and conservation initiatives tdh has a link to sustainable livelihood approaches and ensuring good governance. In line with its objectives and outputs tdh generated an overall impact to be measured in terms of transformative change, such as reducing child marriages, empowering women, children and youth, reducing violence - whether gender

based or child rights issues - changing of gender roles in the society and minimizing the cultural and political norms that had been hindering the growth of society and being part of the development process. It is very hard to change the socio-cultural norms of society in Nepal, as the patriarchal society strongly defines the roles of men and women, and hence discrimination persists to date. But changes like women's empowerment, enabling them to voice their rights and encouraging the poor and marginalized groups will slowly bring about a change in attitudes and behavior, as can be observed in tdh working sites.

In Nepal, development structures or planning programs focusing on children's and youth's rights in itself has previously never incorporated the voice of children and youth, and through campaigns and awareness raising, this change can be observed through the tdh program. However, the status of the projects in this regard was only perceived to reach a "satisfactory" level and there is a long way to go for all stakeholders to see the desired change. From the given figure 18, the results of the interface meetings indicate that social norms and values have yet to be strengthened. People think, that because of the patriarchal society it will take a while for society to change.

Compared to the capacity of the youth to raise their voices for their rights, that of children, women and marginalized groups was poor and only some changes could be done through this project intervention in all project sites. But human rights issues have been well addressed and can be done better in coordination with rights-based policies. So far, only Ramechhap municipality has created a policy to address issues of children and youth rights and more needs to be done for a change in Rukum East and Kalikot. Due to empowerment among women, youth and children, gender-based violence has been reduced but only to some extent. Some key interventions that tdh conducted for this change were youth awareness campaigns, organizing regular capacity building, gathering children, women and youth to talk about rights and sharing in talk programs and celebrations on GBRV. Therefore, overall structural change has been observed, with children, youth and women groups, and networks becoming active day by day, but more resources and increased capacity building is needed for further development. The key institutional reform needed was identified as having to establish a separate network office for children and youth which was not under the women and social welfare unit at the local government offices within the government system.

Figure 18: Structural changes and transformation



Rating scale: 1- Improvement needed; 2=Satisfactory; 3=Good and, 4= Very good
 CS- Current Status and DS-Desired Status

Capacity building for empowerment, advocacy, good governance, and voicing rights

Capacity building, contributing towards human capital is a key initiative from the government level to partners and communities. Assessing the impact from a perspective of a voice for advocacy and the rights of marginalized communities, measures like the changes in equal participation and raising voices, reducing discrimination in wages, women’s access to the market, access to land rights, technology supporting productivity, and finally deciding where and what to invest, has changed from before to after the project intervention. Capacity building and networking has been done by tdh projects, contributing towards social change by impacting the changing roles and responsibilities of women, men, and other family members, achieving equitable benefit sharing and increasing participation in the overall project outcome.

During this evaluation a key question asked was about the changing role of men and women after being empowered, and after achieving mobility by encouraging them to participate in the meetings and to travel outside their villages. All respondents of the FGD agreed that the majority of women had not traveled alone before and culturally they were restricted. According to them, education and social norms has been a barrier for women to go out and learn, except for going to school. Even here, the girl child had less access to schooling due to the long distance to travel to schools. While the girl child was not allowed to go to school previously, because it was the privilege of only the boy child, the situation has changed today. For example, while talking to

the women in the field, they mentioned that prior to the tdh project intervention, most of the women stayed at home and no one bothered to come and ask them if they wanted to participate in the development sphere. They were not allowed to walk alone without being escorted by their husbands, brothers or sisters and had to struggle for this right. Thus, income generation for the women groups has paved the way for them to learn more and mobility has encouraged them to participate in the development sphere. Therefore, mobility as an indicator of change was recorded since mobility of women outside their territory or home is needed if they want to learn and be proactive. The majority of women from all wards mentioned that after the empowerment and capacity building for livelihood, mobility and discrimination should be mapped to ensure that meaningful participation can happen among the marginalized target groups like women and the poor.

tdh's strategy has been to fight GBRV and exploitation of children, but good practices on the issue of GRBV have not been documented so far. The Youth Parliament has raised the issue of ecological rights, youth leadership and networking but has not been able to align with global concerns and forums such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women in Nepal. Voices of children are still not strong enough to be heard by the local government as compared to the youth networks.

The projects have also invested in the capacity building of partner organizations, which is done through inputs from global experts and experience sharing among regional partners. Capacity building is a crucial intervention among partner staff and target groups. This part of investment has been done not only to cater to the project's needs but also to ensure that awareness is raised on the issues of disaster risk reduction, climate change and income generation with value addition so that beneficiaries can implement the program smoothly. All project sites were found to be practicing climate resilient farming practices to increase food security.

4.2.6 Sustainability

Assessing sustainability allowed this assessment to determine if the interventions' benefits are likely to last financially, economically, socially and environmentally, and this was done through KII and FGDs. Sustainability practices adopted before the project phased out so that stakeholders can carry on with the program, have been addressed during this evaluation. Sustainability also means that the trickle-down effects of the project interventions outside the target area would be observed. The impact that could be observed outside the target areas were long term effects of plantation, practicing organic food farming, water recharge ponds, alternative energy, capacity building for income generation and institutional strengthening, which can be observed by indirect beneficiaries who learnt to implement these practices on their own.

Table 7 shows the people's perception of sustainability with the majority of the respondents thinking that sustainability issues are not fully addressed. There is room for improvement particularly in community infrastructure projects by providing operational guidelines and generating a maintenance fund. Sustainability can be achieved through target groups continuing the project, by strengthening local CBOs, by ensuring resource sharing from the government

from the start of the project and regular monitoring and evaluation of lessons learnt. Similarly, to ensure continuity, community-based organizations need a proper support mechanism beyond the project period. The respondents feel income generation activities, even when addressed under different headings, are highly sustainable as these directly benefit the individual. The community reflected those successful interventions like the roadside plantation/school plantation in Ramechhap, vegetable farming and marketing in East Rukum and domestication of medical plants and installation of water mills should be replicated in adjoining municipalities.

Table 7: Continuation of the project interventions

Project sites	Ramechhap		Rukum East		Kalikot		Average status	
	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Indicators								
Continuation of groups/institutions/network's initiatives	2	3	3	4	3	4	3	4
Best learning/interventions – infrastructure and access, biodiversity/dissemination of technologies and skills	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4

Source: field data.

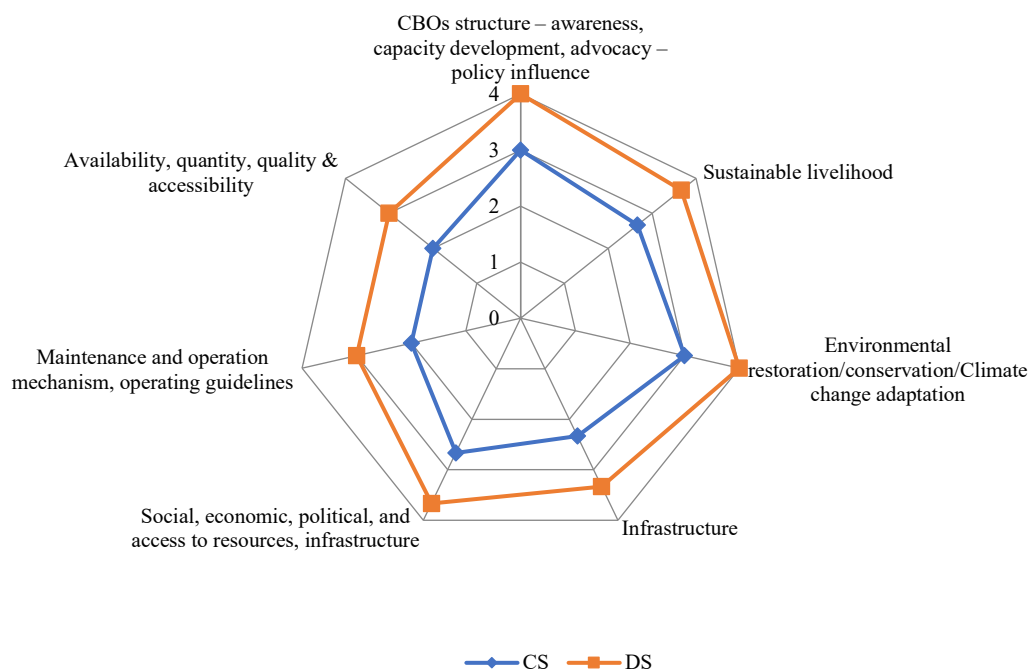
Observing continuity in the projects

During this evaluation, continuation of the groups and functioning of networks, as well as learning of practices such as access to resources and biodiversity conservation, can be observed even after the project exit phase. The majority of the respondents agree that due to the short duration of the project interventions, which were not scaled up due to budget constraints, after the project completion, no further projects took up that matter. It was in Rukum, where vegetable collection centers were developed during the project phase, yet not fully functional during the project phase, was still working at the time of the evaluation. In Kalikot all traditional water mills modified during the project were still in operation. Two women groups which were supported with a vehicle for their marketing of produced goods are still in operation. Table 5 indicates that the continuation of the project interventions was initially perceived to be "Good" for networking, capacity strengthening and scaling up of best learnings. The frequency of the responses varied in Ramechhap because the youth mentioned that the young generation migrates out of the area for higher education the roles played as a leader will be changed and once this happens the new leader has to learn more to ensure that he or she does good. Thus, the youth club and child club members said when leadership changes it hindered sustainability.

Projects having long-term and short-term effectiveness

Figure 19 indicates that after the project intervention, CBO structures, livelihood initiatives, environmental practices and social structures that were "Good" will become better, and for better accessibility and continued maintenance more awareness and greater means to meet financial costs are essential. The main indicator here measured after the intervention with regard to sustainability was the availability of resources, which seems to be "satisfactory", coordination with local government, and partners continued engagement, and it was recommended that resources be set aside for future operations. Some key examples were having group funds or revolving funds that can be used even after the project completion. Both the quantity and quality of intervention services provided depend upon the sustainability. A large-scale project may not be sustainable as it requires lots of resources and efforts to maintain and small-scale projects with small group interventions could sustain if the government, local communities, and partners outlined a strategy to manage the project interventions when found to be beneficial to the target groups. Though all the target groups have access to the resources, and government policies are in place, unequal access to control and unequal benefit sharing might hinder the sustainability which also seemed to be "satisfactory" and needs improvement. Therefore, it needs to set up systems to regularly monitor the access of marginalized groups to the resources provided and how these groups could sustain the intervention after project completion.

