



Provincial and Local Governance Support Programme (PLGSP)

Annual Progress Report

Fiscal Year: 2079/80 (16 July 2022 – 15 July 2023)



Chief Minister Saroj Kumar Yadav in PCC meeting, Janakpur Madhesh Province



Madhesh Pradesh Government
Office of the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers
Provincial and Local Governance Support Programme (PLGSP)
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Executive Summary

The Provincial and Local Governance Support Programme (PLGSP) is a multi-donor funded national flagship programme of the Government of Nepal approved for the period of four years from fiscal year 2019/20 to 2022/23 and is executed by the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MOFAGA) to build the institutional, organizational and individual capacity at all levels of government, with special focus on the provincial and local levels. The ultimate goal of the Programme is to attain functional, sustainable, inclusive and accountable provincial and local governance. The Programme is implemented by the Office of the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers at the province level. This report covers the progress made in the fiscal year of 2079/080 B.S. (i.e, from 16 July 2022 to 15 July 2023).

Provincial and Local Governance Support Programme (PLGSP) is a national flagship program of the government of Nepal design to strengthen and capacitate the provincial and Local government system in the spirit of the constitutional provision. The PLGSP activities were focused on legal, institutional & capacity development support of three tiers of government's institutions. PLGSP program /activities are planned and implemented as per Annual Strategic Implementation Plan (ASIP). This annual progress report covers the progress of the fiscal year 2079/080 (Mid July 2022-Mid July 2023). It reflects the progress vs targets set in Annual Strategic Implementation Plan (ASIP, output indicator-based reporting, activity wise narrative report, major achievement, issues/challenges, way forward sections etc.).

PLGSP Madhesh Province has conducted different activities as per the planned in P-ASIP 2022/23 A.D. During the reporting period, IPF orientation, seven innovative partnership fund schemes implementation, formulation of e-Governance Master Plan, law formulation etc. The Provincial Coordination Committee Meeting of PLGSP, which provided a crucial guidance and endorsement to implement some major activities under PPIU & PCGG. Moreover, the Innovative Partnership Fund establishment is the main beauty of Programme to strengthen the inter-governmental relationship among all three tiers of governments and contributed in the sectors of governance, public service delivery and local economic development.

Similarly, Local Government Institutional Capacity Self-Assessment (LISA) follow up, MTEF orientation, FRA orientation, GRB orientation, four in-service training for LG and PG staffs, capacity development of ward chairmen, building code training for engineers, PIS training, IEA & IEE training for LG technical staffs, demand collection of LGs for institutional development based on co-financing of LGs. In addition, displayed of 123 LISA and 82 FRA results of LGs.

The reporting year marks a landmark year in terms of capacity building for effective sub-national governance where the elected local government representatives of all 116 LGs (except Sarlahi LGs) are orientated on their roles and responsibilities as per the provisions of Constitution and Local Governance Operation Act. Similarly, gender responsive budget orientation, IEE,EIA to technical staffs, in-service training (3 for PG & 1 for LG), building code training for the newly recruited provincial engineers recruited by the Provincial Public Service Commission etc. have been conducted successfully.

Altogether, 3253 participants (12% female) were benefitted from these activities. Among them, a total of 1322 participants were from elected representatives, 1921 were government officials and 10 were others. In terms of social inclusion of the participants a great majority of the participants were Madheshe- 2023 followed by B/C- 588, Janajati- 334, Muslim-180 and Dalit-128.

Regarding different capacity development activities (Training/workshops/orientations) were conducted for the representatives and officials of the provincial and local governments including key stakeholders, both at provincial and local levels. These activities not only assisted in enhancing their skills and knowledge for effective and efficient implementation of public administration systems and public service delivery, but also in building a good communication and coordination, which would further facilitate implementation of other activities of the PLGSP in the province.

The financial delivery is reported to be only 28.73%, which is also due to delay in the mobilization of Innovative Partnership Fund (IPF) and unable to pay LGs by PRTC regarding formulation of periodic plan, CD plan, RIAP, GESI Strategy etc. , which was huge amount of payment by PRTC.

Though the financial delivery is low during the reporting period, it will be expedited in the remaining next fiscal year.

Finally, for betterment of the programme implementation in the province, among others, capacity enhancement of the experts in the respective fields is highly recommended. Efforts from PCU and teams for regular horizontal sharing of learning and good practices are expected. In this regard, enhanced routine communication and coordination between PPIU and PCGG teams; more vibrant support, guidance and facilitation from the PCU/MoFAGA are highly required and expected.

Abbreviations

ASIP	Annual Strategic Implementation Plan
CAO	Chief Executive Officer
CD	Capacity Development
COVID-19	Corona Virus Disease- 2019
DUDBC	Department of Urban Development and Building Construction
EoI	Expression of Interest
FY	Fiscal Year
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GoN	Government of Nepal
ICT	Information & Communication Technology
IPF	Innovative Partnership Fund
IT	Information Technology
INGOs	International Non-Governmental Organisations
LDTA	Local Development Training Academy
LGs	Local Governments
LISA	Local Government Institutional Capacity Self-Assessment
MoFAGA	Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MTEF	Mid-term Expenditure Framework
MuAN	Municipal Association of Nepal
NARMIN	National Association of Rural Municipality in Nepal
NPD	National Programme Director
NPM	National Programme Manager
OCMCM	Office of the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers
PASIP	Provincial Annual Strategic Implementation Plan
PCC	Provincial Coordination Committee
PCGG	Provincial Centre for Good Governance
PCU	Programme Coordination Unit
PG	Provincial Government
PLGSP	Provincial and Local Governance Support Programme
PPIU	Provincial Programme Implementation Unit
PPM	Provincial Programme Manager
PPD	Provincial Programme Director
PRTC	Provincial Research and Training Center
RDTC	Rural Development Training Centre
RIAP	Revenue Improvement Action Plan
TA	Technical Assistance
ToT	Training of Trainers
ToR	Terms of Reference

1. Background

Federal system is a new system for Nepal and the federalism implementation is in its early stage for all three tiers of governments in Nepal. During the PLGSP period, the province 2 has made a history by naming the province as the Madhesh Province in the spirit of federalism by the Province Assembly on 17 January 2022. Provincial and Local Governance Support Program (PLGSP) is the national flagship program of the Government of Nepal (GoN) to build the institutional, organizational and individual capacity at all levels of government, with special focus on the provincial and local levels. As an umbrella program PLGSP provides a common framework for coordination and coherence of all governance-related program at the provincial and local levels and also accommodates other donor-funded program. The broader principles and approaches that underpin the PLGSP formulation are; (a) Focus on federal devolution; (b) Transparency and accountability in provincial and local governance; (c) Mainstreaming GESI; (d) Rights based and participatory approach; (e) Devolved, contextual and flexible programme design and; (f) Adaptive programming.

The Provincial and Local Governance Support Programme (PLGSP) is approved for the period of four years from FY 2076/77 to 2079/80 (2019/20 to 2022/23) and is executed by the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MOFAGA). It is envisaged that the program will strengthen provincial and local governance systems, procedures and intergovernmental relationships, to maximize benefits in terms of cooperative federalism and enhance the capacity of provincial and Local Governments to deliver services and effectively manage development processes.

