# Social Audit Report of ELLEP Project SAHAS Nepal 2018

#### **General Information:**

Date and Time: 28 June 2018, 8 am to 12 noon.

Arughat Rural Municipality Ward # 9, Bhimodaya Higher

Venue: Secondary School Arugaht, Gorkha

Period covered: Fiscal Year 2017/2018

Project: Enhancing Livelihood through Local Effort Project (ELLEP)

Geographical Area covered: Ward No 3,4,5,6,8,10 of Arughat Rural Municipality.

**Social Audit process** (Describe the process followed from preparation to completion of the Social Audit):

Social audit convened in **Aurghat Gorkha** followed 4 stages process; a) preparation, b) joint field monitoring visit, c) social audit event, and d) post social audit action plan.

a) **Preparation:** As preparation is one important step so in consultation with project staff and senior management team of SAHAS Nepal, date was fixed and venue was identified in consultation with Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of Arughat Rural Municipality along with Ward Chairpersons based on their time availability. And identified the stakeholders and right holders/beneficiaries for participation in the event. Possible list of participants identified was as follows:

**Stakeholders:** a) Representatives of the local government – Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson Rural Municipality (RM), executive committee members, Ward Chairpersons and Chief Executive Officer, b) Representatives of the sectors heads- Agriculture, Livestock, Education and Health who were related to the project initiatives, c) NGO Federation, d) NGOs working in the area e) Media persons- local FM, national and local newspapers, f) Representatives of Funding Agency, g) Principles of School worked with, and h) other local key personalities.

**Right holders/beneficiaries:** a) Targeted beneficiaries of the marginalized section who got involved in the project activities and received benefits, b) Groups and networks developed and involved in the project and c) Other beneficiaries.

**SAHAS Nepal:** a) Senior Management Team, b) staff involved in the project.

Once the participants identified, primarily stakeholders and right holders were invited with written letter of invitation with details of venue date and time. Invitation mostly to the right holders was disseminated through groups and networks to attend in the proposed date, time and venue. Invitation was followed up and reconfirmation with phone calls.

As the time proposed also was schedule for preparation of annual budget and programs of RM and most of the stakeholder invited were busy so both the event of joint field monitoring and social audit event were planned to conduct in morning sessions.

b) Joint field visit: A joint field visit was organized with the objectives to; observe the project



activities, its' quality, effectiveness, process adopted, information shard with beneficiaries. observe accountability transparency and status, and verify beneficiaries' satisfaction and results achieved so far and made the social audit more live, practical and based on facts and figures rather talking assumptions. Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of RM. Chairperson of ward No 5 and 10, Agriculture and Veterinary JTAs, Secretary of Arughat Dharche

Rachanatmak Samaj-ADHAR Samaj (a Local organization developed in facilitation of SAHAS Nepal to carry over the project initiatives after phase out of project), Chairperson of main committee of networks of SAHAS Nepal supported farmer groups participated in field visit and observed Mangaltar irrigation canal maintenance work under infrastructure sector, school support in Shiva Shakti Primary School, furniture and flooring support to Chhayadevi Primary School Bhalchope, under health and education sector, plastic house, bee keeping, animal shed improvement, bio-pesticide management and vegetable production under income generation and food and nutrition security sectors in Bhalchope village. It was observed that supported activities were successfully implemented in full participation of beneficiaries and people were benefitted and highly satisfied from the support of ELLEP/SAHAS Nepal.



c) Social Audit Event: The president of ADHAR Samaaj- Mr. Ben Bahadur Ale chaired the event stated at 8 am. Ms. Pampha Gurung, Project Officer of ELLEP Dhading welcomed the participants and shared the objectives of the social audit. She emphasized that SAHAS Nepal is always given high importance in governance and adopting various mechanisms and tools to strengthen accountability and promote transparency

thorough different means like joint monitoring, review meeting, Municipality/District Project Advisory Committee (M/DPAC) meeting and in that series social audit is one more step towards strengthening governance and project effectiveness. Mr. Hari Adhikari, Project Officer of ELLEP Gorkha who had conducted the formal session, handed over the forum to the independent facilitator Mr. Tribhuban Paudel to lead the process of social audit further with its importance and relevance.

Mr. Paudel took the process ahead with elaborating the objectives, importance, process and time schedule of social audit and shared the code of conduct to be followed during social audit as effective and meaningful event. Then, asked Mr. Hari Adhikari to present the details of the project implemented during FY 20017/18. Mr. Adhikari shared the



objectives, funding partner, budget planned and expenses, process adopted, main themes and activities implemented, out-puts and results achieved so far under ELLEP. Total expenses of FY 2017 was Rs.44,70,800.