Figure 19: Intervention impacts and sustainability



Rating scale: 1- Improvement needed; 2=Satisfactory; 3=Good and, 4= Very good
 CS- Current Status and DS-Desired Status

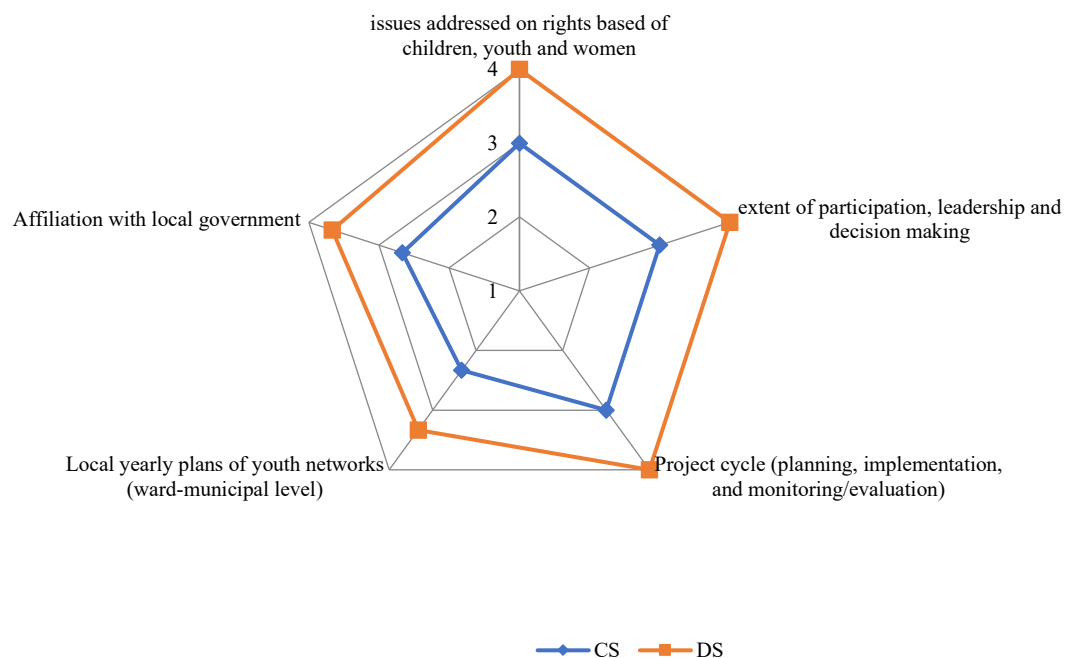
While plantation and horticulture practices take a longer time to show impacts, awareness raising, support for alternate energy and policy reformation can have long-term effects even if the project duration is rather short. If maintenance costs are not taken care of, mechanization will not have long term effects. So far, operational guidelines for maintaining the infrastructure or mechanization are not in place and that is hindering the women's group because of increased costs for maintenance. The effects of water restoration and recharge structures in Ramecchap have not been measured, either qualitatively or quantitatively and since the program effects will only be seen in the long-term, the increase in water recharge must be studied after the project intervention.

Supporting sustainability

Project activities like rights and issues of women, youth, children, and marginalized groups that existed during the project phase as a desired status were in the "Good" category and could have been sustained if the programs were taken up by the local government or if the project had been extended. The indicators that apply to sustainability were networking, capacity building, tackling obstacles especially at the policy level, ensuring ownership by the government and local CBOs, addressing them in the project plans and designs and ensuring the overall programs were inclusive and gender sensitive. Reduction of discrimination in all forms and "leaving no one behind", as well as links with government plans, should be the principal objective to ensure sustainability of projects and programs. The perceived scores indicate that as the local government did not support local youth networks plan to the required level with sustainability ranked at "Satisfactory" and needing improvement. All the other indicators supporting sustainability were perceived to be "Good" and could be "Very Good" if tdh works a bit more on the strategic level and partnership.

The chances of sustainability of most of the project achievements are assessed as relatively good as they are in line with the government policy and programs. Local institutions and CBOs are actively working in the programs and thus it can be said that project interventions are sustainable from the ownership viewpoint. The project has provided support to farmers' groups, women's groups, youth networks, children's clubs, and forest users groups. Such supports are in the form of capacity building, training, formation and strengthening of youth and child networks and technical and material supports to enhance local capacity and involve them in the project activities. Some of the sustainable practices introduced through project interventions were farming practices, advocacy and capacity building, women empowerment programs and increased participation of the beneficiary groups. Furthermore, the project activities are need-based in rural areas where utilization of local resources and rural livelihood improvement activities are vital.

Figure 20: Indicators supporting sustainability



Rating scale: 1- Improvement needed; 2=Satisfactory; 3=Good and, 4= Very good
 CS- Current Status and DS-Desired Status

Maintenance of the water mills and improved cooking stoves was done by local resource persons; however, the micro-hydro (pico) project is not properly maintained due to a lack of a local resource person. Project staff have further clarified that the micro-hydro project was implemented by DCC/AEPC and some support was also provided by tdh. Training on nursery management, fruit cultivation, and commercial vegetable farming was conducted in consultation with the respective technical government offices. The Agriculture and Livestock Development Office was coordinated for providing support in conducting training, and the District Forest Office provided support in nursery management and plantation as well as fruit tree distribution. Similarly, District Development Committee, AEPC section supported renewable energy activities. They have taken good ownership of the project activities. Project activities were planned and implemented in coordination with farmers, women, youth, and child clubs. These groups will continue activities even after the ending of project support.

Accordingly, there should not be any serious concern that activities implemented by the project would have any problem to continue to run in the future. Sustainability of the interventions in projects is assumed on the basis of the following:

- Institutional setup established and mobilized for implementation of plantation, vegetable farming, distribution of fruits saplings, installation of improved water mills, improved cooking stoves, solar lamp, and cooperatives is properly functioning.
- High degree of ownership of the project achievements and active participation by the local communities in all projects to be ensured in future as well
- The local communities are trained for maintenance and operation of biogas, improved water mills, improved cooking stoves, and solar lamps.
- The local government offices are closely involved in coordination and implementation of project activities.
- CBOs and youth networks are active and most of them are engaged in vegetable farming, fruit, and fodder plantation.
- Training on nursery management, fruit cultivation, and commercial vegetable farming was conducted in consultation with the respective technical government offices: Agriculture and Livestock Development Office provided support in conducting training, and fruit tree distribution, and District Forest Office provided support in nursery management and plantation. Similarly, the District Development Committee, AEPC section supported renewable energy activities. They have taken good ownership of the project activities.
- Project activities were planned and implemented in coordination with farmers, women, youth, and children's clubs. These groups will continue activities even after the ending of project support.
- Environmental restoration and success of plantation depends on the land not being over grazed and no rampant development allowed.

Project having implications in resilience, and socio-economic change

Sustainability practices show the changes adapted such as being resilient and transformative change in socio-economic structures. One practice critical to resilience and related to health, observed especially after COVID 19, was awareness in maintaining water, sanitation, and health infrastructure, which was found to have improved in all project areas. Children and youth involvement in health care and environmental education led to a visible change in the villages and is now followed as a ritual.

Table 8: Project intervention showing changes in resilience and socio-economic change

Project sites	Ramechhap		Rukum East		Kalikot		Average Status	
	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Indicators								
Awareness, knowledge and skill adoption practices such as hand washing, distancing, coping mechanism	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Farming practices, conservation measures, capacity development	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Capacity development- institutional development and functional, environmental education, advocacy strategies	2	3	3	4	3	4	3	4
Farming practices	2	3	3	4	2	3	2	3
Conservation restoration strategies/measures	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Social-economic effects (increased participation, decreased discrimination, increased visibility)	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Increased income	2	3	3	4	3	4	3	4

Source: field data.

5 Major Field Findings

Promoting a Child's Right to a Healthy and Sustainable Environment

- So far peer to peer trainings, exchange of good practices were observed among the youth groups and networks of children who were actively involved in the educational system,
- Promotion of children's advocacy and giving them a voice in addressing child rights in the development process has been raised, and awareness needs to be continued to stop child marriage, exploitation through child labor as well as empowering them with regard to ecological rights. Platforms for young people to advocate for the implementation of the environmental safeguards and to demand accountability of the government have been created. These platforms need support in amplifying their voices in a concerted way.
- The projects have been able to ensure the ecological rights of children, women, and youth and natural resource management groups by capacity building of project target groups. The engagement strategy for each target group was very apt in terms of design and reflecting the needs of the community. For example, children and youth have started resisting against and reporting violation of rights in all project sites. tdhand partner organizations have realized the value of engaging children and youth in different environmental protection programs as a means of ensuring priority concerns.
- The projects were implemented in communities which were severely affected by climate change, poverty, GBRV and drought (Ramechhap and Kalikot), creating challenges for availability of services related to enterprise, employment, protection, and education.
- While the priorities of each project were different due to the contextual differences, the linkage of project priorities with tdh strategic goals are evident. Having said this, agro forestry-based biodiversity conservation is an area which needs increased attention especially in Rukumeli and HuRENDEC Projects.
- Local level communications have begun among the target groups and networking has been beneficial to share their knowledge and lessons learnt in the sectors of children and youth rights, importance of empowerment, income generation and securing well-being.
- Strategies like plantation of local indigenous species, introduction of climate change adaptive agriculture technology, social mobilization of children, women, and young people, creating community structures, regular coordination with local governments, and learning and sharing platforms for project target groups and partner organizations, account for the swift implementation of the project activities.
- tdhhas been able to enhance the capacity of the partners to address climate change issues and engage proactively in the formulation of climate change policies. It also helped formulating policies at the local level on child rights and in integrating environmental issues in the design of other projects. There is absence of activities to develop the capacity of local government in integrating environmental concerns into the planning process.

- The establishment of agroforestry farms, production, and plantation of indigenous forest/fodder/fruit tree species on public and private land, and water source protection reveal good practices for environmental protection and biodiversity conservation. There is a good model with visible effect in the roadside plantations in Ramechhap, whereas there are limited conservation activities in Rukum and Kalikot districts.
- Climate change adaptation techniques such as improved water mills and improved cooking stoves were found good, particularly for women because of the multiple benefits associated with these programs such as time saved through application of new technology, reduced health issues especially respiratory and eye problems, and children getting lighting for education.
- Livelihood improvement activities such as livestock improvement and vegetable farming were more pronounced and the effects more visible in Rukumeli project as compared to projects implemented by CDS and HuRENDEC respectively. CDS and HuRENDEC both had less livelihood intervention and fruit trees were distributed but did not show results for generating income.
- Market and value chain not able to be linked and upscaled because of market competition for the products grown locally, thus effecting profit margins.
- Project budget was distributed as per the weightage of objectives. However, the budgets for the construction of the water pond, irrigation, fencing at plantation site, and materials for Early Childhood Development classes faced shortages.
- Learning from the earlier BMZ supported projects in areas of environmental awareness, mobilization of children and young people, climate adaptive agriculture technologies etc. have been utilized in the design of new projects in Rukum East and Kalikot districts. Replication of water mills and domestication of medical plants by similar environment conservation projects such as Adaptation for Smallholders in Hilly Areas project implemented by International Fund for Agricultural Development and the MOFE.
- There was no well-defined capacity development plan for partner staff. However, orientation was provided to the staff on the project implementation process. Hence, a well-planned capacity development plan of partner's staff will enhance their knowledge and skill for a better impact, particularly in advocating rights issues and climate change adaptation practices.

Fighting GBRV

- Learning and sharing practices existed between the project partners and youth networks. This helped them to learn from each other's good practices and failures. However, women groups and child club members shared that they had less opportunities for exposure outside the project area.
- Formation of youth networks and capacity building are effective and good strategies for policy advocacy on youth concerns and issues.

- The mobilization of children and young people has not only protected the water sources and promoted environmental awareness but it has also contributed to reducing social malpractices like child marriage, chhaupadi and other forms of domestic violence.
- The projects did contribute to the partner organizations formulating their own child safeguarding policies.

Management findings

- There were slight disturbances to the project activities due to the COVID 19 crisis in CDS project implementation in 2020. Hence, a no-cost extension had been granted by tdh for three months to CDS project, Ramechhap.

