लैंगिक समानता तथा सामाजिक समावेशीकरण परिक्षण (GESI- Gener and Social Inclusion Audit)



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Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration Provincial and Local Level Support Program (PLGSP)

Participatory Workshop Completion Report on Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI Audit)

of

Yangbarak Rural Municipality of Panchthar District Nepal

February -2022

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PART I SNAPSHOT

1.1 Workshop Detail

S.N	Indicators		Detail/ Justification		
1	Name of the Program		Name of the ProgramParticipatory Workshop on Gender an (GESI-Audit)		Participatory Workshop on Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI-Audit)
2	Date		1 and 2 Phagun2078 (13 and 14 Feb, 2022)		
	u	Province	1		
3	Location	District	Panchthar		
	Loc	LG	Yangbarak Rural Municipality-Office of Municipality Executive		

PART IIMAIN REPORT INTRODUCTION2.1Background

The Constitution of Nepal has committed to mainstream GESI issues in all stages of state restructuring processes. to ensure equal rights for women, the poor, persons with disabilities, gender and sexual minorities, people living in geographically challenged locations and people from excluded and vulnerable groups. The constitution guarantees rights of women, vulnerable and excluded groups together with the privileges to promote and mainstream the rights of the people having dominated with tag of class, caste, geographic location, language and religionbased hierarchies of the societies.

Article 38 (3) of the constitution has provisioned to ensure full protection of women from physical, mental, sexual, psychological and other forms of violence, exploitation or discrimination on grounds of origin, religion, race, caste, tribe, economic condition, language, region or other similar grounds. Toward this end, the local government bodies have their responsibilities to assure equal access to productive resources and equal and rational participation for all citizens in all stages of local development processes irrespective of their geographical, racial or socio-economic challenges.

Inter Government Financial Management Act 2074 B.S, National Natural Resources and Financial Commission Act 2074 B.S. and Guidelines for Local Level Programs Prioritization, Financial Resources Allocation 2074 B.S. and Economic Directive and financial Responsibility Act 2076 are some of other legal and policy tools defining local level rights with specific mandates to explore local resources, plan and mobilize them with special focus to addressing GESI issues.

2.2 Program Context (GESI Audit)

The issues of GESI have been alarmingly heard through constitutions, national periodic plans and policies. In case of localizing GESI agenda, the government of Nepal has been taking constructive measures to materialize GESI related constitutional commitments while institutionalizing federal policies and programs in the country. Fifteenth Five Year Plan of the government of Nepal has fully reinforced both the constitutional commitment and priorities of international commitment such as SDGs, UN resolutions, UNSCR 1325 and 1820, ILO 169, GESI related SAARC commitment etc. Further, a common framework has been made by international development partners toward justifiable rationalization of GESI issues in Nepal.

To institutionalize the GESI agenda in all local planning processes, the Local Government Operation Act of the year 2074 B.S, has mandatorily provisioned GESI related activities as a prime function of the local government. LGOA has stipulated stipulated that the local planning processes is to be participatory with special focus to women, Dalits and socio-economically excluded groups. Further the Act gives due importance to plan and execute the projects directly benefiting to women and excluded groups. The Disability Right Act 2017, GESI policy 2077, Intergovernmental Fiscal Transfer Act 2017 etc. give due space to comprehensively address GESI issues.

The Provincial and Local Government Support Program (PLGSP) under the Office of Provincial Chief Minister and ministerial cabinet has been implemented to mainstream GESI related policies and program in all sectors of local level planning, program budgeting, monitoring and evaluation.

One of the major activities of PLGSP document was to analyze and map how far the sectorwise laws, policies and fiscal programs of the local government remained GESI responsive. The assignment, in this regard is to assess program status of Yangbarak Rural Municipality of Panchthar district Nepal whether and how far they remained GESI responsive. Further, the assessment result is to use as baseline indicator to prepare GESI Action Plan for Yangbarak Rural Municipality.

2.3 Objective of the Assignment

The general objective of the assignment was to observe and evidence-based analysis of municipality level policies, laws and other governing tools together with the fiscal and periodic programs and projects from GESI perspective. The specific objectives of the assignment were;

- (i) to conduct GESI workshop to orient participant and make them understand the GESI concept, need and importance to mainstream GESI in local development processes,
- (ii) to enhance elaborative understanding on GESI indicators as define in GESI directive 2078.
- (iii) to display result of GESI audit and get common approval from the workshop participant
- (iv) palika level SWOT analysis from GESI perspective
- (v) to make GESI action Plan for Yangbarak Rural Municipality, Panchthar.