2. Program Objective

The overall goal of the Provincial and Local Governance Support Program (PLGSP) is the attainment of functional, sustainable, inclusive and accountable provincial and local governance. The specific two objectives of PLGSP include the following:

- Strengthen provincial and local governance systems and procedures, and, inter-governmental (IG) relationships to maximize benefits of cooperative federalism for Nepali citizenry.
- Enhance the capacity of provincial and local governments to deliver services and development outcomes effectively to citizens.

3. Program Implementation Arrangement in the Province

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the MoFAGA and the Office of the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers (OCMCM) of Madhesh Province on 13 November 2019 to implement the Provincial and Local Governance Support Programme. The Provincial Program Director (PPD) / Provincial Program Manager (PPM) are the key responsible officials for overall implementation of PLGSP in Madhesh Province. The Provincial Programme Implementation Units (PPIU) has been established in the Office of Chief Minister and Council of Ministers. The Provincial Coordination Committee (PCC) has been formed in the chairpersonship of honorable

Chief Minister and PPIU has been operating its function under the guidance and direction of the PCC. PPIU is providing technical support on policy, institution and system strengthening to provincial government and local governments.

With the establishment of the Provincial Research and Training Center by the provincial government through the Provincial Research and Training Center Formation and Operating Ordinance -2078, the Provincial Center for Good Governance (PCGG) has been functioning under leadership of the Executive Director (ED) having policy guidance and direction from its steering committee chaired by the hon'ble Chief minister. PCGG has been delivering training, orientation and capacity development activities to the elected representatives as well as the staffs of the provincial and local governments of Madhesh Province.

4. Key Achievement against Target

Many activities could not be conducted in the reporting period due to the delay in the PCC meeting amidst other issues. Few indicators with significant progress are presented in this section, however, the consolidated results-based reporting against the targets of P/ASIP has been presented in **Annex-II**.

Table 1: Indicator achievement against target.

Description	Target (Annual)	Progress	Achievement	Remarks
Output Indicator 11: # of acts and regulations on exclusive and concurrent rights passed by the provincial assembly that went through a committee process	4	1		1 is passed and 1 is tabled
Output Indicator 12: # of federal institutions at provincial level fully functional and providing support services to provincial government to deliver the services including support in drafting laws, and other kind of support for efficient services delivery.				
Indicator 13: # of Provincial and local governments jointly hold consultations on legislative drafting.				
Output Indicator 14: # of provincial coordination council (PCC) meeting held effectively.	1	4		
Output Indicator 15: # of PG adopted Vertical and Horizontal accountability system.	2			
Indicator 16: # of PGs introduced GESI audit.	4			
Indicator 17: # of PGs use technology for data integration and information sharing.				
Indicator 18: # of Digital database system established in provincial governments (digital profile).				
Output Indicator 19: # of provinces that have passed the legislation to establish provincial public service commissions (PPSC).				
Indicator 20 : # of Organizational Performance assessment system established.				

Description	Target (Annual)	Progress	Achievement	Remarks
Output Indicator 21: # of Prepared concept paper of PCGG.	1			
Output Indicator 22: # of Provincial Centre for Good Governance (PCGG) established and functional in all provinces				
Indicator 23: # of Concept paper for National Academy for Good Governance.				
Output Indicator 24: # of LGs that adopt a standardized and uniform IT based system to collect and analyze socio-economic data.	136			
Output Indicator 25: # of LGs that have CD plans	41			
Output Indicator 26: # of LGs that adopted SuTRA as a financial management tool and submitted electronic trimester financial report to FCGO.	136	136		
Output Indicator 27: # LGs adopted LISA tool.	136	123		
Indicator 28: # of LGs developed vertical and horizontal accountability system				
Indicator 29: # of Horizontal cooperation agreement between LGs on common issues	20%			
Indicator 30: # of Vertical cooperation agreement between PG and LGs on local economic development	20%			
Output Indicator 31: # of PGs and LGs have fully endorsed GESI strategy	88			
Output Indicator 32: # of LGs have adopted code of conduct to control exploitation and including sexual harassment				
Indicator 33: # of LGs adopted child, senior citizen and differently abled person friendly governance policy.				
Indicator 34: # of LGs encouraged communities to participate in decision making process				
Output Indicator 35: # LGs that have established a mechanism to collect or hear citizens grievances (incl. Public audits per projects, public hearing etc.)				
Indicator 36: # of Proportion of decision-making positions held by women in public institutions (SDG 16.7).	24.3%			
Indicator 37: # of IPF established under OCMCMs				
Indicator 38: # of IPF operationalized to incentivize innovation.	8	7		
Indicator 39: # of Innovation and partnership Fund establish vertical cooperation between PGs and LGs (PGs' contribution in scheme)	30%			
Indicator 40: PGs develop comprehensive CD plan.				

Description	Target (Annual)	Progress	Achievement	Remarks
Output Indicator 41: # of PGs' staff attended at least one capacity development activities or short courses organized by PCGG.	500	144		Under 13
Indicator 42: # of Provincial Assembly members knowledge enhanced	159			
Indicator 43: # of Elected official (Mayor, Deputy Mayors, Ward Chair, Chiefs and Deputy Chiefs) fully satisfied with their performance.	80%			
Output Indicator 44 # LGs that prepared CD plan based on LISA report.	41			
Output Indicator 45 # of LGs and elected representatives obtains short term training through PCGGs on federalism and related subjects. # of LG officials PCGG trained annually	1115	902		Under 14
Output Indicator 46: # of LGs staff who attended induction training and on-the-job short courses on demand organized by PCGG	1500	199		Under 14

5. Details on the progress

Under the implementation arrangements of the PLGSP, PPIU and PCGG are obligated for the smooth implementation of the output level activities of the outputs 4-14 associated with outcome 2 and 3. Under the outcome 2, PLGSP is envisaged to have efficient, effective, inclusive and accountable institutions through the accomplishments of four outputs related to PGs (output 4 - 7) and five outputs related to LGs (output 8 -12). Likewise, the capacity development activities for elected representatives and staff of provincial and local governments in different thematic areas has been focused under the outcome 3 (output 13 and 14).

Output 4: PGs drafted legislation in a consultative manner

4.1: Formulate/review Acts, regulations and guidelines of PGs

Milestone: To formulate/review four Acts, regulations and guidelines of PGs

Progress: Completed.

OCMCM had adopted committee processes during the formulation process. A wider consultation with concerned stakeholders was carried out during the drafting process. During the reporting period, following laws have been drafted through the law drafting committee:

- I. Some Provincial laws (amendment and rearrangement) Act: Passed by the Province Assembly
- II. Local Service Act: Tabled in the Provincial Assembly
- III. Provincial Fiscal Procedures and Financial Accountability Act: Drafted and is under the approval process
- IV. Provincial GESI Audit Procedure(2080): Drafted and is under the approval process

Enactment and use of these acts/ regulation will help local and provincial governments and agencies in managing functioning of provincial public service commission, fiduciary risk, civil services, GESI mainstreaming, promoting accountability to the citizens etc.