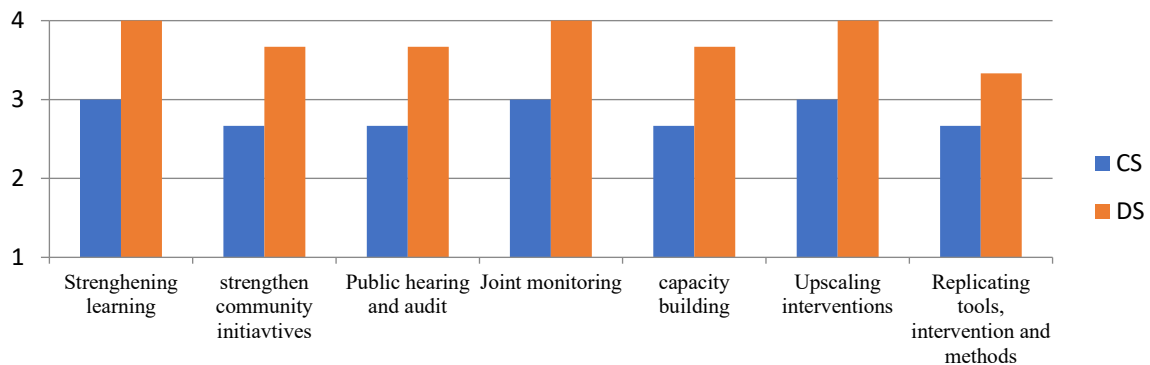
6 Key learnings

Tdh's role was to ensure that both economic and environmental conservation benefits were achieved. The key learnings from the investigated interventions are:

- The institutional strengthening of CBOs has been the major strength of the tdh intervention. This not only developed the capacity of CBOs in planning and designing, it also helped in conducting M and E internally. HuRENDEC practices a democratic way of working with the CBOs by giving them the right to select the target groups, and to prioritize activities and methods of delivery of services and inputs.
- Replication of programs focusing on infrastructure or hardware support conducted in very cost-efficient way in Rukum and HuRENDEC projects are much appreciated by the local government and communities and need to be upscaled.
- Failure always helps refine the project intervention methods and coordination mechanism among the partnership and this was taken as a learning by both the project implementers and target groups. For example, dry zones need to have water sources established first before plantation and nurseries should be of drought resistance species.
- So far, addressing child and youth rights has not been the same in all the project sites. It is perceived that government ownership is important to link with their own development priorities and budget should be allocated for their regular events. On their part affiliation should be provided to the groups.
- It was observed that project partners need to share the project objectives clearly to the communities and partners to include community groups in review and reflection meetings. A participatory learning approach is one of the strong processes to empower communities.
- Target achievement and utilization of tdh and government budgets is not the only aim of project partners. Documentation of success stories and failures needs to be done so that partners can learn to adapt based on that. Project funding allocation was not sufficient in Ramecchap which is why the drinking water project could not succeed. The main reason for this failure was that tdh funding was not sufficient, and the local government budget was not released in time, delaying the project. The cost was higher than estimated due to price fluctuations.
- While designing the projects' budgets, market fluctuation needs to be taken into consideration to reduce the cost variations and coordinate with local government in a timely manner.
- While addressing gender and social inclusion has been a major criterion for implementing this project through the strategic goal fighting GBRV, it has not been the major agenda for tdh in Nepal. Though ecological restoration programs have been inclusive, due to discrimination in access to resources, sharing in the control and benefits may not have been fully enjoyed by the marginalized target groups who have yet to be enabled to participate in raising their voices for their rights.

- Agro-forestry results have a time-lag before generating income and sustaining livelihoods, so the projects need to also grow and integrate crops that give returns in a short time or to do inter cropping such as vegetable farming or rice cultivation.
- For tdh, a baseline survey is crucial to measure the changes and for this an end line survey is also needed.

Figure 21: Strengthening positive effects as lesson learning



Rating scale: 1- Improvement needed; 2=Satisfactory; 3=Good and, 4= Very good

- CS- Current Status and DS-Desired Status
- The level of joint monitoring and coordination with media and sharing of lessons learnt was more evident in the Kalikot site, where for example FM Radio reporters and journalist were found to be active. This learning is helpful for tdh in future to document learnings and successes
- tdh is strong in capacitating government and partner staff but issues-based training programs and manuals need to be developed. For example, tdh goals and strategies must be well understood by all the stakeholder and staff to ensure that they are not diverting from their agenda.
- HuRENDEC project is an example where transformative changes reducing drudgery of women through water mills, PICO hydro, income generation, vegetable farming and alternative energy were achieved.
- Technology support and one time grant for start-up businesses, empowered women to overcome their economic barriers
- In Rukum, the project unintentionally burdened the women with a vehicle in addition to their vegetable farming project, where women's groups thought that the operational costs of the vehicle negatively affected the profit from vegetable farming.
- Fruit tree cultivation practices were liked by all the women and farmers groups as it not only helped to prevent future landslides, but they hoped to benefit from the income from fruit production and likely to prove to be effective measures for climate change adaptation.



Some observable impacts of the project intervention
 1st picture: dalit women of Manthali clean the previously dried water source after plantation was done above the source and they now having drinking and cleaning water available through out the year.
 2nd picture: tdh helped to restore the drinking water sources in Rukum East through conserving the water sources.



Photographs 12 and 13: Water restoration programs in CDS and Rukum.
 Source: evaluation team.

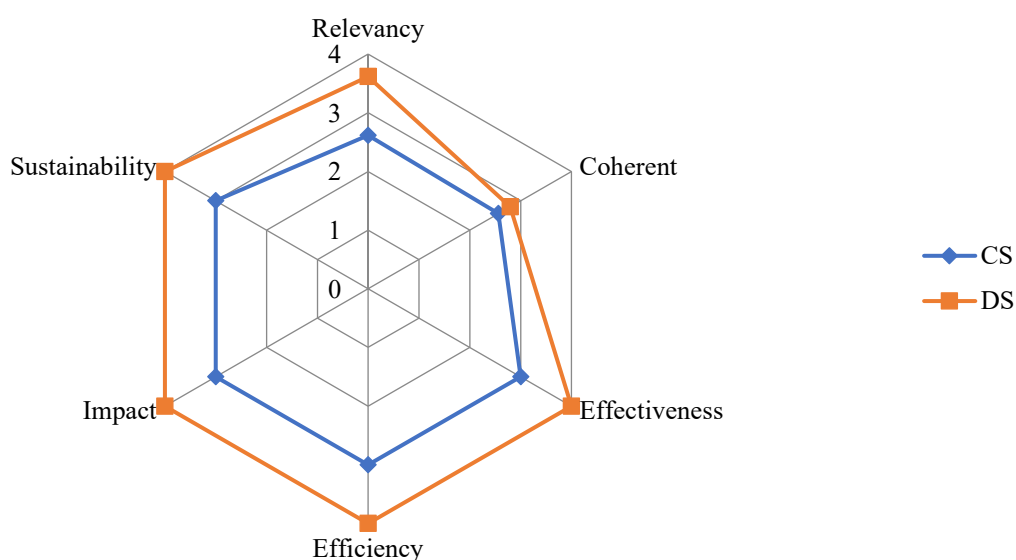
- Roadside plantations and water restoration programs in Ramechhap are already planned and supported by District Forest Office through their planning and budget allocation.
- Women farmers groups formed under the network of cooperatives are practicing sustainable farming practices particularly in Rukum East.
- NTFP production in HuRENDEC areas ensuring livelihood opportunities and local government supporting the initiative
- Youth and children’s campaigns and networking improving through the affiliation with the Municipalities especially in Ramechhap area.
- Close coordination and communication by partners with the government institutions ensured that local government is planning to address issues related to conservation, youth development and income generation in future plans and policies.
- Formation of M and E team in the HuRENDEC area are already appreciated and these approaches applied by the government system too, where ward level teams have already been formed.

7 Conclusion and Recommendations

Overall tdh successfully implemented the projects in cooperation with CDS, Rukumeli and HuRENDEC in Nepal by managing the risk factors outlined in the project documents. All stakeholders, tdh, target groups and partners mentioned that the projects were highly relevant, first to address the issues of vulnerable groups as well as meeting the objectives and goals. The findings show the current status of project interventions across all OECD-DAC criteria ranging from satisfactory to good. Desired status indicates that the project could have done better. The overall relevance of the program seemed to be satisfactory and desired to be good if the project continued or the findings are incorporated in the next program. Similarly, coherence to the national context and addressing needs of areas that are vulnerable to climate change and the need to address food security and raise the nutritional values in remote areas are both high. Target groups still think there are issues as regards the linkages of their partnership with tdh, networking and local level context with policies. By this they mean that while designing the project, stakeholder mapping, SWOT analysis of project contributing to objectives and outputs and priority mapping needs to be done. Besides that, planning needs to be done taking into account the relevant government plans.

Overall, in Nepal, the tdh projects seem to be relevant but need improvement, coherence to the relevant plans and policies needs to further be explored and synergies to be developed. Though interventions were short term, the effectiveness, efficiency, overall impact and sustainability of the projects was perceived to be “Good” and could be better in future if the given recommendations are taken into consideration.

Figure 22: Overall project evaluation result



Rating scale: 1- Improvement needed; 2=Satisfactory; 3=Good and, 4= Very good
 CS- Current Status and DS-Desired Status

All stakeholders believe that the project has been somewhat efficient, and that it could have done better if there was better capacity building for partner organizations' staff members as well as target groups and other involved stakeholders. It was also mentioned that the understanding level of objectives and goals, in order to ensure full participation of the above stakeholders in the intervention, was not sufficient among all of them, although tdh together with the project partners has been able to conduct social auditing and public hearings in some places, making the projects more transparent. Sustainability was still an issue and given the current status and timeline of the project interventions, the impact on livelihood changes and economic empowerment among vulnerable groups and the projects that ended earlier are yet to be observed. It took time for both the project partners and target beneficiaries first to adopt the programs and then initiate them and due to short term of the project, interventions could not be upscaled

Recommendations

The following recommendations have can be made for tdh's Nepal program based on empirical evidence:

Strategic planning and designing

- tdhstrategic goals and perspective plans prepared in 2013-2018 and 2018-2023 have defined indicators, but given the different social, economic, political and environmental problems in various countries, the indicators should be clarified as to which targets should be prioritized for which country.
- Capacity strengthening of treasurers of women groups is needed because most of the women being illiterate could not manage the office finances or keep the finance books in order. Gender Action Learning tools can be taught for envisioning gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) focused plans and to address the social issues
- Since youth migration from the project areas cannot be stopped, skill development trainings for youth needs to be linked with certified training packages. If they are trained with certification, wherever they go, the certification will make it easier for them to get a job. Vulnerability ranking, social mapping and addressing climate change issues for adaptation and restoration through ecosystem-based adaptation and policy linking with SDGs, needs to be addressed through capacity building
- Indicator based mapping for each country should be different based on the goals and strategies outlined to identify the change impacts, and annual reports should be prepared based on those country specific targets. For example, ecological restoration is the main strategic goal that the Nepal program has addressed but there are missing links as to which target indicators the four projects were able to be achieve overall.
- Prior to the project intervention, a feasibility study and project documents need to be prepared with a baseline to properly map out the project's target achievements.
- Selection of partners in the field with at least some knowledge on current issues of the project and to have dealt with them.