2.4 Major Outputs of Participatory GESI Audit Workshop

The workshop has been facilitated on major theme of GESI like (i) constitutional and legal provision made to mainstream GESI issues in local development processes. (ii) role of the local government to initiate GESI responsive planning, program prioritization and implementation. (iii) federal and provincial commitment to address GESI issues through national and provincial policies, fiscal and periodic plans and programs (iv) need and importance of mainstreaming and localizing GESI issues in local policies and program planning to achieve local level goals complementing to achieve provincial, federal and international GESI objectives.

In addition to this, the participants were given elaborative understanding on how to position triple "Wh" (what, why and how) on GESI processes at the local level. Simultaneously, the participants (See list of Participants in Annex- A) were facilitated to make self judgement how far and to what extent the local policies and laws, fiscal and periodic planning document, status

of program planning and budgeting activities the Rural Municipality provisioned in the past that addresses the GESI issues. All the participants of GESI workshop actively participated in all the stages of GESI Audit activities. The important outputs of the workshop were;

- 1. All participants of the workshop first understand what GESI indicators seek to address and then learn how to scale -up GESI indicator in reference to the achievement the palika made towards mainstreaming GESI issues in local policies and planning processes.
- 2. The participants learn and got thematic concept on how to finding out and rectify SWOT status of their palika in terms of GESI responsive provisions, planning and resources allocation together with the capacity of finding out strategic opportunities to address GESI problems and its consequent challenges.
- 3. They learn to transform the statement (a situation to improve) into activity (program statement), estimate budget and calculate time duration to execute the program along identification of focal point to propose, pass and implement the activity (project) for comprehensive solution of the said problem.

PART III METHODS AND KEY LEARNING

3 MODE OF DELIVERING WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES (KEY METHODOLOGICAL STEPS)

3.1 Coordination with Rural Municipality Authority

Toward executing the workshop, the municipal authority (Chair and Deputy Chair) contacted in cell phone and shortly shared the program objective. An authorized representative was given dealing to arrange and set out the event. It further help to work. The facilitator team also arranged all requirement for the workshop and the date for the workshop fixed for 1 and 2 falgun 2078.

3.2 Well come and Opening Speech

The first day of the workshop i.e. 1, Phagun 2078 was timely arranged and review of municipality document completed. GESI audit workshop was formally opened in chairmanship of Deputy mayor of Yangbarak Rural Municipality. At the opening session, Ganesh Timsina, information office of the Rural Municipality gave welcome speech while Deputy chair wishing success of the workshop gave short motivational speech focusing the need of localizing GESI for sustainable and inclusive development.

3.3 Floor Open for Participatory Discussion

Closing the formal session of the workshop, the floor opened for formal discussion. The participant voluntarily took responsibilities like event reporter, discipline, workshop management etc. from permission of workshop chair, the facilitator took the workshop in charge. While proceeding the workshop, the following steps were followed.

- Delivery of thematic subject matters on GESI linking international commitment (SDG, CEADAW, UN Resolution 1325 and 1820 etc) and national and local needs and importance of mainstreaming GESI in local development initiatives.
- (ii) Needs and importance of localizing GESI for "Local Action and Global Impacts"
- (iii) Contextual elaboration on need and importance GESI audit to prepare the participant to enter into GESI indicator on how the participant discuss the GESI Indicator, scaling techniques and marking system based on the achievement the Rural Municipality made in reference to GESI Indicator.
- (iv) Participants were assigned to mark the GESI indicator in separate sheet with justification why any of the indicator got a particular value (1 or 0.5 or 0). For the way how the participants scale out GESI indicator, please refer Annex-D

- (v) Based on the result of Scaling out GESI Indicator; SWOT analysis was done of each of the indicator mostly of these indicators getting "0" or "0.5" marks. Please refer Annex E for SWOT
- (vi) Out of total one hundred GESI indicators, the statement obtaining "0" or "0.5" marks were used as baseline statement to justify what particular situation was strengths or weakness or opportunity or challenges for the Rural Municipality in line to mainstreaming GESI. And the statement produced in SWOT analysis has been used to produce project or program statement to be implemented to improve the situation as identified either in scaling sheet or in SWOT analysis sheet. Refer Annex F for original program statement.