Output 5: Modernized PG systems enable horizontal and vertical accountability to all citizens and mainstream GESI

5.3: Provide support to the Provincial Coordination Council

Milestone: Support to the Provincial Coordination Council Secretariat

Progress: Initiated

The reformation process of Province Coordination Council was initiated in accordance with the Federation, Province and Local Level (Coordination and Inter-relation) Act where the hon'ble Chief Minister designates the members in accordance to the Section 24 (1) (e) of the Federation, Province and Local Level (Coordination and Inter-relation) Act, 2020.

5.4: Provide support to the Provincial Coordination Committee Meeting of PLGSP

Milestone: To conduct four PCC meeting on regular basis

Progress: Completed

Madhesh province conducted altogether 4 Provincial Coordination Committee (PCC) meetings chaired by the Chief Minister on a regular basis. PCC meetings discussed and endorsed; Provincial Annual Strategic Plan of FY 2022/23, review PLGSP progress, selection and approval of IPF schemes, address the field level issues and provided strategic direction to achieve the intended results of the PLGSP. It includes guidance for further close coordination, collaboration with provincial agencies, local governments and related stakeholders for effective implementation of federal system in the province. Further, PCC meeting selected and approved the name list of LGs for formulation of Capacity Development CD-Plan, Revenue Improvement Action Plan (RIAP), Periodic Plan, GESI Strategy, and Internal Control System under PCGG.

Similarly, one event of in-person annual pre-planning workshop was organized which was participated by the development partners, the provincial ministries and their institutions and the local governments in order to plan the PLGSP activities and formulate the Provincial Annual Strategic Implementation Plan (P-ASIP) for the fiscal year 2023/24 as a part of the participatory planning process of PLGSP in Madhesh Province.

5.8: Conduct public hearing of PG projects

Milestone: To conduct two public hearing events

Progress: Not Initiated

5.13: Conduct GESI/GRB Audit at PG ministries

Milestone: To conduct GESI/GRB Audit of four PG ministries

Progress: Not Initiated

In the absence of the provincial GESI Audit Guideline of the Madhesh Province Government, the GESI Audit of the provincial ministries could not be conducted. During the reporting period, GESI Audit Guideline, Madhesh province was drafted and is under the approval process from the cabinet.

5.15: Conduct interaction workshop on GESI/ GRB for GESI focal persons of PGs

Milestone: To conduct interaction programme

Progress: Not initiated

Output 6: PGs manage provincial public administration functions more effectively

6.15: Organise orientation workshop to provincial officials on the provincial internal control system of PG

Milestone: To conduct interaction programme

Progress: Completed.

The Orientation and Interaction on “Madhesh Province Internal Control System Formulation Guidelines, 2079 & Madhesh Province Fiduciary Risk Assessment Procedure, 2079” was held on 10-12 April 2023 for the purpose of clarifying and familiarizing the lawful provisions in the documents. The major objective of this programme was making aware of FRA Procedure and ICS formulation at province level for building the reliability and effectiveness of financial statements. The programme was held in two groups. First group was organized for the chief of financial administration section, chief of the store section and the chief of Information, Communication and Technology section of 11 ministries and 5 commissions and other provincial offices for two days i.e. 10 and 11 April 2023. Second group was organized for the chief of 11 ministries and 5 commissions and provincial offices for a day i.e. 12 April 2023. Altogether 69, including 4 female were participated in programme.

Experts from the provincial treasury comptroller's office have facilitated the program specially focusing on internal control system, KOSO 2013 framework, internal audit reporting, audit arrears and clearance, and use of different forms and templates prescribed as per Nepal's public sector accounting standards. As a major achievement, officials are enabled to understand internal control procedures and are expected to utilize the knowledge to form standard operating procedures for ICS in the future. Moreover, this training will contribute to make the provincial institutions more functional and transparent with better financial discipline and administrative setup.

6.20: Prepare e-Governance Master Plan of PG

Milestone: To prepare E-Governance Master Plan

Progress: Completed.

Madhesh Province has formulated e-governance master plans as a comprehensive approach with initiatives of setup and expansion of infrastructure, connectivity, tools and systems at and beyond provinces with the objective of improving efficiency in service delivery.

OCMCM/PLGSP Madhesh Pradesh floated the RFP and among the 4 firms which have submitted the proposal, Youngminds Creation P. Ltd., Kathmandu was selected as per the Nepal Government PPMO rules and regulations. The entrusted service provider had prepared the e-Governance Master-plan as per the Terms of Reference provided and consultative meetings with

the concerned stakeholders. The report has pointed out 18 activities to be accomplished as a part of e-Governance Master-plan.

The e-GMP had suggested policy reforms at provinces as well as development of information system/web portal/informative websites, digitizing existing data and records to provide efficient and effective online services to the stakeholders. Moreover, the master plan also suggested to orient to PG staff, service providers and citizens for effective implementation and sustaining the systems. The e-GMP expected to contribute to make PGs' services accessible and affordable to the public and at the same time promote transparency and accountability of the PGs to the citizens. In the coming FY, the report would be endorsed and planned for implementation.

Output 7: PCGGs made operational to deliver CD service

The Provincial Government has established the Provincial Research and Training Center (PRTC) through Provincial Research and Training Center Formation and Operating Ordinance, 2078. The establishment of the Provincial Research and Training Center is in accordance with the PLGSP document that has envisioned to promote the existing training center as a Provincial Centre for Excellence. The provincial government has also appointed a new executive director through an open competition process in accordance to the PRTC Formation and Operating Ordinance – 2078.

Under this output, construction of physical infrastructure of PRTC, resource centre establishment and General ToT have been accomplished during the reporting period.

7.2: Construct new physical infrastructure for PTRC

Milestone: Renovated infrastructure building

Progress: Partially completed

Since the establishment of PRTC is very new in federalism, it requires a reliable infrastructure for smooth operation of its administrative activities. The area of PRTC is expanded over 32 Bigha comprising of the main administrative block, training hall, hostel block, quarter block, canteen, park, playground and parking. The infrastructure of the office was in very fragile condition which required huge amount of maintenance and renovation. Hence, PRTC called a tender to perform the maintenance of existing buildings and boundary wall of the office premises in FY 2078/79. Same contract was extended for FY 2079/80 for accomplish the activities.

Various activities were performed like painting, plastering, tiles, maintenance of sanitary and electrical work, RCC, PCC, brickworks and many more. Because of the maintenance work, the outlook of the office and residential areas has improved a lot. Few unused residential areas has become operational for PRTC staffs and using the hostel by participants during the training period. However, certain maintenance activities as per the contract agreement couldnot accomplished due to various unforeseen reason.

7.4: Prepare a long-term strategic/ business plan of PRTC

Milestone: To prepare strategic plan

Progress: Not Initiated.

7.5: Organize capacity building training for PRTC's and OCMCM officer level staffs on General facilitation ToT

Milestone: To conduct ToT

Progress: Completed.