- tdh should review major project planning reports from NPC, SDG, BMZ tdhto ensure how they can be addressed to develop synergies.
- Nepal has developed key documents such the National Adaption Plan for Agriculture sector addressing climate change and livelihood issues, as also, climate change and gender policy.
- tdh program aims to focus on children and youth but needs to mainstream them through social, economic and environmental issues considering the overall context of their livelihood, exploitation, restoration, and vulnerability.

Financing projects

- So far, the budget plan is done for the relevant project either for proposal development or for sharing with partners. tdh should develop a more detailed business plan, reducing business risk and address possible gaps in business operations and marketing.
- Working in geographically remote areas and in climatically vulnerable areas with watershed management objective would result in high project costs, because the supporting hardware intervention would vary in different places. So, with tdh having a strong mandate to first address the rights of children and youth, supporting the family should be the main focus and programs should be prioritized on that basis. For example, Nepal has gone through conflict, faces regular disaster risks, political instability, and social hindrances leading to poverty and is trying to become a mid-level income country. So tdh needs to map out the strategic points within the budget and time frame to show greater impact.

Capacity building and networking

- tdh has a lot of success stories and learnings, that has contributed to transformative change, such as children and youth today engaged in campaigning in the political sector and participating in and having their voice heard in the development process. This needs to be further worked out in local networking, expansion in districts, regional, national, and international levels to share the development learnings.
- tdh believes in advocacy and lobbying to capacitate project partners and government staff. One-time training is not sufficient because of the turn-over of staff happening all over the country. Strengthening the local level government staff and ensuring their involvement throughout the project period and refresher trainings based on the need of the project objectives would reduce the cost of staff hiring.
- Training for Advocacy on rights issues, climate change adaptation practices and preparation of business plan on livelihood options, and delivery training package for partner staff as per nature of the projects needs assessment.
- Policy reformation regarding farmers rights and creating networks. The approach of capacity strengthening of CBO's has been the change factor that strongly promoted transformational social change where women, children, youth, and farmers groups used their rights to get benefits and sustain their livelihoods. During the consultation it was highlighted that this capacity building should be upscaled and for this, there have to be issue based talk programs at the ward levels among youth, children, and marginalized groups, to sort out the problems

and issues. Community Learning Action Centers should be established where the women's groups or separate groups come together and discuss the issues of the week and try to solve them.

- Advocacy and Promotion of the voice of youth and children still needs to be strengthened through education materials, school peer to peer trainings, policy reformation and local government support and through scholarship programs for displaced children.
- There is a need to explore more opportunities for young people in terms of developing their entrepreneurship skills in the fields of biodiversity conservation and economic development. Engagement limited to advocacy related activities runs the risk of eroding the energy of young people in the long run. While designing programs, the effect of youth migration should be taken into account.
- tdh interventions have developed local resource persons and these need regular capacity building, empowering local technicians in their doorstep services of installing renewable energy systems and supporting the project technologies that had been installed or constructed.
- tdh has been very GESI sensitive and should upscale to increase access to economic activities of women and disadvantaged groups like dalits in order to decrease discrimination and disparity and increase their confidence, pride and dignity in their community.
- tdh should support farmers particularly youth who are eager to engage in livelihood opportunities in the agriculture sector and with non-timber forest products. A simple business plan is required to assess their cost and income over time.
- Community Learning Action Centers to be established for the women, children and youth networks for them to share the issues of the local community and reveal social factors that hinder their progress towards exercising their rights and avoiding exploitation and gender-based violence.

Ecological restoration and conservation initiatives

- tdh has good experience in addressing ecological restoration and agro ecosystems to deal with climate change issues. A learning document or knowledge platform needs to be developed to further expand the water restoration, and watershed management initiatives and to support marginalized groups such as women in farming and health and reducing drudgery of women with gender friendly technologies.
- Vulnerability ranking is a crucial step for integrating practices geared to climate change adaptation practices and disaster risk management for sustaining the programs. This initiative will not only help to identify the vulnerable groups but to prioritize the programs and interventions so all groups can have access to the benefits in the long run. Ecosystem-based adaptation and climate smart agriculture practices support vulnerable groups such as women and marginalized to decrease the drudgery.
- tdh should focus on marketing of goods produced and on training the beneficiaries on how to connect with the market with skill based-certified training related to all income

generation related interventions. Nepal has a practice of organizing traditional weekly market, especially in Ramechhap where local traders supported by tdh are selling their produce. There is also a demand for local products in urban markets, and special farmers networking groups should be formed, and cooperatives set up to further enhance marketing opportunities.

- Establishing forest nurseries and growing indigenous and other species was a pioneering work of tdh. Climate adaptable species need to be identified and youth involved in raising nurseries which also support the government objectives in the future.
- There is a need to develop a scientific protocol of forest nursery addressing site-specific issues; selection of plantation sites, plant species and irrigation and caring of seedlings after plantation in different geographic regions. This should be done for nurseries and later replicated to all plantation activities supported by tdh. This effort will lead to producing a Standard Operating Procedure for plantations with increased survival rates of the seedlings in nursery as well as on public lands.
- The program should explore more avenues of cooperation with DFO and develop a long-term collaboration. An area of engagement could be collaboration with DFO and local governments to develop a protocol for nursery management, and research to increase the survival rates of plantations in specific sites of the project.
- There is a need to develop the network of farmers to advocate for climate-resilient agriculture technologies. The experience of working with young people to create their platforms at province level and national level would be helpful in devising similar schemes for farmers as well.
- Ecosystem-based adaptation practices are being adopted in Nepal and in South Asia and ecological restoration programs linked to sustainable livelihoods should be developed. For example, effective horticulture practices are already being done by tdh but as only few farmers are directly involved, awareness raising for upscaling and replication needs to be done. Identifying and using fast growing species to reduce the time-lag in income generation and project linkages to the market need to be developed and upscaled.
- High value crops within the agriculture or non timber forest product scenario need to be better supported in future programs. Also, climate change issues need to be addressed as well.
- Develop and review localizing of SDG and local adaptation plans to tackle climate change and livelihood issues using the national guidelines developed by Ministry of Forests and Environment and National Planning Commission.

Coordination and Cooperation

- The concept of cooperative farming is innovative in Rukumeli project. However, further cost-benefit analysis is needed for understanding the long-term benefit and impact on individual farmer's well being and continuity of their initiatives.

- The coordination with government (local and provincial) should be improved. It is important to not only invite elected representatives to programs but also government officials. Better communication with them by sharing the results of the project can provide a head start to effective coordination.
- GBRV strategic goal has been somewhat addressed. To reduce gender-based violence, the local government has safe houses, which further needs to be strengthened in a systematic way, such as building up critical consciousness, mediation, counselling, and coordination for referral.
- The organizational capacity of CBOs should be assessed periodically using a structured approach with checklists, such that the changes in the CBOs get reflected in the delivery of activities. An important aspect of the organizational capacity building is the use of experiences of the BMZ supported projects in other projects. It is recommended that partners must be capacitated to the extent that they are in a position to propose sets of actions and policies for local governments regarding environmental conservation and climate change adaptation.
- tdh should explore the opportunities when deciding about project sites based on the strategic goals; the geographical coverage should be minimized in remote locations due to the high costs of working in those regions. There is a huge need to extend the coverage of the projects to other areas which are also severely impacted by adverse climate change factors.
- The projects like restoring water mills, water recharge ponds, plantation in vulnerable sites, horticulture, livestock and climate smart farming practices, NTFP and PICO hydro are the key project interventions that could be scaled up with local level coordination.
- Formation and strengthening of youth networks is successful and has gained momentum, which could be of national and international interest. As tdh has already brought it on to the national and regional agenda, some sort of long term engagement of tdh with youth networks is recommended for its continuity and greater impact.
- tdh should ensure involving the community and local government in the planning and phase out process and ensure to develop a plan for monitoring and evaluation.

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Annex 1: Action Plan

	Evaluation measures	To dos / deliverables	Responsibilities / involvement	Deadline / schedule	Working days per consultant	Deviation from the original plan
Preparation phase	Tender	Drafting & sending out ToR	- tdh - tdh Nepal Office	14.2.2022-28.2.2022	n/a	n/a
	Selection of consultants & contractual arrangements	Consultancy contract	- tdh - tdh Nepal Office	Until 14.3.2022	n/a	done on April 2022
	Clarification of tasks and responsibilities tdh & consultants	Provision of material for desk study (digital)	- tdh - tdh Nepal Office - Lead consultant -Assistant consultant	15.3.2022	Lead: 1 Assistant: 1	
		Information about tdh child safeguarding policy				
		Clarification of open questions				
	Desk study	Familiarization with explicit knowledge regarding the projects	- Lead consultant - Assistant consultant	Starting from 16.3.2022	Lead: 8 Assistant: 6	Inception report sharing and workshop sharing April 15-16, 2022
		Analysis of strategies, project proposals & project evaluations				
		Analysis of relevant documents & data provided by Nepalese authorities				
		Preparation of an inception report				
		Preparation of an inception workshop				
Writing of desk study as component of the final evaluation report						
Submission inception report	Drawing up of a concrete workplan & schedule	- Lead consultant	Until 4.4.2022	n/a	submission of the final inception and field plan finalization April 16, 2022	
	Distribution of tasks & responsibilities					

		within the evaluation team					
		Detailed description of the methodology					
	Inception workshop: Discussion of planned evaluation measures & Feedback for consultants	Moderation of the workshop	- Lead consultant	4.4.2022	Lead: 1 Assistant: 1		
		Active participation in the workshop	- tdh - tdh South Asia - tdh Nepal Office				
		Result log of the workshop	- Lead consultant - Assistant consultant	Until 8.4.2022	Lead: 1 Assistant: 1		
		Adaptation of the inception report					
Field work phase	Virtual field visit RUKUMELI & respective target region	Drone footage (c. f. explanation in chapter 4)	- tdh Nepal Office - Local partner - Assistant consultant - Drone pilot	Starting from 11.4.2022	Assistant: 5 Drone pilot: 5		
		Standardized survey with the target group					
		Recorded interviews with involved actors					
	Travel organization	Planning & organizing the field phase including arrangements for meetings etc.	- Lead consultant			Lead: 2	
		Organization of required travel documents, tickets, etc.					
	Travel to & from Nepal in case of an international lead consultant	One day per way					
	Guided interviews with national Nepalese authorities	Preparation of guidelines	- Lead consultant - Assistant consultant			Lead: 11,5 Assistant: 11,5	Field piloting in Ramecchap from April 17-20 -4 days
		Recorded interviews					
		Transcription of interview recordings					
	Field visit HURENDEC I & HURENDEC II & respective target region	Observations					Field visit by mid early May or Mid May TBD depends after or before the election