In addition to the presentation, details of planned activities, progress achieved, group/networks map, budget and expenses along with action photos and case stories ware posted in the gallery. All the participants were requested by facilitator to observe gallery presentations the details, which enhance the easy access to understand the project details and

raise the pertinent questions.



Once the power point presentation and gallery observation over, participants were requested to share their feeling, achievements they have seen, comments, feedbacks, critical questions, complain and queries to SAHAS Nepal openly. It was emphasized that raising questions and

putting critical feedbacks and comments is the right of beneficiaries and stakeholders to raise the pertinent questions which helps to strengthen governance and promote local democratic process enhance the effectiveness of the project.

#### **Comments and feedbacks:**

A total of 14 persons including right holders (5), stakeholders (4) and local governments' representatives (5) expressed their views, feelings and comments with feedbacks. Almost all the participants highly appreciated the working approach, mobilization of resources, technology transfer, capacity building and changes in the behavior of the beneficiaries.

Mostly the beneficiaries highlighted the achievement of supported through different theme like capacity building and institutional strengthening of local groups and networks, which has developed local capacity to mobilize the resources for development. Technology like improved seeds, bio-pesticides preparation technology had improved the production and income. Threshers and corn cellar and improved animal sheds like technology had not improved the performance but also significantly reduced the drudgery of women. Skill development and income generation activities have increased the income and some farmers have upgraded their status as commercial farmers which had improved their economic status, made available the fresh vegetable and meat products in local market as services. Beneficiary farmer expressed that simple technology of household used water collection also supported to produce vegetables during dry seasons have contributed to improved the nutrition supplement to their family members. Likewise, small supports to the children of most

vulnerable and marginalized family have notably improved the education performance of the children and improved the sanitation of school with toilet support. Two examples shared are presented in below paragraph.

Kamala Bhujel, who had started her income generation activity with Rs 15,000.00 supported through revolving fund established by SAHAS



Nepal has earning more than 2 hundred thousand rupees annually through different enterprises like vegetable farming, goat farming, fisheries. She has been developed as a role model in the community.

Similarly, Sabita Baram, Executive Member of Arughat Rural Municipality, shared her experiences and changes in her life with support from SAHAS Nepal. She had got training of Village Animal Health Worker (VAHW) and provided services and regularly in the



community and she had earned Rs. 13 thousands rupees monthly before she elected. Now she has been elected as executive member of municipality and services she had provided previously is being decreased due to her new role. (Photo Sabita during sharing her experiences standing along with her case story hanging on the wall)



c) Post social audit action plan: All the participants including both right holders and stakeholders were repeatedly asked and encouraged to put if they have any queries, comments, questions and feedbacks, complains. However, there were talked more achievements and appreciated the working modality of SAHAS Nepal. Most of the ward chairpersons, executive members, vice-chairperson and chairperson of Arughat RM appreciated the approach and success

of initiatives with small resources. Purna Banadur Dahal, RM Chairperson not only appreciated the SAHAS Nepal but also asked other organizations to follow the process adopted by SAHAS Nepal and work in close coordination with Rural Municipality. There were many success stories of changes in both individual and community level. Apart from positive changes, some issues raised, feedbacks provided by participants are presented in the forms of action plan below in conclusion section.



# **Information shared** Mention key topics covered and information shared during Social Audit

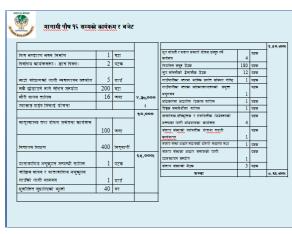
Social audit had primarily focused on details of ELLEP funded by FELM implemented during



FY 2017 in Arughat Rural Municipality. Information mainly shared were — project goal, objectives, target community with numbers, geographical coverage, activities implemented and achievements, success stories, total budget planned and expenses, and governance mechanism, challenges, future opportunities and next year plans were shared. As mentioned above, program budgets and expenses were shared in power point slides and flex presented in gallery.

Details of presentation was printed as handouts and shared along with annual report of SAHAS Nepal.





# **Conclusion of Social Audit:**

During closing session, Purna Bahadur Dahal, Chairperson of Arughat RM appreciated the support provided by SAHAS Nepal and shared that he had observed the SAHAS's Nepal activates since long time. He also had observed programs after project phase out in a Chepang community where the CHUI a community organization developed and took over the project initiativese is successfully running the income generating and social development. He highlighted that all the



organizations should work like SAHAS Nepal and maintain close coordination with local



government and accountability should establish towards community and maintain the transparency of financial matters. He expressed his dissatisfaction that hug money of local government is expensed in the community, which are not being effective and delivered the sustainable results and lacking community participation.