Province Research and Training Centre (PRTC), Madhesh province had organized 5 days training of Trainers' for Official of Provincial Ministries and Training Centre (PRTC) for effective service delivery and to improve in performance and change in behavior of staff. Moreover, enhancing the knowledge, skill and attitude of Provincial Ministries Official and PRTC staff for their jobs with policy, programme, latest methods and techniques. Altogether, 27 officials were benefited from the General ToT.

7.6: Organize coordination meeting with CD stakeholders

Milestone: To conduct coordination meeting

Progress: Not Initiated.

7.7: Organize cross sharing and learning visit for PCGG officials

Milestone: To conduct exposure visit

Progress: Not initiated.

7.14: Establish resource center at PCGG (establish and operationalize Provincial Resource Centre/ Library)

Milestone: To establish resource center

Progress: Completed.

Resource centre provides access to the resources and material for learning, understanding and research. As PRTC is a central hub for research and training for Madhesh Province, a good resource centre helps to further enhance the knowledge of staff and visitors.

PRTC has established a resource centre at its premises. A separate room inside the main administrative block has been designed for the resource centre. A well-furnished room including book rack, round table, chair and carpet has been setup. The collection of book includes art, literature, law, policies and dialogues. This resource centre has provided an opportunity to utilize the free time for the staffs, visitor and the participants whoever come to the office. In addition to that, this room perfectly fits to organize a short meeting for 10 to 15 personnel.



7.15: Prepare DPR of PRTC

Milestone: To prepare DPR

Progress: Not initiated.

Output 8: Modernized LGs have strong administrative systems and accountable public financial management (PFM) system

In the spirit of federalism, LG needs to prepare different institutional system development activities for implementation of development activities for the purpose of promoting inclusive and equity-based society with prosperity and social justice.

In this context, Provincial Research and Training (PRTC) under the Provincial and Local Governance Support programme, organized 1-day workshop to identify capacity development needs of the local government to provide support to develop Periodic plan, RIAP, CD Plan, GESI mainstreaming Strategy with the view to enhance participatory, gender responsive and accountable service provisions. The workshop was accomplished in three separate events diving all LGs in three different groups.

112 LGs out of 136 participants were participated in the workshop on systemic development at the first day and the second day in the SDG responsive MTEF orientation. In the event, altogether 145 (Elected Representative- 58 & Staffs- 87) were participated from 112 LGs of Madhesh Province. The first day and second day activity were supported by PLGSP and UNDP respectively. On the first day of programme, technical session began under facilitation of Mr. Rakesh, Public Policy Expert, who dealt with the need of Capacity Development of LGs. The session was fully participatory engaging with the LGs' Chiefs and CAOs. During the session, participants shared their experience related to their day-day to work and challenges they are facing. After the event, participants were demanded different institutional system development activities as per their demands with leveraging fund for preparation of these documents (periodic plan, CD plan, RIAP, GESI strategies, Internal Control System etc.)

Based on the demand collected through workshop in participation of LG's chief and CAO, final list of LGs has been finalized by PCC to support in formulation of periodic plan, CD plan, RIAP, GESI strategy, internal control system etc

8.3: Prepare Revenue Improvement Action Planning (RIAP) of LGS

Milestone: To prepare RIAP in 54 LGs

Progress: Initiated

PCGG of Madhesh Province organized 1-day workshop in participation of LGs' chief and CAO, final list of LGs has been finalized by PCC to support in formulation of RIAP. The major objectives of the workshop were to familiarize the LGs' chiefs and CAOs about the importance of Revenue Improvement Action Plan (RIAP) in order to systemic development of Local Governance as well as identify priorities of the participating LGs in terms of RIAP and others. Based on the identified needs, PCG made agreement with the selected LGs for preparation of RIAP by hiring qualified consulting firms through open competitive process. The LGs have followed the model guideline prepared by MoFAGA in order to prepare the RIAP. While preparing the RIAP, LGs have assessed

and identified their potential areas of revenue collection in line with Local Governance Operation Act 2077 in the federal context.

Out of the targeted 54 LGs, 24 have submitted their final RIAP report after incorporation of feedback provided by concerned experts. However; PCGG couldn't disperse the agreed budget within this fiscal year due to raising quality assurance issues on submitted documents.

Thus, these documents have provided comprehensive direction and guidelines to LGs to include revenue collection plans and action in their annual programme and budget leading to increased revenue collection and their internal resources of LGs.

8.4: Prepare Capacity Development Plan of LGs

Milestone: To prepare CD Plan in 41 LGs

Progress: Initiated.

PCGG of Madhesh Province organized 1-day workshop in participation of LGs' chief and CAO from all 136 LGs. The major objectives of the workshop were to familiarize the LGs' chiefs and CAOs about the importance of Capacity Development Plan (CD Plan) in order to systemic development of Local Government as well as to identify their priorities in terms of CD Plan and others. Based on the identified needs, PCGG made agreement with the selected LGs for preparation of CD Plan by hiring qualified consulting firms through open competitive process. The LGs have followed the model guideline prepared by MoFAGA in order to prepare the CD Plan. While preparing the CD Plan, LGs have assessed and identified their potential areas of capacity development that is required to enhance the capacity and skills of the concerned representatives and staffs towards delivering effective services as per the aspiration of citizen.

Out of the targeted 41 LGs, 23 have prepared and submitted their final CD Plan for payment from the PCGG. However; PRTC couldn't disperse the agreed budget within this fiscal year due to raising quality assurance issues on submitted documents.

8.5: Prepare Periodic Plan of LGs

Milestone: To prepare Periodic Plan in 14 LGs

Progress: Initiated.

PCGG of Madhesh Province collected demand from LGs for preparation of Periodic Plan through organizing a workshop in participation of Mayor/President and CAO from all 136 LGs. The major objectives of the workshop were to familiarize the LGs' chiefs and CAOs about the importance of Periodic Plan in order to integrated development of LG along with identifying their priorities in terms of preparation of Periodic Plan. Based on the identified needs, PCG made agreement with the selected LGs for preparation of Periodic Plan by hiring qualified consulting firms through open competitive process. Out of the targeted 14 LGs, 4 have prepared periodic plans for this year. However; PCGG couldn't disperse the agreed budget within this fiscal year due to raising quality assurance issues on submitted documents. For quality assurance, PCGG assigned the concerned experts to review and give feedback and suggestions on periodic plans. The experts

reviewed all draft reports and gave proper feedback to make the reports qualitative as per the model guideline prepared by MoFAGA.

8.7: Conduct orientation/ coaching program on Mid Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) for elected representatives and officials of LGs

Milestone: To conduct orientation on MTEF in 136 LGs

Progress: Partial Completed.