		Standardized survey with the target group				
		Guided interviews with involved actors				
		Guided interviews with local authorities				
		Three narrative interviews key informants in the target region				
		Two focus group discussions				
	Field visit CDS & respective target region	Observations				
		Standardized survey with the target group				Field visit planned for April 17, 2022
		Guided interviews with involved actors				
		Guided interviews with local authorities				
		Three narrative interviews key informants in the target region				
		Two focus group discussions				
	Closing workshop of field work phase: Presentation & discussion of preliminary findings with all involved actors in Kathmandu	Preparation of the workshop	- Lead consulatnt - Assistant consultant	By end of May 2022	Lead: 1,5 Assistant: 1,5	May end
		Moderation of the workshop				
		Documentation of the workshop				
		Active participation in the workshop	- tdh Nepal Office - Local partner			
Analysis & concluding phase	Preliminary draft of the evaluation report - In English - Max. 60 pages excl. annexes - English summary of max. 1 page - Reference to tdh strategy South Asia - Aim & goal of the evaluation	Writing & submission of preliminary evaluation report	- Lead consulatnt - Assistant consultant	Until 15.6.2022	Lead: 5 Assistant: 5	June 2022

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Methodology of the evaluation - Findings & responses to research questions (c. f. passage 3) - Empirically based recommendations - Concluding remarks - Annexes, such as key documents of the desk study, list of interview partners, transcripts of interviews & focus group discussions, data protection agreements signed by all participants 					
Feedback on the draft of the evaluation report	Written feedback	- tdh - tdh Nepal Office	Until 29.6.2022	n/a	June 20, 2022	
Final evaluation report	Writing & submission of evaluation report	- Lead consultant - Assistant consultant	Until 6.7.2022	Lead: 2 Assistant: 2	July 6, 2022	
Follow up workshop Part 1: Presentation of results & joint elaboration of major lessons learned Part 2: Elaboration & discussion of ways forward and necessary steps in Nepal	Preparation of the workshop	- Lead consultant	7.7.2022	Lead: 1	July 10, 2022	
	Moderation of the workshop	- Lead consultant - Assistant consultant		Lead: 1 Assistant: 1		
	Active participation in the workshop	- tdh - tdh South Asia - tdh Nepal Office - Local partner - Regional offices - All interested parties		n/a		

Working schedule

S N	Detail Task	Days	April			May				June				July		Remarks
			II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	
1	Signing of the contract															
2	Briefings	1														
3	Desk review	5														
4	Inception report including study design and finalization of indicators/questionnaires, methodology, field work plan	10														
6	Field work: Drone data collection, Data collection, field observation, households survey, FGD and KII and interactions with closing workshop and discussion in Kathmandu															
7	Data entry and analysis draft final report	5														
8	Final report with review	5														
9	Sharing workshop	4														

Annex 2: Schedules for field work

Tentative field plan for Ramechhap and Manthali

Date: April 17-21, 2022

Date	Time	Sites	Activity	KII/case study	Remarks
April 17, 2022	10 am	KTM- Ramechhap	pick up for field travel		Pick up Sushila – Maharajgunj Chakrapath and Ann Kathmandu Guest house- Koteshwor
	4:00 to 6 :00 pm	Ramechhap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interaction with staff and briefing about the project Stay the night in Manthali 		Logistics to be arranged by joint tdh and RDM team field staff to be informed
April 18, 2022	8:00-9:00 am	Manthalli	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field plan discussion and clearance 		only 3 cases will be taken for restoration, nutrition and community conservation impact If any failure 1 case
	10:00-1:00 am	Ramechhap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community interaction- FGD with representative of women groups- 3 person, youth club-3, children conservation club-3, farmers group-3, CBO network-3 disabled and marginalized group representation- 3 Biodiversity mapping 	if applicable do case studies and KII	tea and lunch to be provided and field staff to fix the meeting hall nearby ensure that representation is done from ward 7, 8 and 9. Observe sites representation only for example restoration sites, livelihood activities, farmers resilient practices
	2:00-5:00 pm	Ramechhap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	for KII and case study respondents will be selected from the participants, observations	case study 3 at least from river ecosystem management, livelihood, resilience farming

					<p>KII will be done with Ward chair, DFO, DSCO, Health sector, Lead youth group. child club, water user group, Principal</p> <p>team members will be distributed for KII, case studies</p>
April 19, 2022	10:00-1:00 am	Manthali	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community interaction- FGD with representative of women groups- 3 person, youth club-3, children conservation club-3, farmers group-3, CBO network-3 disabled and marginalized group representation- 3 		<p>tea and lunch to be provided and field staff to fix the meeting hall nearby</p> <p>ensure that representation is done from ward 7, 8 and 9.</p>
	2:00-5:00 pm	Manthali ward 1-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	<p>for KII and case study respondents will be selected from the participants, observations</p>	<p>case study 3 at least from river ecosystem management, livelihood, resilience farming</p> <p>KII will be done with Ward chair, DFO, DSCO, Health sector, Lead youth group. child club, water user group, Principal</p> <p>team members will be distributed for KII, case studies</p>
April 20, 2022	10:00-12:00 am	Manthali and Ramechhap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholder meeting in among the Ramechhap and Manthali 		<p>NGO federation, CBOs network, irrigation, DFO, agriculture, soil, health, education, youth network, himawanti, dalit organization, NEFIN, SUHARA, CHUDEP, Srijansil, CDS, FECOFUN, Nagarpalika, Lead</p>

					campaigners of plantation
	12:00-13:00	Lunch Break	•		
	13:00-15:00	Ramechhap/Manthali	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interface meeting with group 1 and 2 only few representative to be invited 		<p>invite at least 2 representatives from the same community interaction and staff for interface meeting for validation of the data and interaction</p> <p>Invite- Staff , stakeholder- Agriculture, forest , CFUG,Health, Women Office, Himawanti, other relevant projects or NGO</p>
	15:00-17:00 pm	Manthali	•	conduct KII and cases with government offices	office visits
April 21, 2022	10:00-12:00	Manthali	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interaction with direct project beneficiaries- Water user groups, CFUG, Farmers group, CDS, for biodiversity profile mapping- 15 participants only 		
	14:00	departure to KTM	•		

Field Plan for Rukum and Kalikot

Date May 22-31, June 2022

Date	Time	Sites	Activity	KII/case study	Remarks
May 22, 2022- Sunday	7 am	Surkhet	Fly to Surkhet		
		Travel to Rukum East	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel via car to Rukum west Night stay in Rukum 		Logistics to be arranged by joint tdh and RDM team

					field staff to be informed
May 23, 2022- Monday	8:00-9:00 am	Breakfast meeting with staff in Rukum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interaction with staff and briefing about the project • Stay the night in Rukum 		Venue to be fixed by Field staff for interactions in the community too
	10:00-1:00	Sisne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community interaction- FGD with representative of women groups- 3 person, • youth club-3, • children club-3, • farmers group-5, • CBO network-3 • disabled and marginalized group representation-3 	for KII and case study respondents will be selected from the participants ward chair, DFO, CFUG chair, farmers leader women, Youth club leader, child club leader	only 3 cases will be taken for agro ecological agriculture practices, Food security and conservation impact If any failure 1 case tea and lunch to be provided and field staff to fix the meeting hall nearby ensure that representation is done from all the beneficiary wards . Observe sites representation only for example agriculture practices in different agroecological sites, livelihood activities, farmers resilient practices
	2.300-5:00 pm	Morawang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community interaction- FGD with representative of women groups- 3 person, • youth club-3, • children club-3, • farmers group-5, • CBO network-3 • disabled and marginalized group representation-3 	for KII and case study respondents will be selected from the participants ward chair, DFO, CFUG chair, farmers leader women, Youth club leader, child club leader	tea and lunch to be provided and field staff to fix the meeting hall nearby ensure that representation is done from all the beneficiary wards . Observe sites representation only for example agriculture practices in different agro ecological sites, livelihood activities, farmers resilient practices

Date	Time	Sites	Activity	KII/case study	Remarks
May 24, 2022- Tuesday	10:00-1:00 am	Sisne/Morawang One site only where participants can come easily	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff , stakeholder- Agriculture, forest , CFUG,Health, Women Office, Himawanti, other relevant projects or NGO 		Invite at least 2 representatives from each areas of expertise and NGO networks
	2.30-5:00	Sisne/Morawang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interface meeting with group 1 and 2 only few representative to be invited Biodiversity and ecosystem mapping 		invite at least 2 representatives from the same community interaction and staff for interface meeting for validation of the data and interaction
May 25, 2022- Wednesday	10-5	Sisne/Morawang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KII and field observations and travel to Surkhet – night stay in Surkhet 		Hotel and field KII and observations to be arranged
May 26, 2022- Thursday	7 am	Travel to Kalikot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Night stay in Kalikot 		
May 27, 2022 Friday	8-9 am	Kalikot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> staff briefing and interaction 		HURENDEC and staff interaction
May 27, 2022 Friday	10:00-1:00	Bhume	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community interaction- FGD with representative of women groups- 3 person, youth club-3, children conservation club-3, farmers group-3, CBO network-3 disabled and marginalized group representation-3 	for KII and case study respondents will be selected from the participants ward chair, DFO, CFUG chair, farmers leader women, Youth club leader, child club leader	tea and lunch to be provided and field staff to fix the meeting hall nearby ensure that representation is done from all the beneficiary wards . Observe sites representation only for example agriculture practices in different agro ecological sites, livelihood activities, farmers resilient practices
		Myanma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community interaction- FGD with representative of women groups- 3 person, youth club-3, children conservation club-3, farmers group-3, CBO network-3 disabled and marginalized group representation-3 	for KII and case study respondents will be selected from the participants ward chair, DFO, CFUG chair, farmers	tea and lunch to be provided and field staff to fix the meeting hall nearby ensure that representation is done from all the beneficiary wards . Observe sites representation only for example agriculture practices

				leader women, Youth club leader, child club leader	in different agro ecological sites, livelihood activities, farmers resilient practices
May 28, 2022-Saturday	10:00-12:00 am	Kallikot or the nearest venue for interaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff , stakeholder-Agriculture, forest , CFUG,Health, Women Office, Himawanti, other relevant projects or NGO 		Invite at least 2 representatives from each areas of expertise and NGO networks
May 28, 2022	2:00-5:00 pm	Kalikot or the nearest venue for interaction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interface meeting with group 1 and 2 only few representative to be invited Biodiversity and ecosystem analysis 		invite at least 2 representatives from the same community interaction and staff for interface meeting for validation of the data and interaction
May 29, 2022	10:00-5:00	Kalikot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> some KII and observations nearby 	conduct KII and cases with government offices	office visits
May 30, 2022	7 am	Travel back to Surkhet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 		
May 31, 2022		Departure to KTM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 		

Annex 3 a: Checklist of questions for interface meeting

Questions	Indicators
Relevance General questions to all the projects	
How well did the projects and their individual measures reflect the needs of their respective target groups?	Reflect interest and needs of women
	Reflect interest and needs of children
	Reflect interest and needs of youth, farmers/entrepreneurship (include women led cooperatives)
Do the projects' impacts in the target communities align with the outcomes outlined in the project proposals and with the outcomes reported during the project?	Improved livelihoods,
	Improved child's rights
	Improved youth rights through networks
	GBRV measures
	Environment conservation/Climate Change Adaptation/Clean energy/WASH
How effective and beneficial does the project selection appear to be geographically focused on rural areas, given the currently high level of rural-urban migration in Nepal?	Geographical focus
	Rural-urban linkage/value chain
	Vulnerability extent -mapping/vulnerability assessment
Would other/additional indicators have been more beneficial/better to measure the projects' outcome?	Reduced discrimination Reduced community conflict- because of resources
How effective and beneficial does the project selection appear to be in terms of sectoral focus on agriculture and livestock farming?	Increased in income due to agriculture and livestock practices
Coherent	
Did the indicators specified in the respective project proposals prove to be relevant for the measurability of the results in the projects' evaluations?	Aligned with strategic goals, developed project logframe
How successfully did RUKUMELI and HURENDEC I contribute to the strategic goal of Ecological Child Rights at tdh, which was valid during the projects' period	Involvement of children in ecological activities such as child club/network,
How successfully did HURENDEC II and CDS contribute to the current strategic goal at tdh, Promoting a Child's Right to a Healthy and Sustainable Environment?	Contribution to child rights to education, play, safe spaces, water, food and nutrition,
	Contribution to child rights to meaningful participation

