

Electoral Education at grassroots and district level for Democratic Governance (EEDG) Project (DCI-NSAPVD/2021/271844)

Monitoring Report

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Abbreviations

EEDG Electoral Education at grassroots and district level for Democratic Governance

HCDA Himalaya Conservation and Development Association

HHs House Holds

JN Jagaran Nepal

PAU Project Advisory Unit

PMC Project Management Committee

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1. Background

Jagaran Nepal has been implementing the project titled "Electoral Education at Grassroots and District Levels for Democratic Governance (EEDG)" in five districts of Karnali Zone. It is funded by **European Union (EU)**. The action has been implemented in partnership approach. Jagaran Nepal is leading as implementing organization and Himalaya Conservation and Development Association (HCDA) of Humla is a co-implementing partner. The project covers five districts namely Mugu, Kalikot, Humla, Jumla and Dolpa of Karnali Zone of Nepal. The overall objective of the project is "***to contribute towards strengthening the role of citizens in the electoral process so as to ensure a responsive, accountable, and democratically elected government***".

The following are the specific objectives of the project:-

- *To enhance the capacity of inclusive potential leaders of districts and VDCs on critical information, knowledge of electoral process and governance;*
- *To aware and motivate districts and VDCs' citizens on overall electoral process and its importance on democratic governance; and*
- *To monitor/observe the election (local and national) and act as citizen forum of election monitoring at district and VDC levels for free fair democratic election.*

Project Monitoring is the appraisal of project activities which eventually contribute to achieve the project goal, objectives and results. Jagaran Nepal Team including Project Advisor, Member of Project Management Committee, Member of executive board and project staff had visited project districts on 5th Oct 2012 to 12th Oct 2012.

2. Objective of the monitoring visit

The major objective of the visit was monitoring the project activities. Following were specific objectives of the visit.

- To observe the Training of Trainers on "Human Rights, Electoral Education, Political Parties and Good Governance" and provide necessary input,
- To orient the district team on changes made (Log frame, Planning and Budget),
- To share the different Guidelines developed by EEDG project(VDC Selection Guideline, Participants Selection Guideline for Training, Baseline Study, Radio Program etc)

3. Date and Venue of the Visit

The team visited Kalikot, Jumla, Mugu, Dolpa and Humla on 5th to 12th Oct 2012.

4. Team Member of the monitoring visit

Mr. Dala Rawal	Project Advisor
Ms. Meena Bista	Member of PMC of EEDG and Program Coordinator of Jagaran Nepal,
Ms. Manisha Subedi	Secretary of the Jagaran Nepal and member of PMC,
Ms. Sushila Subedi	Board member of Jagaran Nepal,
Mr. Rajkumar Sapkota	National Project Coordinator of EEDG project,
Mr. Lokendra Rawal	Project Officer
Mr. Bharat Subedi	Regional Coordinator.

5. Activities carried out

A. Observation of seven days training of trainers

In each district, ToT was organized on 8th Oct to 14th Oct 2012. Total participants of the training were 30 persons. They were from political parties, sister organization of political parties, NGOs, Nepal Bar Association, Civil Society, Traditional Leaders, local clubs etc. The training was residential and organized at district headquarter of respective district.

Opening ceremony was organized in first half of the opening day. Representative from District Administration Office, District Development Committee, District Election Office, Security Personal, Journalist, Political Parties, Civil Society presented in opening ceremony.

The team members observed two session of the training in each district. The lead trainer and co-trainer were hired from respective district. The organizer also arranged guest lecturers for some subject matter. Such as guest lecture from District Development Committee had invited to conduct session on local governance. Similarly from District Election Office for election related topic. The experts of different field were also invited as guest lecturers to make conceptual clarity on subject matter to the participants.

The session starts at 8:30 am and ends on 5:00 pm. The participants have opportunity to interact each other in free time. They also consult trainer after the training sessions and got more clarity on subject matter.

B. Orientation to the district team and members of organization

In each district sharing meeting with the district team and members of organization was organized. Following were major agendas of meeting.

- Progress update of the district
- Budget and planning
- Log frame
- Communication and visibility plan of EEDG project
- Different guidelines (Project Operation, VDC Selection, Radio program, Training participants selection, Formation of Civil Society etc.)
- Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting guideline of EEDG

- Sharing of different reporting formats
- Baseline study

District team presented the progress of the EEDG project in the district. Similarly central level team shared the changes made in budgets, planning, log frame. The team also shared the communication and visibility plan, different guidelines developed by project. The team made clear to the staffs on reporting format of the project, process of baseline study and other project related matters. The participants of the meeting put their queries regarding the project. The visiting team addressed the query.

