



CASP Newsletter

Community-based Alternative Schooling Project

समुदायमा आधारित वैकल्पिक विद्यालय शिक्षा परियोजना

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Dhading Report: Chepang Children Regularly Attend the FSP Class in Mathillo Worbang



On September 5, the CASP Team and Ms. Dibyakala Shrestha, District Education Officer Dhading, together with Mid-Term Evaluation Team visited Mathillo Worbang FSP class in Benighat VDC to monitor the class and interview with the members of Class Management Committee (CMC).

19 children aged 10-15, 11 boys and 8 girls, were present on that day. They are all ethnic Chepang. Mr. Deep Bahadur Praja, the Chairman of CMC, said, "Most of the children have not got the access to education since the nearby primary school is 30 to 45-minute far from our village. Parents used to be not fully aware of the importance of education." However, according to him, they gradually recognized the necessity of education and schooling for their children through meetings and interaction programs undertaken by Integrated Community Development Campaign (ICDC), Partner NGO under the CASP. In addition, Ms Satyabati Pandey, a facilitator, mentioned that most of the children have regularly and actively attended the class and enjoyed learning.

FSP in the 2nd year seemed to be running well in Mathillo Worbang with the support of community people and other stakeholders. Now the CMC and parents seriously felt that the Nepal government should continue to provide the alternative form of education program or build a formal school after the completion of three-year FSP program in order to provide guaranteed access to schooling for their children.

Kathmandu Report:

Good Coordination among Stakeholders in SOP Talkhududechour

In spite of the relatively good access to education in Kathmandu Valley, there are still several places such as Napuchour, Talkhududechour VDC where school-aged

children have been out of school due to the long distance from the community to the primary school. For those children of 6-8 years of age, SOP has been started by District Education Office (DEO) Kathmandu and CASP in partnership with local NGO, Mahila Sarokar Kendra (MSK) from April 2006.

Ms Jamuna Ghimire, the chairperson of MSK, stressed the importance of coordination among the stakeholders for launching SOP smoothly, saying that a series of consultation with the community leader and the representative of nearby primary school was essential for identifying SOP children, a qualified facilitator and an appropriate place as a class room for SOP.

Frequent monitoring has been conducted by various stakeholders such as CMC members, parents, a teacher of nearby primary school, the resource person of DEO, and MSK, which has contributed to the regular attendance among SOP children. In order to encourage SOP children to attend the class regularly and learn actively, the CMC has designed and encouraged for school uniforms to the parents recently. All the stakeholders involving SOP class were likely to increase the sense of responsibility and ownership of the SOP class in Talkhududechour VDC.



Mission team at
Napuchour, Kathmandu

The Mid-Term Evaluation Mission visited Nepal

As it has been two and a half years since the CASP kicked off, the CASP welcomed the Mid-Term Evaluation Mission August 28 -The Mission conducted surveys, interviews, and discussions with stakeholders involved in the project, including the Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES), the Non-Formal Education Center (NFEC), donor agencies, and children participating in FSP and SOP in Dhading and Kathmandu. The Mission analyzed the data and evaluated the Project from five aspects: relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability. Then, they drew and presented lessons learned and recommendations at the Joint Evaluation Meeting September 11 and 7th Joint Coordination Committee Meeting on 14. According to the evaluation, while the project is highly relevant to the government policies of Nepal and Japan, it should be a model to be extended through nationwide. Their evaluation will help the project modify its design and activities so that it will make further progress and benefit the Nepalese children for the second half of the project period.



Mission team have interview
with Mother Group members at
Subedi Danda, Dhading



Mr. Yoshio Fukuda, Mission team
leader, Mr. Arjun B. Bhandari,
Joint Secretary, MoES signing
Minutes of Meeting

	SOP	FSP
Full name	School Outreach Program	Flexible Schooling program
Target	Out-of-School Children 6-14 years (including once enrolled, but left school)	
Main problem	Geographical access	Over age
Main Target area	Especially in mountain and hill districts Small hamlets and isolated area	Urban, suburban and industrial area Maintain living by doing hard labor and who help in family occupation
Curriculum	Primary education curriculum of grade 1-3 using textbook of formal education	Completing the 5 years primary education in 3 years by condense curriculum
Age group	6-8 years	8-14 years
After the program	arrange for the admission in class 4	possible in grade 6

Alternative Schooling Program and CASP

Bunu Shrestha, Director, NFEC

NFEC has been conducting an ASP aiming at re-enroll in school from fiscal year 2056/057 to the children aged group 6-14 years who are out of school and drop out from the school without completing the primary education. Particularly, the program is conducting through non formal approach for children from the community, dalit and ethnics groups who are socially and economically deprived.