How successfully did HURENDEC II and CDS contribute to the current strategic goal at tdh, Fighting GBRV?	Contributed to the GBRV measures and protection,
	Contributed to formulate policies
	Leadership, representation/participation, decision making,
	Contributed to access and or control over resources
How and how successfully did RUKUMELI and HURENDEC I respond to gender-specific discrimination in the target region?	Gender-responsive policy formulation
	Safehouse/shelter, legal access/justice
	Increased leadership role, decision-making positions, and access and control over resources
How does the selected projects' strategic orientation in Nepal fit into the overall strategy of the tdh South Asia region?	Nepal projects are aligned with tdh strategic goals
To what extent have the partner organizations implemented and regularly reviewed their own child protection guidelines that meet tdh's child protection standards?	Formulate and implement child protection rights guidelines, safeguarding policies
organizations selected according to the tdh strategy in South Asia, i.e., following the process of 1. identification of the problem area, 2. identification of the target group, 3. identification of the target region, 4. identification of the partner organization; and following the criteria of innovative organizations with good governance? Was this approach beneficial?	Identification of the problem area
	Identification of the target group
	Identification of stakeholders
	Innovations/local knowledge
Were synergies as well as strategic and thematic alliances between the partner organizations (and beyond) established? How can these be strengthened and used more in the future?	Coordination, networking, match grants
	Learning and sharing
How can these be strengthened and used more in the future	Structure, participation, and joint actions/campaigns
Did the projects help raising global awareness of environmental child rights and successfully integrate them into governmental actions?	Engaged in national networks and alliances for policy advocacy on environmental child rights
Did the projects help in empowering youth at local, national, and international level on environmental agendas and engage youth in local policy making government institutions?	Working with the youth-led organization, capacity building, awareness,
	Lobbying and advocacy in participation of youth in decision-making positions
To what extent did the projects support the Nepalese government's policies on environmental rights during and after the project period	Engagement in policy formulation, review, capacity building
	Engaged in national networks and alliances for policy advocacy on environmental child rights
Effectiveness	
Which approaches were particularly conducive to the participation of children and youth?	Child club/network, youth club/network,

Which obstacles and challenges did the projects face regarding the participation of children and youth?	Coordination among the different groups such as CBOs youth and children
	Resources/ including internet facilities etc/connectivity/space
	Coordination among the different stakeholders
	Change in leadership
What positive effects did the joint project work have on the partner organizations' financial, administrative, and organizational objectives?	Capacity building, awareness-raising,
	Local resource mobilization, organizational development
	Sharing lessons learning
Did the projects have negative or unexpected impacts on the project areas or target groups?	The survival rate of plantations is poor
	Knowledge practice on climate change mitigation (chemical fertilizer, hybrid seeds,
	Increasing community conflict – participation issue in meeting and training/beneficiary selection
Which obstacles and challenges did the projects face regarding the protection and strengthening of biodiversity? How were these addressed	Awareness, participation, priority, haphazard development,
What were the strengths and weaknesses of the projects' M & E system in terms of measuring the achievement of objectives; both the partners' and tdh's M & E system?	Management information system is in place, use of recommendations,
	Success case stories, M& E plan, observation, joint monitoring
To what extent was environment-related expertise imparted to the target group?	Subject matter and knowledge, capacity building, awareness,
	Technology transfer
Which concrete measures were supportive or inhibiting factors in achieving this and how were they addressed?	Technology- skill-knowledge, IEC materials
How were they addressed?	IEC material developed and dissemination, media mobilization
Did the project improve access to safe drinking water and contribute climate change mitigation and adaptation in the target region?	Access to safe drinking water, soil and water source protection,
Climate change adaptation/mitigation measures	Rain water harvesting, conservation of ponds
Is the project implemented suitable for increasing resilience to climate change in the target regions?	Technology, adopted practices – climate smart agriculture, plantation,
Efficiency	
Were the respective project objectives achieved within the project durations? If not, what obstacles led to this?	Completion on time (project timeframe start and end on time)
	Risk factors- COVID
	Challenges – resources for example plantation

Were the financial resources used in the projects in such a way that they ideally contributed to achieving the objectives?	Fund disbursement
	Consortium working modality
	Weightage of budget by objectives/activities
	Desired target/achievements due to resources
Were there more efficient alternatives to achieve the projects' objectives available?	allocation of resources to be increased or decreased
	Scope/alternative approaches
Could stronger networking and cooperation among the projects have contributed to a more efficient achievement of the objectives?	Coordination mechanism, liaison with local government Other concerned stakeholders Between the tdh project partners (BMZ)
	coordination with local government and other stakeholders
	coordination with tdh and other partners
Impact	
Have the projects led to overarching structural changes in the target regions, e. g., in the areas of social norms, human rights, minority rights or people with disabilities?	Social norms/values
	Human rights
	Minority/marginalized rights eg disabilities
	Voice and rights change
To what extent do the projects offer good-practice examples that can be used as a basis for up-scaling processes in Nepal (in South Asia)?	Youth rights
	Child rights
	Women rights,
	Farmers right
	networking/capacity/resources
	Sustainable livelihood,
	GB Rights Violence,
	Environment Conservation/Climate change adaptation
Do the selected projects provide lessons from failure from which both partner organizations and tdh can learn for future project planning in the target region?	Lesson from failures
What additional measures would have strengthened the positive effects of the projects?	Additional measures – community initiatives and contribution
	Accountability- public hearing/social audit
	Coordination – joint monitoring/media
How successful were capacity development measures carried out at the partner organizations as part of the implemented projects?	Organizational and staffs capacity (one of the main objective of the BMZ project),
	Replication/transformational change/scale up

To what extent is it possible to transfer knowledge from the selected projects in Nepal to projects in other countries?	Replication tools/approach, strategies (capacity building, protection and empowerment of youth, children and women environment)
Sustainability	
Do the projects have an impact beyond the project duration and beyond their target regions? Are institutions, groups, and networks that have been established and the best practices that have been adopted still in operation or being used?	Continuation of groups/institutions/networks/initiatives
	Best learning/interventions – infrastructure and access, biodiversity
	Dissemination of technologies and skills, continuity
Which (sub-) elements of the selected projects have a particularly high and long-term effectiveness?	CBOs structure – awareness, capacity development, advocacy – policy influence
	Sustainable livelihood
	Environmental restoration/conservation
	Infrastructure
Have the positive effects of the implemented projects been perpetuated? How was this perpetuation achieved and how can it be maintained?	CBOs structure – awareness, capacity development, advocacy – policy influence
	positive Sustainable livelihood
	Environmental restoration/conservation
	continuity of Infrastructure
Which obstacles and challenges were faced regarding the perpetuation? How were these addressed	Social, economic, political, and infrastructural
	Access to resources
Was policy and advocacy work as part of the projects satisfactory and produced sustainable results? Which measures were particularly effective in achieving this?	Issues – rights, livelihood/employment/environmental,
	Process/tools, approaches –capacity building/networking
What obstacles and challenges were faced with regard to policy and advocacy work? How were these addressed?	Obstacles and challenges faced with regard to policy advocacy
	How were these addressed?
To what extent did the selected projects contribute to an increase in local participation and ownership? Which measures were particularly effective in achieving this?	What extent did the selected projects contribute to an increase in local participation and ownership?
	Increase leadership position, inclusive participation/decision making
What obstacles and challenges were faced with regard to increasing local project participation? How were these addressed?	Project cycle (planning, implementation, and monitoring/evaluation)
Did the selected projects lead to an increase in the target groups' resilience in the face of external crises? For example, were the target groups better able to cope with the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic?	Awareness, knowledge and skill, adoption practices such as hand washing, distancing, coping mechanism
	Land degradation due to infrastructure development

Does the imparted environmental expertise find long-term application/implementation within the target group? Does such long-term application induce positive socio-economic effects for the target group?	Farming practices, conservation measures, capacity development
	Capacity development- institutional development and functional, environmental education, advocacy strategies
	Farming practices
	Conservation restoration strategies/measures
	Social-economic effects (increased participation, decreased discrimination, increased visibility)
	Increased income
Is the infrastructure deployed by the project still in operation after the project duration?	Maintenance and operation mechanism,
	Operating guidelines- structure/users group
Have the infrastructure measures contributed to an increase in income in the target group?	Availability and accessibility
	Quantity- recharge
	Quality – safe, tested,
Did the educational and TVET measures implemented by the project have positive long-term socio-economic effects for the participating children and youth?	
Did youth networks at different levels mobilize for environmental rights of children and youth and its sustainability?	Local yearly plans of youth networks (ward-municipal level),
	Affiliation with local government

Annex 3 b: Interface score by projects and average

Reflecting the needs								
Projects	CDS		Rukumeli		Hurendec		Average	
Status	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Indicators								
Reflect interest and needs of women	3	4	4	4	3	4	3	4
Reflect interest and needs of children	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Reflect interest and needs of youth, farmers/entrepreneurship (include women led cooperatives)	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Note: CS- current status, DS-desired status								
Ranking 1- Improvement needed, 2-Satisfactory, 3- Good and 4- Very Good								

Alignment with outcomes and outputs

Projects	CDS		Rukumeli		Hurendec		Average	
Status	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Indicators								
Improved livelihoods,	2	3	2	3	3	4	2	3
Improved child's rights	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Improved youth rights through networks	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
GBRV measures	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3
Environment conservation/Climate Change Adaptation/Clean energy/WASH	2	3	3	4	3	4	3	4

Project relevance to Nepal

Projects	CDS		Rukumeli		Hurendec		Average	
	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Status								
Indicators								
Geographical focus	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Rural-urban linkage/value chain	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3
Vulnerability extent -mapping/vulnerability assessment	3	4	2	3	2	3	2	3
Reduced community conflict- because of resources	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Increased in income due to agriculture and livestock practices	2	3	3	4	2	3	2	3

Responding to child rights and gender discriminations

Projects	CDS		Rukumeli		Hurendec		Average	
	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Indicators								
Involvement of children in ecological activities such as child club/network,	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Contributed to protection, advocacy initiatives against the GB rights violence	3	4	3	4	2	3	3	4
Increased participation in biodiversity conservation	3	4	3	4	2	3	3	4
Contribution to child rights to education, play, safe spaces, participation, water, food and nutrition	3	4	2	3	2	3	2	3

Contribution towards reducing GBRV and increase leadership and policies

Projects	CDS		Rukumeli		Hurendec		Average	
	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Status								
Indicators								
Contributed to the GBRV measures and protection	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3
Gender responsive policy formulation	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3
Safehouse/shelter, legal access/justice	2	3	3	4	3	4	3	4
Increased leadership role, decision-making positions, and access and control over resources	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4