As per the provision in the Intergovernmental Fiscal Management Act 2074, federal, provincial and local governments are required to prepare public expenditure statement in every fiscal year. While preparing the public expenditure statement it is also mandatory for them to prepare the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) of three years. Moreover, the Local government operational act 2074 clause 34 requires the sectoral medium-term expenditure framework and development plans in the local governments. However, many local governments have not practiced preparing medium term expenditure framework properly mainly due to lack of knowledge. Thus, the Provincial Centre for Good Governance (PCGG) of Madhesh Province conducted orientation on Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) in collaboration with UNDP for all 136 LGs of Madhesh Province. The 1-day orientation brought Mayor/President and CAO from each LG and made aware them about the mandatory provision of the MTEF preparation through various sessions such as; concept of MTEF, priority setting for the three years and others.

Following the 1-day orientation to the Mayors/Presidents and CAOs, PRTC organized 3-day long orientation to the LGs' staffs including; section head of both planning and finance along with IT Officers from all LGs except Sarlahi and Rautahat district. A total of 183 LGs staff attended the orientation that included 08 females and 175 males. The MTEF sessions were fully practical where participants engaged in preparing MTEF in separate groups for each LG. The orientation was accomplished in six different events at cluster level.

8.8: Organize refresher/follow-up training for the implementation of LISA

Milestone: To conduct refresher training for the implementation of LISA in 136 LGs

Progress: Completed.

PCGG of Madhesh Province organized 2-day refresher training in all the eight districts of Madhesh province in participation of staffs including; section head of both planning and finance along with IT Officers from each LG. The major objective of the training was to review the status of LISA implementation in LGs and variation in score after the Quality Assurance (QA) conducted by MoFAGA. During the review session facilitators collected points where LGs' staffs seemed unclear in terms of indicators and means of verification. Based on the collected points, facilitators carried out refresher sessions to clarify the ambiguities and nuances the participants had. The training was accomplished in twelve events where a total of 672 LGs' representatives and staffs attended that included 576 male and 96 female.

Following the refresher training, PCGG organized a 1-day programme with DCCs to follow-up on implementation of Local Government Institutional Capacity Self-Assessment (LISA). District

Coordination Officer along with a support staff from each district, who play pivotal role for LISA assessment process, attended the program. The major areas of the follow up were how to expedite the process of LGs to publish their LISA result through the MoFAGA portal and the how to ensure quality of uploading documents as per the demand of the respective indicators. The PPD, secretary of OCMCM and the principal secretary jointly facilitated the programme where each DCC prepared and presented a plan of action to accomplish LISA in time. Finally, 123 LGs out of 136 completed and published their LISA report in this fiscal year.

PTRC organized a 1-day follow up programme on “Local Government Institutional Capacity Self-Assessment (LISA) & Fiduciary Risks Assessment (FRA)” to DCC staffs to expedite the LISA and FRA intervention in Madhesh Province on the dated Jan 12, 023. Where altogether 22 (F-3 & M-19) staffs of DCC were participated in the event. In the event, District Coordination Officer of district is mainly focused for participants, who played pivotal role for LISA and FRA assessment process of respective LGs. The major areas of the follow up were how to expedite LGs to publish their LISA & FRA result through the MoFAGA portal and the quality of work they performed in terms of uploading required documents as demanded by the respective indicators.

The PPD, secretary of OCMCM and the principal secretary jointly facilitated the programme where each DCC prepared and presented a plan of action to accomplish LISA in time. Finally, 123 LGs out of 136 completed and published their LISA report in this fiscal year.

8.9: Organize orientation on Internal Control System (ICS) Guideline for Local Governments

Milestone: To conduct ICS orientation in 40 LGs

Progress: Not Initiated.

Demand of LGs were collected for preparation of ICS Guideline but not held.

8.11: Organize refresher/follow-up training to the elected representatives and staffs of LGs on implementation of FRA

Milestone: To FRA training in 136 LGs

Progress: Completed.

PRTC conducted refresher/follow-up training on FRA for LG's chiefs, deputies, CAOs and other staffs at district level in close coordination with DCCs. The orientations were completed in two phases i.e., 1-day interaction with LGs' chiefs, deputies and CAOs in the first phase and 2-day orientation to heads of Planning and Account sections along with IT Officer and FRA focal person in the 2nd phase. Both phases of the orientation went continuously in all eight districts. A total of 672 LGs' representatives and staffs attended the training that included 576 male and 96 female.

Following the refresher training, PCGG organized a 1-day programme with DCCs to follow-up on implementation of Fiduciary Risk Assessment (FRA). District Coordination Officer along with a support staff from each district, who play pivotal role for FRA process, attended the program. The major areas of the follow up were how to expedite the process of LGs to publish their FRA result through the MoFAGA portal and the how to ensure quality of uploading documents as per the demand of the respective indicators. The PPD, secretary of OCMCM and the principal

secretary jointly facilitated the programme where each DCC prepared and presented a plan of action to accomplish FRA in time. Finally, 82 LGs out of 136 completed and published their FRA report in this fiscal year.

Output 9: Local Governance System enable horizontal and vertical accountability to all citizen

9.2: Organize workshop for PG and LGs' representatives to explore priorities in various sectors contributing to SDGs for vertical cooperation agreement among PG and LGs

Milestone: To conduct two workshops

Progress: Not Initiated

9.3: Organize Inter-LG Workshop on Collaborative Leadership and Dialogue to explore common priorities for horizontal Cooperation agreement

Milestone: To conduct two workshops

Progress: Not Initiated

Output 10: LG systems mainstream GESI in their service delivery

10.1: Support LGs to contextualize and/or adapt GESI mainstreaming strategy prepared by MoFAGA and get endorsed by LGs

Milestone: To prepare GESI mainstreaming strategy in 88 LGs

Progress: Initiated.

PCGG of Madhesh Province organized 1-day workshop in participation of LGs' chief and CAO, final list of LGs has been finalized by PCC to support in formulation of the GESI mainstreaming strategy. The major objectives of the workshop were to familiarize the LGs' chiefs and CAOs about the importance of GESI strategy in order to systemic development of Local Governance as well as identify priorities of the participating LGs. Based on the identified needs, PCGG made agreement with the selected LGs for preparation of GESI strategy by hiring qualified consulting firms through open competitive process. 44 have submitted their final GESI strategy report after incorporation of feedback provided by concerned experts. However; PCGG couldn't disperse the agreed budget within this fiscal year due to raising quality assurance issues on submitted documents.

10.2: Conduct GESI Audit in LGs

Milestone: To conduct GESI audit in 68 LGs

Progress: Not Initiated

10.4: Conduct capacity building ToT on Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) for Local Resource Persons (LRPs)

Milestone: To conduct ToT

Progress: Not Initiated

10.4: Conduct orientation on Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) for LGs

Milestone: To conduct orientation in 86 LGs

Progress: Completed.

PRTC mobilized the trained Resource person to conduct 2-day GRB orientation in 74 LGs. A total of 315 participants (elected representatives- 56 & staffs- 259) of LGs attended the orientation. The orientation helped the participants to understand the concept and application of GRB in order to local level planning for equitable development. Concepts of GESI, GRB, provisions on GRB, importance of GRB, and role of elected representatives, local level planning, and integration of GRB were discussed in the orientation. GRB analysis of the budget of FY 2077/78 is also done. The orientation on GRB has been effective in building the knowledge and skill including in building their commitment to ensure GRB in their respective Palikas. As a result, the majority of LGs better internalized the concept of GRB in their policy and program in FY 2079/80 compared to FY 2078/89. However; detail of the budget is yet to be analyzed due to unbundled budget allocation in their annual program.