It was realized from their expression stakeholders that project has bring lots of changes and all the

stakeholders were positive to work on partnership. Based on the questions raised during discussion are presented with responses of SAHAS

Nepal below.

As such there were not more feedbacks that need clear action plan for improvements. In this context, the issues raised, feedbacks and comments provided by participants and response from organizer are presented in below table.



### **Issues and responses:**

Key issues raised	Feedback received from the	Response and commitments			
	participants				
Sustainability of the	Project initiatives are good and	Project initiatives were initiated from			
project initiatives.	greatly helped the local	2070 and will be continued up to 2075			
	community peoples; however	Poush 16 (December 2018), after that			
	how these initiatives will be	Arughat Dharche Rachanatmak Samaj			
	continues after phase out of the	(ADHAR Samaj) an institution			
	project? What will be the	developed from the beneficiary			
	mechanism for future support?	community will continue the			
		initiatives for that SAHAS Nepal will			
		provide financial support for certain			

Coordination with Local Government	How ADHAR Samaj will establish coordination with local government and for future initiatives.	period to grow up than ADHAR Samaj needs to maintain linkages with other institution and Local Government for resource mobilization.  Most of the activities initiated now are conducted with joint resource mobilization and full participation of ward committees. ADHAR Samaj is formed from local community and will be reformed with full coordination of local government, which will facilitate
		the good coordination.
Sustainability of technology transfer	Local groups are supported with improved vegetables and cereal seeds which directly supported through SAHAS Nepal, how commercial farmer and groups will get the seeds whether they have not established linkages with local aggravates?	Yes, up to now SAHAS Nepal had managed seed and other technology directly, however now onwards groups will linked with local aggravates in coordination with Rural Municipality.
Targeting	Up to now, support provided by SAHAS Nepal is mobilized within group members (36 groups and 726 members) other community peoples are of need support how will them got support?	Yes, it was the general process followed by SAHAS Nepal, however, now onwards groups will extend the membership and mobilized the resources to the members. ADHAS Samaj will facilitate it.
Failure cases	We heard all the success stories only, was all the initiatives success? There were not any failure cases? Failure cases also help to learn for future.	There were included so failure cases of death of supported piglets and goats. Obviously there are failure cases too; all of them were not included in the presentation. Next time we will include such failure cases too.

At last Hari Adhikari on behalf of SAHAS Nepal expressed the commitment on that above issues, feedbacks and progress against these issues will be shared during next social audit and endorses the progress against it.

Finally, session chair, Mr Ben Bahadur Ale, shared that we have developed a institution which is our even facilitated by SAHAS Nepal and he summoned all the stakeholders including local government lets join our hand, reshuffle the ADHAR Samaj with highly qualified executives and continue the social and economic development activities

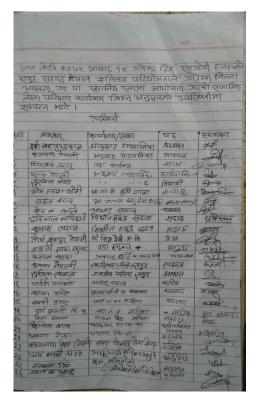


along with continuation of SAHAS Nepal's initiatives and closed the social audit event at 11.55 AM.

#### Attendance of Participants (Details of those who have attended the Social Audit event)

A total of 58 participants were attended in social audit event including right holders stakeholders and organizer. Of the total participants 48.28 percent were women. From the perspective of caste/ethnicity 45 percent Janajatis, 19 percent Dalits and 36 percent Khas Arya participated in the event. A detail of participants is as below:

Category	Sex disaggregation		Total	
	Women	Men	Number	Percentage
Right Holders/Beneficiary	12	9	21	36
Government stakeholders	9	9	18	31
Other Stakeholders	4	7	11	19
Organizer/SAHAS Nepal - Staff	3	5	8	14
Total	28	30	58	100%
Percentage	48.28 %	51.72%	100 %	100%





Dissemination (Describe the process followed for the social audit report to participants and others

# as appropriate)

The Social Audit Nepali report in will be sent to the participants and relevant stakeholders during meetings, workshop and official visit to the relevant institutions and organisation. If individuals or and organisation wishes to get the report can get from district project office.

The organisation has sent the report to Felm Nepal and also up load in the organisational website.