Coherent to strategic goals and partnership

Projects	CDS		Rukumeli		Hurendec		Average	
	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Indicators								
Nepal projects are aligned with tdh strategic goals and developed project logframe	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Identification of the problem area, target group and stakeholders	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Innovations/local knowledge	2	3	2	3	3	4	2	3
Coordination, networking, match grants	2	3	3	4	3	4	3	4
Learning and sharing	2	3	2	3	3	4	2	3
Structure, participation, and joint actions/campaigns	2	3	3	4	3	4	3	4
Engaged in national networks and alliances for policy advocacy on environmental child rights	2	3	3	4	2	3	2	3
Working with the youth-led organization, capacity building, awareness	2	3	2	3	3	4	2	3
Lobbying and advocacy in participation of youth in decision-making positions	2	3	3	4	3	4	3	4
Engagement in policy formulation, review, capacity building	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3

Project intervention supporting children and youth participation

Projects	CDS		Rukumeli		Hurendec		Average	
	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Indicators								
Child club/network, youth club/network	2	3	3	4	3	4	3	4
Coordination among the different groups such as CBOs youth and children	3	4	2	3	3	4	3	4
Resources/ including internet facilities etc/connectivity/space	3	4	3	4	2	3	3	4
Coordination among the different stakeholders	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Change in leadership	3	4	3	4	2	3	3	4

Partnership and collaboration

Projects	CDS		Rukumeli		Hurendec		Average	
Status	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Indicators								
Capacity building, awareness-raising	3	4	2	3	3	4	3	4
Local resource mobilization, organizational development	2	3	3	4	3	4	3	4
Sharing lessons learning	3	4	3	4	2	3	3	4

Persistence of negative effect

Projects	CDS		Rukumeli		Hurendec		Average	
Status	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Indicators								
The survival rate of plantations is poor	2	1	3	2	3	2	3	2
Knowledge practice on climate change mitigation (use of chemical fertilizer, hybrid seeds,	2	1	3	2	2	1	2	1
Increasing community conflict - participation issue in meeting and training/beneficiary selection	2	1	3	2	2	1	2	1

Challenges and obstacles observed

Projects	CDS		Rukumeli		Hurendec		Average	
Status	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Indicators								
Awareness, participation, priority, haphazard development	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1
Management information system is in place, use of recommendations	3	2	2	1	2	1	2	1
Success case stories, M& E plan, observation, joint monitoring	3	2	2	1	2	1	2	1
Subject matter and knowledge, capacity building, awareness	3	2	2	1	2	1	2	1
Technology transfer, skill, knowledge and awareness development	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1

Access to safe drinking water, soil and water source protection	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1
Rain water harvesting, conservation of ponds	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1
Technology, adopted practices – climate smart agriculture, plantation	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1
Project completion time hampered due to risk factor such as COVID 19, climate change	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1
Resources constraints for example plantation	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1

Implementation approaches

Projects	CDS		Rukumeli		Hurendec		Average	
	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Status								
Indicators								
Fund disbursement, consortium working modality	3	3	3	4	3	4	3	4
Weightage of budget by objectives/activities	3	3	2	3	3	4	3	4
Desired target/achievements due to allocation of resources	2	3	2	3	3	4	2	3
Scope/alternative approaches	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Coordination mechanism, liaison with local government Other concerned staholders, Between the tdh/BMZ project partners and local governments	3	4	2	3	3	4	3	4

Structural change and transformation

	CDS		Rukumeli		Hurendec		Average	
	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Status								
Indicators								
changes in social, cultural and political norms and values	2	3	2	3	3	4	3	4
Voice and rights change- youth rights	3	4	2	3	3	4	3	4
Child rights, women rights	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Farmers right	2	3	3	4	2	3	2	3
Networking/capacity/resources	2	3	2	3	3	4	2	3
Sustainable livelihood,	3	4	3	4	2	3	3	4
GB Rights Violence,	2	3	2	3	3	4	2	3
Environment Conservation/Climate change adaptation	3	4	2	3	3	4	3	4

Project level impacts and learnings

Projects	CDS		Rukumeli		Hurendec		Average	
	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Status								
Indicators								
Learning	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Additional measures - community initiatives and contribution	2	3	3	4	3	4	3	4
Accountability- public hearing/social audit	3	4	3	4	2	3	3	4
Coordination - joint monitoring/media	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Organizational and staffs capacity (one of the main objective of the BMZ project),	3	4	2	3	3	4	3	4
Replication/transformational change/scale up	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Replication tools/approach, strategies (capacity building, protection and empowerment of youth, children and women environment) For example - municipal youth council - advocacy/lobbying issues/policies)	2	2	3	4	3	4	3	4

Continuation of the project interventions

Projects	CDS		Rukumeli		Hurendec		Average	
	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Status								
Indicators								
Continuation of groups/institutions/network's initiatives	2	3	3	4	3	4	3	4
Best learning/interventions - infrastructure and access, biodiversity/dissemination of technologies and skills	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4

Project having long term and short term effectiveness

Projects	CDS		Rukumeli		Hurendec		Average	
	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Status								
Indicators								
CBOs structure - awareness, capacity development, advocacy - policy influence	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Sustainable livelihood	2	3	3	4	3	4	3	4
Environmental restoration/conservation/Climate change adaptation	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4

Infrastructure	3	4	2	3	2	3	2	3
Social, economic, political, and access to resources, infrastructure	3	4	2	3	3	4	3	4
Maintenance and operation mechanism, operating guidelines	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3
Availability, quantity, quality & accessibility	2	3	2	3	2	3	2	3

Indicators supporting sustainability

Project sites	CDS		Rukumeli		Hurendec		Average	
	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Status								
Indicators								
Issues addressed on rights based of children, youth and women	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Extent of participation, leadership and decision making	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Project cycle (planning, implementation, and monitoring/evaluation)	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Local yearly plans of youth networks (ward-municipal level)	3	4	2	3	2	3	2	3
Affiliation with local government	3	4	2	3	3	4	3	4

Project intervention showing changes in resilience and socio-economic change

Projects	CDS		Rukumeli		Hurendec		Average	
	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS	CS	DS
Status								
Indicators								
Awareness, knowledge and skill, adoption practices such as hand washing, distancing, coping mechanism	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Conservation measures, capacity development	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Capacity development- institutional development and functional, environmental education, advocacy strategies	2	3	3	4	3	4	3	4
Farming practices	2	3	3	4	2	3	2	3
Conservation restoration strategies/measures	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Social-economic effects (increased participation, decreased discrimination, increased visibility)	3	4	3	4	3	4	3	4
Increased income	2	3	3	4	3	4	3	4

Annex 4: Attendance sheet of the participants

Activity: Ex-Post Evaluation

Date: March 18, 2022

Rammechhap

SN	Name	M/F	Address	Phone No	Remarks
1	Balaram Lama	M	EPP	9851060469	Staff
2	Nirmala Shrestha	F	EPP	9854040770	Staff
3	Namita Shrestha	F	EPP	9843691580	Staff
4	Laxmi Kumari Tamang	F	EPP	9844010399	OA
5	Hem Bahadur Magar	M	EPP	9844282693	Staff AT
6	Pawan Kumar Kharel	M	EPP	9844287171	YC
7	Raju Bikram Basnet	M	EPP	9844137367	SSM
8	Roson Poudel	M	Dhulikhel	9861829651	EPP

Activity: Ex-Post Evaluation

Date: March

Ramechhp

SN	Name	M/F	Address	Phone No	Remarks
1	Ramkrishna KC	M	Forest division office Ramechhap	9851181753	
2	Mina Dahal	F	Manthali -1	9863488335	HIMAWANTI Nepal
3	Hasana Acharya	F	Manthali Ramechhap	9844400575	
4	Sudadhoj Thapa	M	Ramechhap	9844137694	
5	Januka Shrestha	F	Manthali Ramechhap	9862405891	Bhimeshower Youth Club
6	Nikita Thapa	F	Manthali Ramechhap	9840262345	Child Club Ramechhap
7	Nirmala Shrestha	F	Manthali Ramechhap	9851149541	HIMAWANTI Nepal
8	Asmita Karki	F	Manthali -5	9848753094	Sunarpani Child Club
9	Gambhir BK	M	Manthali -1	9854040408	Social Activists
10	Deepak BK	M	Ramechhap -6	9865592146	Sunkoshsi Youth Club
11	Nabaraj Ghimire	M	Ramechhap -8	9764000259	
12	Utsab KC	M	Manthali -1	9863483803	Child Club
13	Sundar Ghimire	M	Manthali -1	9764042041	DIVISION Forest Office

14	Puskar Bhattarai	M	Manthali -3	9854043293	YNC Manthali
15	Sabitra Ghimire	F		9809350355	
16	Namita Shrestha	F	CDS/EPPI	9843691580	CDS/EPP
17	Rorjan Poudel	M	NYNSD/EPP	9861821651	NYNSD/EPP
18	Pawan Kumar Kharel	M	EPP?YC	9844287171	EPP/ YC
19	Balaram Lama	M	EPP?CPO	9851060469	CPO
20	Hem Bahadur Magar	M		9844282693	EPP/AT
21	Nirmala Shrestha	F		9854040770	SM

ATTENDENCE SHEET

Activity: Ex-Post Evaluation

Date:

Ramechhp

SN	Name	Sex	Address	Phone No	Remarks
1	Meena Dahal	F	Manthali--1	9863488335	HIMAWANTI Nepal
2	Nawaraj Shrestha	M	Manthali-9	9844278840	Galaxy Television
3	Badri Nayaghare	M	Manthali-1	9840262212	FNI RCH
4	Rama Prasad Kandel	M	Doramba-2	9854042879	MSWC
5	Puskar Bhattarai	M	Manthali -3	9854043292	YNC Manthali
6	Gambhir BK	M	Manthali -1	9854040808	NGO fedration RCH
7	Nirmala Shrestha	F	Manthali -8	9851149541	HIMAWANTI Nepal
8	Mamita Shrestha	F	Manthali -1	9843691580	EPP
9	Hasana Achraya	F	Babiyakharka	9844000575	Women Network
10	Hem Bahadur Magar	M	Ramechhap	9844282693	CDS EPP
11	Rawan Kheral	M	CDS	9844287071	EPP
12	Rojan Powel	M	Kavre	9861829651	NSYNSD
13	Raju Bikaram Basnet	M	Ramechhap-7	9844137367	CDS EPP
14	Sudan Ghimire	M	Manthali	9764042401	DFO Ramechhap
15	Ramkrishna KC	M	District forest office	9851181753	DFO Ramechhap
16	Kiran Ghising	M	Sahara SACOS	9844043898	
17	Nawaraj Ghimire	M	Chisapani SBD	9718400254	
18	Shyam Kumar Thapamagarl	M	Doramba-2	9851193420	
19	Kesharjung Thapamagar	M	Doramba-2	9851128121	
20	Balaram Lama	M	EPP	9851060469	CPO
21	Deepak BK	M	Ramechhap- 6	9865592146	
22	Nikita Thapa	F	Ramechhap -7	9840262345	Child Club