3.4 Key Learning from the Workshop

The participants have been facilitated to understand and internalize GESI indicator and thereby the participants were assigned to compare what the GESI indicator expect to achieve for targeted population and how far the policies and programs provisioned for the Rural Municipality were effective to achieve the goal. Based on the review, discussion with key person of the Rural Municipality, and knowledge of the participants, a general understanding of the GESI status drawn and presented below accordingly.

- 1. Each of social cluster of the Rural Municipality deserved a particular context, needs and priority. And thus, context and situation-based policy, directives and programs could be effective, however the practice of need based program planning and resource allocation was still weak in regards of practically mainstream GESI processes.
- 2. Full ownership and leadership of the GESI issues by the local government (both people representative and government employees) is much crucial only way out whether to strongly mainstream GESI issues at local level. But still a big gap exists in entire LG operating system what existing laws say to deal with GESI issues and what have been done till date to mainstream GESI.. Therefore, without strong understanding on GESI of the Rural Municipality mechanism, GESI localization attempt may remain retarded.
- 3. Still the Rural Municipality found back to maintain disaggregated data system tracking to what extent GESI issues addressed and how far the existing policy and legal provisions and fiscal program become effective for GESI responsive outcomes. And thus, efficient data system revealing baseline indicator of GESI status is much essential.
- 4. GESI responsive policies and programs are in place, Phalelung Rural Municipality compulsorily get participation of women, dalit, and people from marginal community in formal meeting, local committees, groups and as and when required, however, the opinion and priorities proposed from these group not yet fully addressed. On the one

GESI governance practices are newly introduced agenda at the local level whereas on the other the practice of valuing GESI aspects at program implementation phase is not effective. To overcome from the situation technical and managerial boost up of key stakeholders is required.

Annex-A

Attendance Sheet of Yangbarak Rural Municipality, Panchthar

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Annex-B

The bill attach below are the statement revealing the expenditure

Annex- C

Final rating scale or marking sheet of all GESI indicators. Each of the indicator and subsequent marks provided in each indicator have commonly discussed by the participants in a group. The right most column of the sheet gives reasons why any particular indicator got a particular mark.

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Annex D

SWOT analysis of GESI indicator

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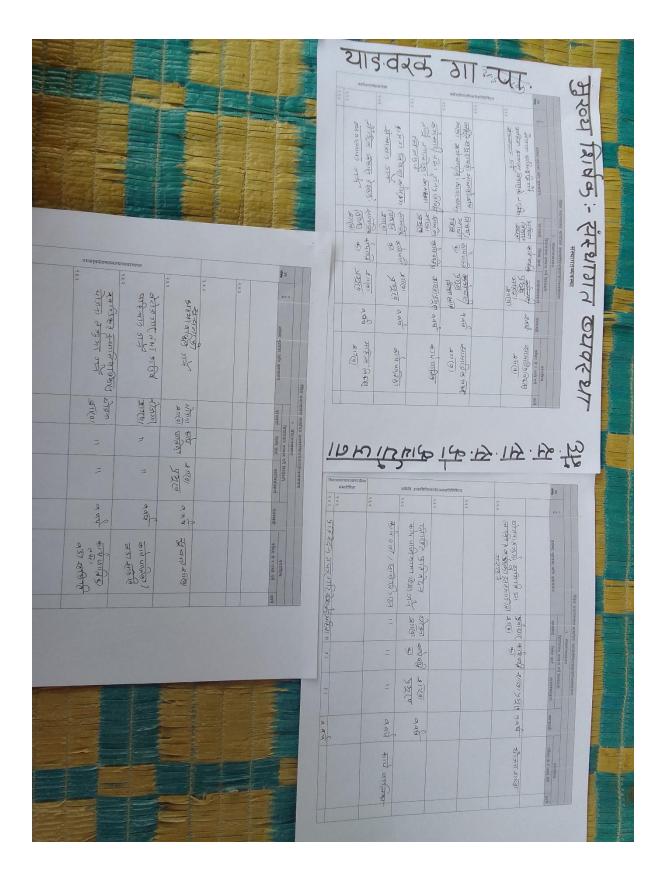
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Annex E

Action Plan of Yangbarak Rural Municipality, Panchthar

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Annex - F

Some Photo