10.9: Celebrate national /international days (Celebrate various National/ International days' i.e international women's day, 16th day of activism against VAW, International Day of Girls child, menstruation day etc.)

Milestone: To conduct four events

Progress: Partial Completed.

PRTC conducted two interaction programme on "Role of Students in Making Gender Violence Free Society" in two school's students of 8-10 class in Dhanusha district on the occasion of 16-days of activism against violence against women/girls. The programme internalized the students their role also crucial for making gender violence free society.

10.10: Conduct capacity building training on their roles and responsibilities to ensure GESI in local level planning to LG's GESI Focal persons

Milestone: To conduct Two training

Progress: Not Initiated.

Output 11: LG systems enable citizen engagement and inclusive participation

11.7: Organize workshop on Multi-stakeholders' Dialogue on citizen engagement in the local development process in coordination with NARMIN and MuAN at provincial level

Milestone: To conduct three workshops

Progress: Not Initiated

Output 12: Innovative Partnership Fund (IPF) is operational and transparently supporting LGs

The PPIU/OCMCM has established an Innovative Partnership Fund (IPF) to support innovations in service delivery, Local Economic Development and Governance at LGs. ; The rationale for establishing IPF is to create space for innovation with regards to delivering public goods along with strengthening good governance principles are promoted.

During the reporting period, altogether 11 orientation events were organized, 7 innovative schemes were implementing and frequent monitoring activities were carried PPD, PPM and PLGSP-TA team members. Altogether 549 persons (20% female) were benefited from the orientation programme. Moreover, two IPF schemes of FY 2078/79 awarded also implementing in reporting period as well.

12.1: Conduct orientation on IPF to PG and LGs' stakeholders

Milestone: To conduct five IPF orientation events

Progress: Completed.

The main purpose of the Innovative Partnership Fund (IPF) is to strengthen the inter-governmental relationship among all three tiers of governments and contribute in the sectors of governance, public service delivery and local economic development. A total of 8 events of orientations on Innovative Partnership Fund (IPF) with covering eight districts of Madhesh Province. The events were organized during 5-13 December, 022 with the participation Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Chief Administrative Officer, Planning Section Chief, Accounts Officer, IT Officer and other representatives of all 136 local governments. A total of 480 individuals representing 346 LGs staffs and 82 elected representatives were provided orientations on the concepts of innovation and the provisions of Innovative Partnership Fund (IPF) in accordance with the IPF implementation guideline developed by the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration. Furthermore 2 events of orientation were organized for full proposal writing for 7 concept paper shortlisted local governments of Saptari, Bara, Parsa and Sarlahai districts for the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Chief Administrative Officer, Planning Section Chief, account officer and the IT Officer. After the events, participants were full confidence on full proposal writing and committed to prepare full proposal as per the shared templates. Similarly, two events of full proposal orientation were conducted, where altogether, 49 participants (F-12) were participated in the event. Altogether, 11 orientation events were accomplished, where 549 participants were benefited from the programme.

12.3: Implement IPF schemes in LGs

Milestone: 8 schemes

Progress: Partial completed.

The notice for the call for fiscal year 079/80 of IPF concept papers was published on 1st December 2022 in the Gorkhapatra and Janakpur Today national dailies. Furthermore, as per the LG's request for the date extension of IPF concept paper submission, a notice of date extension was re-published in Gorkhapatra and Janakpur Today national dailies on 16th December, 022. Total 24 concept papers were received and among them 7 concept papers were shortlisted from the IPF technical committee in initial evaluation criteria and a notice was published for full proposal submission on 4th December in Janakpur Today national daily. Seven innovative schemes were selected from a competitive process in accordance with the Innovative Partnership Fund (IPF) Implementation Guideline. A bilateral agreement has been made between the respective Local Government (LGs) and the Office of the Chief Minister and Council of Ministers (OCMCM) to implement these innovative schemes in respective LGs.

Below is the detailed progress made by LGs for the implementation of innovative schemes under innovative partnership fund.

FY 2079/80 B.S:

S.N.	Name of LG, District	Name of the IPF project	Total Budget ('000)	IPF Grant ('000)	LG's contribution ('000)	Budget released in ('000)	PLGSP's Expenditure ('000)
1.	Kaliya Sub Metro Politian City.	Buffalo distribution program for livelihood	22950	149175	5622	149175	149175
2	Barthwa Municipality	Studying and earning campaign program for Diploma in Agriculture students from poor and marginalized communities through their involvement in Agricultural modernization, 2079	21400	14980	6420	14980	14980
3	Balan Bihul Rural Municipality	Digital Balan Bihul	20000	15000	5000	15000	7700
4	Kanchanrup Municipality	Construction Of Children playing area	20500	14350	6150	14350	3030
5	Hanumannagar Kankalini Municipality	Establishment of agriculture Library	21121	14784	6336	14784	14784
6	Bahudarmai Municipality	Supply of Techno Friendly health ,education and public services	20805	14563	4369	14563	8792
7	Saptakoshi Municipality	Reinforcement in providing rapid public services and e governance	20000	14000	6000	14000	10951
Total			146775	102595	39898		75156

The LGs were implementing the IPF schemes on IT, agriculture, livelihood, charging station, Children Park etc. These IPF schemes will enhance good governance, local economic development and quality service delivery at local level. During the reporting period 73.26% financial progress happened of the IPF grant of PLGSP.

PLGSP under OCMCM, Madhesh Province was awarded 4 schemes of 3 LGs in last FY 2078/079 for the implementation of innovative schemes under Innovative Partnership Fund. The overall financial status under the last FY 2078/079 schemes were as follows;

FY 2078/079 B.S

S.N.	Name of IPF implementing LG, District	Name of the project	Total Budget ('000)	IPF Grant ('000)	LG's contribution ('000)	Budget released in ('000)	PLGSP's Expenditure ('000)
1.	Chandrapur Municipality	Charging Station in Chandrapur Municipality	21400	14980	6420	14980	14980
2.	Chandrapur Municipality	Neoteric Environmental Conservation of Mardhar Wetland	21400	14980	6420	14980	0
3.	Parwanipur Municipality	Women Entrepreneurship for the Local Economic Development	21500	15000	6500	15000	14206
4	Shambhunath Municipality	Model City Project	50100	15000	35100	15000	0
Total			114400	59960	54440	59960	0

The financial progress of two implementing schemes were 97.35% of the IPF grant of PLGSP and expected to complete near soon; and remaining two schemes were cancelled due to internal reasons of the LGs. The cancelled schemes of LGs were refunded their received grant amount from PLGSP. After the completion of schemes, it was expected to contribute local economic development of the province.

12.3: Conduct monitoring of IPF project implementation at LGs

Milestone: Conduct monitoring visits- 10 nos

Progress: Completed.