Generally, the program has focused the children who are not able to go school due to the distance of school and geographical disparity. Similarly, children from the urban, semi urban and industrial area who are labor and helping parents on household works are also target group of this program. The children will get text books and learning materials with free of cost and class will conduct in their favorable time.

In order to provide basic primary education to the targeted children and assist the ASP which is implemented by NFEC, Nepal Government and JICA has made agreement to establish the CASP in January 2004. The period of the project is 2004-2009.

The project focuses on ownership and partnership, strengthening a linkage between non-formal and formal education and builds networks among stakeholders and community participation. As a piloting project has conducted its activities in Dhading, Siraha and Kathmandu districts. The project is implemented by the NFEC and DEO in coordination with local NGOs and community based organization.

Thus, the program aims to make aware local people and take ownership in such activities.



Technical Exchange Training in Thailand

Technical Exchanging Training was conducted from 6 to 12 August in Thailand in order to 1) **learn experience and practice of Non-Formal Education (NFE) for children**, 2) **study the mechanism and system** of NFE for children, 3) **observe the sites** of NFE for children, and 4) **discuss with concerned personnel** working for NFE for children. 3 NFEC Section Officers, Mr. Madhav Prasad Dahal, Mr. Maheswor Sharma, and Mr. Chiranjibi Poudal, 2 Section Officers from District Education Offices, Mr. Rudra Hari Bhandari and Mr. Nawaraj Khatiwada, and 1 officer from the Ministry of Education and Sports, Mr. Ramhari Das Shrestha attended the program. The program included the field visit at the remote areas of Mae Hong Son Province, which is located in the Northern part of Thailand, to observe the practice of NFE

for children. The program was completed fruitfully and the participants developed following recommendation at the end of the program.

- Community Learning Centre (CLC) should be expanded in quantity and quality.
- The expansion of CLC as Thailand model based on community needs.
- The planning process should be bottom up approach.
- The NFE structure should be separated from central to grass root level.
- The authority and resources should be decentralized to the grass root level.
- More responsibility should be given to the CLC for reducing illiteracy in Nepal.
- The technical exchange program should be continuing at different countries for NFE staffs and policy level officers.



CASP Logo selected!

This year the CASP called for ideas from ASP children for its logo. This is the second program of this sort, as last year the project's Catchphrase was selected from the children. First, each class in Dhading and Kathmandu Districts submitted three entries for the final selection. Then, a group of representatives selected the best logo by vote at the July 21st after District Monthly Meeting (DMM) in Kathmandu and the July 23rd DMM in Dhading. The winners are as follows:

Dhading: 1st prize Mr. **Ramhari Praja** 14 years old, FSP class, Bungpung, Dhusa VDC, 2nd prize Mr. **Himlal Praja**, 11 years old, FSP class, Bungpung, Dhusa VDC, 3rd prize Mr. **Budhhiman Mijar**, 11 years old, FSP class, Subedi Danda, Gajuri VDC.



Kathmandu: 1st prize Mr. **Pratap Rai**, 13 years old, FSP class, BoudhhaTinchle, MNP#6, 2nd prize for FSP class, Mr. **Furba Bhonjan**, 11 years old, FSP class, Bahundanda, Jorpati VDC,

2nd prize for SOP class, Mr. **Bikram Tamang**, 9 years old, SOP class, Kunchipyakal, Sangla VDC.

The CASP logo will be designed based on the piece of Mr. Ramhari Praja, 1st prize winner from Dhading. The award ceremonies are scheduled after Tihar both in Dhading and Kathmandu. Congratulations to all winners and thanks to all participants in the competition!

Promotion Video also developed

A 22-minute promotion video on the CASP classes run under diverse circumstances and the CASP activities has been produced. If you are interested, please contact below

More information

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"Sabailai Shikchyako Awasar, Dinalai Narakhon Kasar" means

"Do not be hesitated to provide education opportunity for all people"