Activity: Ex-Post Evaluation

SN	Name	Sex	Address	Contact	Remarks
1	Krishna Bahadur Karki	M	Manthali -5	9843663992	CDS
2	Madhav Paudel	M	Manthali-1	9854063222	Forest officer
3	Dina Kumar Dong Tamang	M	Manthali-1	9860536979	Ranger
4	Tanka Bahadur Majhi	M	Manthali-6	9860285154	Agriculture Group
5	Rita Majhi	F	Manthali -6	9844457012	Agriculture Group
6	Meghraj Ghimire	M	Manthali- 1	9844437052	Agriculture Group
7	Tanka Prasad Ghimire	M	Manthali-8	9844044671	Agriculture Group
8	Bhesh Bdr Khadka	M	Manthali- 3	9840271775	Agriculture Group
9	Ganesh Bdr Pun	M	Manthali -1	9849299326	CFUHS
10	Rita Subedi	F	Manthali -1	9844066338	Agriculture Group
11	Maiya Shrestha	F	Manthali-3	9844256797	Agriculture Group
12	Maiya Laxmi Shrestha	F	Manthali -2	9842236877	Agriculture Group
13	Meena Dahal	F	Manthali-1	9863488335	
14	Kale Majhi	M	Manthali- 6	9844168491	Agriculture Group
15	Namita Shrestha	F	Manthali- 1	9843691580	CDS/EPP
16	Hem Bahadur Magar	M	Ramechhap	9844282693	CDS/EPP
17	Pawan K Karki	M	EPP		CDS YC
18	Nirmala Shrestha	F	EPP	9854040770	CDS SM

Activity: Ex-Post Evaluation

SN	Name	Sex	Address	Contact	Remarks
1	Ram Prasad Paudel	M	Ramechhap --8	9844043557	Gaurisankar Sec
2	Dilwar Basnet	M	Ramechhap --8	9854040342	Gaurisankar Sec
3	Ronjan Poudel	M	Kavrepalchok	9861829651	Youth Representative

Activity: Ex-Post Evaluation

SN	Name	Sex	Address	Contact	Remarks
1	Gokarna Pokhrel		Ramechhap -8	9840765340	Radhakrishna CC
2	Hari Kumar Karki		Ramechhap -8	9851182131	Youth Network Chairperson
3	Masali Maya Magar		Ramechhap -7	9844284318	Farmer Group
4	Min Bahadur Magar		Ramechhap -7	9848761573	Farmer Group

5	Samjhana Newa Khadki		Ramechhap -8	9842400978	Women Group
6	Hasana Acharya		Ramechhap -8	9804440575	Women Group
7	Kalpana Tamang		Ramechhap-9	9843205403	Women Group
8	Nikata Thapa		Ramechhap-7	9840262345	Child Group
9	Reshma Shahi		Ramechhap -8	9844143546	Child Group
10	Jenuka Shrestha		Ramechhap -8	9860675544	Child Group
11	Januka Shrestha		Ramechhap -9	9848580283	Youth Club
12	Januka Shrestha		Ramechhap -9	9862405891	Youth Club
13	Arun Karki		Ramechhap -7	9860675544	Youth Club
14	Chudadhoj Thapa		Ramechhap -8	9844137694	Forest Group
15	Sunmaya Tamang		Ramechhap-8	9844229908	Forest Group
16	Pawan Kumar Kharel		CDS/ EPP	9844287171	
17	Nirmala Shrestha		CHURDEP-EPP	9854040770	SM
18	Raju Bikram Basnet		CDS/ EPP	9844137367	SSM
19	Hem Bdr Magar		CDS/ EPP	9844282693	AT
20	Balaram Lama		EPP	9851060469	CPO
21	Dambar Bdr Shrestha		Ramechhap farmer	9764029852	Farmers Group
22	Namita Shrestha		EPP(FO)	9843691580	Forest Officer

Activity: Ex-Post Evaluation

SN	Name	Sex	Address	Contact No	Remarks
1	Sebika Ghimire		Manthali -1	9841228244	Child Club
2	Meena Dahal		Manthali -1	9863488335	CFUGS
3	Ranjana Shrestha		Manthali -1	9846682659	
4	Gyan Bahadur Majhi		Manthali -6	9861332989	Agro Group
5	Kumar Bahadur Majhi		Manthali -6	9844243018	Agro Group
6	Urmila Bishunke		Manthali -2		Women Group
7	Badri Prasad Subedi		Manthali -1	9841279207	CFUGS
8	Keshar Bahadur Shrestha		Manthali -1	9849931416	Agro Group
9	Dipak Bk		Manthali -6	9865592146	Youth Club
10	Munnee Kumari Shrestha		Manthali -1	9844194998	Women Group
11	Asmita Karki		Manthali -5	9848753094	Child Club

12	Nirmala Tulange		Manthali -2	9844142672	Women Group
13	Sirjana Shrestha		Manthali -5	9841010458	Youth Club
14	Nirmala KC		Manthali -5	9744076722	Youth Club
15	Kiran Roka		Manthali -3	9843451331	Youth Club
16	Raju Bickram Basnet		CDS/SSM	9844137367	
17	Nirmala Shrestha		CDS/SM	9854040770	
18	Namita Shrestha		CDS/EPP	9843691580	Forest Officer
19	Utsab KC		Manthali -1	9863483803	Child Club
20	Siwani Ghimire		Manthali-1	9840025990	Child Club
21	Hom Bdr Magar		Ramechhap -1	9844282693	AT
22	Sabitra Ghimire		Manthali-1	9869350355	Women Network
23	Pawan K Kheral		CDS	9844287171	EPPYC

Activity: Ex-Post Evaluation

Date: 23rd May

Rukum

SN	Name	M/F	Address	Phone No	Remarks
1	Basniwv Devkota	M	Sisne -6	9866923273	Sisne -6 Rukum
2	Suninta Khadka	F	Sisne -6	9847994555	
3	Sudan Regmei	M	Sisne RM	9868034018	
4	Sante Bahadur BK	M	Sisne RM- 5	9844965359	
5	Sarjana Karki	F	Sisne RM- 5	9868286828	Journalist
6	Nandan KC	M	Bafikot -5	9865027324	
7	Bhim Bahadur Janaki Magar	M	Sisne - 2	9860331701	
8	Deepak Bista	M	Sisne - 3	9845815952	
9	Damodar Gautam	M	Sisne -6	9857830612	HURED
10	Uttam Aryal	M		9847893342	
11	Tek Bahadur BK	M	RSDC/HURED	9847852635	
12	Sabitra Pariyar	F	Huredcare	9749274382	

ATTENDENCE SHEET

Activity: Ex-Post Evaluation

Date: 27th May

Manma Kalikot

SN	Name	M/F	Address	Phone No	Remarks
1	Harsa Chaulagain	M	Radio Karnali CW	9848360366	
2	Govinda Rimal	M	RDM Kathmandu	9851067600	
3	Khadananda Adhikari	M	FNJ Kalikot	9848306581	
4	Birendra Bahadur Budha	M	NGO Federation	9848314376	
5	Karna Bahadur Shahi	M	CM Bhakari	9848310361	
6	Khem Raj Khanal	M	DRR Officer Bhakari	9868113736	
7	Raju Sharma	M	RDM		
8	Sushila C Nepali	F	RDM - Kathmandu	9851065265	
9	Bidur Bista	M	Khadachharka	9848301556	
10	Khadananda Chaulagain	M	Ward Chairperson	9864826457	
11	Khadananda Chaulagain	M	RM Chairperson	9848360991	
12	Raja Bahadur Malla	m	Ward Chairperson	9868258825	
13	Deepak K Shahi	M	Alagufa	9848394918	
14	Kashar Bahadur Shahi	M	Ward Chair Person	9858060460	
15	Jay Raj Shahi	M	Hurendec Chair Person	9848301156	
16	Surya Rokaya	M	Hurendec District Coordinator	9843662142	
17	Gopal Sirju Karki	M	Hurendec DC	9848320788	

ATTENDENCE SHEET

Activity: Ex-Post Evaluation

Date: 27th May

Khadachhakra – 5 , Matela

SN	Name	M/F	Address	Phone No	Remarks
1	Motima Kami	F	Khadachhakra Matela	--	Bansgadi SA. S.
2	Pramod Bishwokarma	M	, , , , ,	984272508	, ,
3	Dhankala BK	F	, ,	9848321278	, ,
4	Putali BK	F	, ,	-	, ,
5	Beauri BK	F	, ,	9849351611	, ,

6	Ranga Kami	M	„ „	-	„ „
7	Padma Bk	F	„ „	-	„ „
8	Kesa Kami	M	„ „	9865137302	„ „
9	Pankaura Kami	F	„ „	-	„ „
10	Pama Kami	F	„ „	-	„ „
11	Junpura BK	F	„ „	9869961047	„ „
12	Kokila BK	F	„ „	-	„ „
13	Dudhkala BK	F	„ „	9866216295	„ „
14	Bhumi BK	F	„ „	-	„ „
15	Kaile Kami	M	„ „	-	9866632115
16	Amar Bk	M	„ „	9848393800	
17	Putali BK	F	„ „	9742955589	„ „
18	Mangali BK	F	„ „	-	„ „
19	Belpura BK	F	„ „	-	„ „
20	Maika BK	F	„ „	-	„ „
21	Rati BK	F	„ „	-	„ „
22	Rabi Bk	M	„ „	9848321287	„ „
23	Birkhe Bk	M	„ „	9842372309	
24	Dinesh Bahadur Shahi	M	„ „	9869544119	Chulachuli Patan youth Club
25	Gorkha Bahadur Karki	M	„ „	9845918104	Bansgadi Group
26	Karna Bahadur Shahi	M		9848310361	Hurnedec Nepal

Activity: Ex-Post Evaluation

Date: 28th May

Subhakalika RM

SN	Name	M/F	Address	Phone No	Remarks
1	Sirjana Kumari Shahi	F	Subhakalika -6	9864485653	HURENDEC
2	Dinesh Shahi	M	Subhakalika -6	9866814618	Hariyali CC
3	Laxmi Shahi	F	„ „	9861629735	Khajardev CBOS
4	Susmita BK	F	„ „	9868350413	Laligurans YC
5	Keshab Bohora	M	Subhakalika -6	9863120573	
6	Dalapur Shahi	M	„ „	9840637902	CBOS
7	Dhanrup Acharya	M	„ „	9863138895	CBOS
8	Singharub Bohora	M	Subhakalika - 5	9866263456	CBOS
9	Pansara Roka Magar	F	Shbhakalika -3	-	

10	Kali Shahi	F	„ „	9864867464	
11	Dalsur Shahi	M	„ „ -6	-	Green
12	Sapana Shahi	F	Subhamalika - 5	9748737704	Hariyali CC
13	Dharma Sunar	M	Subhamalika	9744271272	Hariyali CC

Activity: Ex-Post Evaluation

Date: 28th May

SUBHAKALIKA

SN	Name	M/F	Address	Phone No	Remarks
1	Susmita Bishowkarma	F	Subhakalika	9868350413	
2	Dudhkala Chadara	F	Khadachhakra -5	9866216295	
3	Dharma Sunar	F	Subhakalika RM	9744271272	
4	Laxmi Shahi	F	„ „	9861629735	
5	Pansara Rokka Magar	F	„ „		
6	Keshab Bohora	M	„ „	9863120573	
7	Dinesh Shahi	M	„ „	9846814618	
8	Dhanrup Achraya	M	„ „	9863138895	
9	Dalshur Shahi	M	„ „	9840637902	
10	Singharup Bohora	M	„ „	9866263456	
11	Dinesh Bahadur Shahi	M	„ „	9869544119	
12	Dinesh Shahi	M	Khadachhakra Municipality	9840764690	
13	Sapana Shahi	F	Subhakalika RM		Hariyali Bal Club