Frequent monitoring visits were conducted by IPF board member, technical committee members, PPD, PPM, TA team of PPIU to expedite the IPF interventions at local level. During the series of visits, under the leadership of PPD and PPM various discussions were conducted with LG's chief, Chief Administrative Officer, Planning Officer, Account Officer, IPF Focal Person of LGs, IT officer etc. Furthermore, monitoring visits were carried out to assess the IPF sub-projects implementation status, verification of progress, provide feedback to relevant persons/entities, regular interactions etc. associated with the IPF projects/schemes, effectiveness of the IPF interventions. The monitoring visits were very helpful for sensitizing LGs for timely completion of proposed activities and mitigating risks, issues and challenges prevalent in the projects/schemes.

Output 13: Elected representatives and civil servants at the provincial level are incentivized and trained for delivering high quality services

PCGGs have been the lead agency in organizing capacity building activities at provincial level. During the reporting period a total of 144 officials of the provincial government have been trained and expected to deliver high quality services.

13.1: Conduct capacity building training on Quality Control, public procurement (EGP) and organization management to PG's engineers

Milestone: To conduct four training events

Progress: Not Initiated

13.1: Conduct capacity building training to district-based staffs of PGs on Public procurement and planning aligned with LG/PG

Milestone: To conduct four training events

Progress: Not Initiated

13.1: Conduct capacity building training on relevant thematic areas to the representatives and staffs of provincial level Commissions, Committees (including Dalit Dev. Comm.) Institutions, Authorities etc.

Milestone: To conduct training event

Progress: Not Initiated

13.1: Conduct capacity building training on Federalism and constitutional provisions, parliamentary process, legislations, policies of the provincial government to Member of provincial assembly

Milestone: To conduct two training events

Progress: Not Initiated

13.1: Organize capacity building training to PG's representatives and staffs on contemporary subjects as per the demand of PG

Milestone: To conduct training event

Progress: Completed.

Provincial Research and Training Centre (PRTC), Madhesh Province, Janakpur conducted one event of 3 days PIS orientation training (demand based) for Provincial Government (PG) staff especially for computer operator deployed at provincial ministries and Provincial Assembly, OCMCM and PRTC of Madhesh Province Government through practical exercise. They were 32 provincial staff (5th to 7th level) including 1 women and 31 males. The PIS training held from 28 to 30 March '23(14 to 16 Chaitra 2079) at Janak hall of PRTC, Janakpur. Necessary practical knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviours had enhanced highly for effective performance and delivery of quality service through this PIS (Personnel Information System) training. This training helped in maintaining provincial civil servant record keeping at provincial level of Madhesh Province.

13.3: Organize workshop on Collaborative Leadership and Dialogue (CLD) for elected representative and bureaucrats at PG

Milestone: To conduct two training events

Progress: Not Initiated.

13.4: Conduct pre-service training (induction/ service entry training) for newly recruited PGs staffs

Milestone: To conduct three training events

Progress: Not Initiated.

13.5: Conduct in-service training for Provincial Staff

Milestone: To conduct four training events

Progress: Partially Completed.

PRTC conducted two events of 30 working days in-service training for 7th & 8th Officer; and 5th level- engineer staffs working in different organizations under the Madhesh Province Government. The provincial government has made mandatory provision of in-service training in promotion of grade and level of the staff. Altogether 65 PG's staff participated in the training including 5 females and 60 males.

The training included the sessions on various topics related to day-to-day office operation and quality service delivery to the citizens. The training aimed at imparting necessary knowledge, skills to the participants and transforming attitudes and behaviors for self-motivated performance. There was also an inter-provincial field visit for the participants to the various province level organizations for exchange of learning and experiences from the similar works. After returning from the field visit, participants made presentation on their observation and learning and made an Organizational Development and Improvement (ODI) plan to internalize the learning in their own offices. The difference in the scores of pre and post-tests clearly

showed that the training remained effective to enhance the knowledge of the participants on essential aspects of service delivery in their working circumference.

There were 2 lots with three events of 30 working days In-service training for 7th & 8th Officer level and 5th level- engineer staffs as well as 4th, 5th & Officer 6th level (except engineering service) working in different organizations under the Madhesh Province Government at Provincial Research and Training Centre of Madhesh Pradesh. In first lot (from Mansir 14 to Poush 20, 2079/November 30, 2022 to Jan 4, 2023) there were 65 participants (in 2 events) and in second lot (from Baishakh 28 to Jestha 32, 2080/ May 11 to 15 June 2023) there were 47 participants (in 1 event) provincial staff assistant level administrative 4th, 5th & officer 6th level participated. The provincial government has made mandatory provision of In-service training in promotion of grade and level of the staff. Altogether 112 participants (6 females and 106 males) of PG's staff participated in In-Service training including 6 dalit, 11 janjati, 100 madhesi, 3 muslim and 24 B/C.

In this In-service training there was a field visit for provincial level staff for practical learning and getting experience to some offices of intra-province municipalities and OCMCM of Madhesh Province too. There was also an intra-provincial field visit for the participants to the various municipalities (Nijgarh, Bagmati, Hariwon, Bardibas, Rajbiraj, Janakpur Sub-Metro) of province level organizations for exchange of learning and experiences from the similar works. After returning from the field visit, participants made presentation on their observation and learning and submitted a report of SWOT analysis of visited municipalities to internalize the learning in their own offices. The difference in the scores of pre and post-tests clearly showed that the training remained effective to enhance the knowledge of the participants on essential aspects of service delivery in their working circumstances.

This training would be helpful for civil servant of province government level assistant staff and officer level for promotion and career development. This In-service training is very important for effective and quality service delivery to the citizens.

The training aimed at imparting necessary knowledge, skills to the participants and transforming attitudes and behaviors for self-motivated performance. Necessary knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviors had enhanced for effective performance and delivery of quality service through this In-service entry training.

Output 14: LGs' elected representatives and civil servants are empowered and trained for delivering high quality services

PRTC has conducted capacity development training for the officials and elected representatives of the local government on different demand based thematic areas including building code, service delivery training for ward presidents, in-service training, BEA/IEE/EIA training for the technical staff of LGs.

During the reporting period a total of 1033 officials and elected representatives were trained in aforementioned training under this output. The officials and elected representatives of LGs will use the acquired knowledge and skill to improve their performance in delivering services to the citizens.

14.1: Organize capacity building training on findings of LISA and CD plan along with other contemporary demand for representatives and staffs of LGs

Milestone: TBD

Progress: Not Initiated.

14.1: Organize capacity building training on public procurement and financial management for procurement unit members of LGs

Milestone: To conduct eight training events

Progress: Not Initiated.