During sharing meeting, district team suggested to include information about receiving voter registration card on household survey format that will be helpful to calculate the present status of the voter registration of the target community in respective district.

In the last day of the visit, team organized wrap-up meeting with the district team and shared an impression of the visit.

6. Resources:

Total resource for the seven days training to trainers in five districts was Nrs: - 21, 65,000

7. Major achievements of the visit

- A. Present update of the project had been shared. 36 persons including district level staffs and boards in five districts had been orientated on EEDG project. Project launching was done in five districts. Total 200 participants were present in program out of them 33 were women 21, were dalit and 29 were ethnic. To coordinate the program in district level, district coordination committee has formed in five districts. Total 36 members are actively involving in coordination committee.
- B. Five project districts had been visited. The district team and members of the district organization were well informed on program, objectives and planned budget as well as activities. The district staffs and board members of the partner organizations were well informed on different guidelines developed by project.
- C. ToT was found successfully conducted in five districts of Karnali. Total 150 potential leaders were trained on "Human Rights, Electoral Education, Political Parties and Good Governance" in five district of Karnali. Trainers, Co-trainers were experienced, skilled and knowledgeable. The training was conducted in participatory method. Participants of the training were inclusive, active and enthusiastic.

- D. The staffs and member of the organization were well informed on baseline survey. They are ready to provide necessary support to the Tran Leader and Enumerator of the survey. The suggestion of the field staffs was taken in count and researcher included it accordingly.
- E. District level coordination among stakeholders was good. Represents from District Administration Office, District Election Office, district Development Committee, Nepal Bar Association, NGO Federation, District Police Office were present in meeting. They addressed the opening ceremony of the training and committed to support as per request of project.

8. Recommendations:

- There should be inclusive participation in training (Cast wise participation as per their population share, gender inclusion).
- The district staffs and members of the organization should pay their attention on visibility of European Union, Jagaran Nepal, HCDA and their own.
- Sitting arrangements to the participants needs to be made in U shape so that training can be conducted in participatory way. All the participants can be easily accessed by facilitator.
- Logistic arrangement to the participants in some districts needs to be improved. Such as in Jumla district logistic (timetable for fooding, tea/snacks etc) was found weaker but the organizers were committed to improve it from second day onwards.
- The district level stakeholders were found positive too wards program. The district partners and staffs need to maintain in future too. The district partner should take initiation to produce synergy effects of coordination.
- EEDG is the new program in Karnali. Different stakeholders like communities, traditional leader, political parties etc. have little knowledge about it so that the district partner and staffs should pay their attention to inform them on project activities, adjectives and goal.
- District team is encouraged to mobilize human resource (resource person for training, staffs) of the same district for implementing project activities.
- Traditional leader were actively participating in training. District partners should mobilize them in village level orientation.
- Participation of the women in Jumla district seems little bit low. District partner should pay attention for 50% participation of women in every event.

9. Conclusion

The monitoring visit is successful. The field staffs and organization have got more clarity about project .It will be contributed for effective implementation of the project. The district partners are strong, socially recognized and well equipped. The staffs and board members of the organization are active, motivated and sincere. They have to capacitate on subject matter for better implementation of the project.

Participants of the ToT were active, enthusiastic and learning attitude. They have greater influence in the society. The program has to mobilize them for building awareness on electoral education, human rights and democratic governance.

The monitoring in Karnali is costly. The weather is challenging and transportation facilities are not available on time. District partners, staffs and district coordination committee are encouraged to monitor the project activities in their capacity.

This type of visit contributes to reduce the communication gap. We also got chance to learn from field and make correction as per need.

Annex- 1, Photos



Sharing meeting in Kalikot



Member of Monitoring team, training participants, staffs and board member in Kalikot.



Opening ceremony of ToT in Jumla



Observation of training in Jumla

Annex :- Participants of the ToT

District	Sex wise distribution			Cast wise distribution			Remarks
	Male	Female	Total	Dalit	Janajati	Braman, Chhetri, Thakuri	
Humla	16	14	30	1	6	23	
Jumla	19	11	30	1	2	27	
Mugu	14	16	30	3	4	24	
Dolpa	18	12	30	8	6	16	
Kalikot	16	14	30	3	1	26	
	83	67	150	16	19	115	