14.1: Organize capacity building training on building code to newly recruited Engineers of LGs

Milestone: To conduct two training events

Progress: Completed

Building Codes are regulations governing the design, construction, alterations, and maintenance of structures. These codes specify the minimum requirements to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the building's occupants. They are enforced to make buildings safer to withstand earthquakes and other natural disasters. Local government building officials are the ones who enforce building codes. They review design plans, inspect construction work, and issue permits. Building officials come out to the site for inspections at different phases in the architecture project to ensure the building is being built according to the code. Building codes are very important because they ensure that architects and contractors are making their structures as safe as possible. Safety and the wellbeing of tenants and residents is the ultimate goal for these regulations. This is why they are so important to implement in our structures. Building codes play a big part in an architecture project. They provide safety and the reassurance that your project is safe and up to date on all the latest codes.

Hence, a five days training on Building code was delivered to the LG Engineers/Sub-engineers of Bara, Parsa district and Dhanusha Mahottari district. Where altogether, 62 participants (6 females) were participated in five days training of 2 events. The training was very effective and there was positive response from the participants. Curiosity regarding problems related to the real field scenario were raised and discussed in the training.

14.1: Organize capacity building training on effective operationalization of Judicial works and mediation to judicial committee members

Milestone: To conduct six training events

Progress: Not Initiated

14.1: Organize capacity building training on transformative leadership to elected women representatives from Dalit, ethnic priority groups and others

Milestone: To conduct four training events

Progress: Not Initiated

14.1: Organize capacity building training on e-Governance to ITOs of LGs

Milestone: To conduct two training events

Progress: Not Initiated.

14.1: Organize capacity building training on SDG localization for elected representatives and LGs staffs

Milestone: To conduct eight training events

Progress: Not Initiated

14.1: Conduct capacity building training on service delivery (Social security, Vital Registration, Planning Process and citizen engagement) forward secretaries and ward chairperson of LGs

Milestone: To conduct 20 training events

Progress: Not Initiated.

14.3: Organize workshop on Appreciate Planning and Action (APA) for elected representatives and staffs of LGs

Milestone: To conduct four workshops

Progress: Not Initiated.

14.4: Conduct pre-service training (service entry training) for newly recruited LGs staffs (Officer level 4th, 5th and 6th)

Milestone: To conduct two training events

Progress: Not Initiated.

14.5 Conduct in-service training for LGs staffs

Milestone: To conduct two training events

Progress: Partial Completed.

In- service training is mandatory for the government official of Madhesh Province for upgrading and promotion in their respective job. PRTC is very much aware regarding the importance and sensitiveness of in-service training. PRTC organized a 30 working days in-service training to the 4th, 5th and 6th level LG staff. The syllabus was designed for 120 session based on nine thematic areas. The thematic areas are- office operation and management, financial management, public service delivery, personality development, effective operationalization, Information communication and technology, current issues, development management, local economic development, and judicial issues. Furthermore, a 2 day field visit at different government offices were organized. The written examination and presentation of participant was setup for their evaluation. The training was completed by formal certificate distribution and formal training closing ceremony. The participants were very happy after receiving the training and most of them were recommended for their level upgrading /promotion in their job.

14.6: Prepare CD manuals, curriculum, and training materials through PCGG**Milestone: To prepare two training modules****Progress: Not Initiated****14.10: Conduct Capacity Building Training on IEE, EIA to technical staffs of local government****Milestone: To conduct 3 training events****Progress: Completed.**

PRTC organized 3-days training on IEE, EIA and BES to the engineers and sub engineers of all local government (136 LG) of Parsa district. The training was conducted in three events. First event was organized at Lahan, Siraha for engineers from Saptari, Siraha and Dhanusha. Similarly, second event was organized at Rautahat for engineers from Bara, Parsa and Rautahat. Similarly, third event was held at Jaleswor for engineers from Sarlahi, Mahottari and Dhanusha. Altogether, this training benefitted 104 participants (101-male and 3 female). The training aimed at making engineers/sub engineers aware about their role and responsibilities during construction and minimizing the environmental hazards. In addition, training covered detail process in planning and preparing the Environmental Impact Assessment report. This training was able to include participants from all LG level of Madhesh Province. Most of participants shared their happiness as they attended technical training from PRTC for the first time in their working tenure.

14.1: Conduct Capacity Building Training on VERSP to Officials of Local Government**Milestone: To conduct 3 training events****Progress: Not Initiated.****14.1: Conduct capacity building training on Quality Control, public procurement (EGP) and organization management to LG's engineers****Milestone: To conduct 3 training events****Progress: Not Initiated.****14.1: Conduct capacity building training on role and responsibilities of LGs representatives, planning & monitoring, revenue generation and law making for Local Resource Persons****Milestone: To conduct training event****Progress: Not Initiated.****14.1: Conduct capacity building training on role and responsibilities of LGs representatives, planning & monitoring, revenue generation and law making for newly elected representatives of LGs****Milestone: To conduct 30 training events****Progress: Partial Completed.**

PRTC organized 3-days orientation on role and responsibilities of LGs representatives, planning & monitoring, revenue generation and law making for newly elected representatives i.e ward chairmen of LGs. Altogether 26 events were organized in 7 districts (except Sarlahi) of Madhesh Province. 902 (Male-891 & Female-11) participants attended the capacity building training. The training aimed at making the ward chairmen aware about their role and responsibilities in order as per the provision of constitution and Local Government Operation Act, 2074. In addition, training covered the role of ward chairmen in planning process, monitoring, revenue generation, law making, social security and vital registration etc.

14.11: Conduct orientation on environment friendly local governance framework

Milestone: To conduct four orientation events

Progress: Not Initiated

The detail of the trainings/workshops along with the disaggregated data of the beneficiaries has been presented in the Annex- II.

6. Mainstreaming Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

The PLGSP program has made conscious efforts to prioritize and mainstream Gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) throughout the program through both GESI targeted and GESI responsive mainstreaming interventions. Optimum efforts have been made to ensure the mainstreaming of Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) in the implementation of PLGSP activities by conducting the following activities:

Promotion of Gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) is being recognized as one of the major agendas of discussion in internal as well as external workshops/reviews and training etc.

PLGSP, Madhesh province has significantly contributed in building the capacity of government officials and elected representatives of PLGs and equipped them with required skills to apply their knowledge on GESI approaches and tools and they have been mobilized as resource person systematically disseminate the learning and rolling out GESI trainings/orientations to make sure GESI is well prioritize for gender responsive planning, budgeting, laws and policies and is regularly being followed up by PLGSP.

PLGSP, Madhesh province has prioritized in bringing in all three domain of change specifically focusing on women, the vulnerable, the excluded and the poor to increase their access to services and opportunities, enhancing their voice and participation and contribute to address discriminatory practices, mind sets and norms and policies that remove barriers.

In addition, application of GESI checklists in participants selection checklists have been used and effective in ensuring the participation of women and representatives from excluded and other disadvantaged groups in any interventions of PLGSP. PLGSP, Madhesh province has consciously focused on ensuring participation and developing leadership of women and other vulnerable and excluded social groups. Likewise, PLGSP, Madhesh has ensured to collect, analyzed and maintained GESI disaggregated data based on sex, sexual orientation, social group, disability to

regularly assess and monitor the impact of PLGSP to men, women and other vulnerable, excluded group and making necessary adjustment.

Including GESI content in CD activities: The issue of GESI has been explicitly pronounced during the delivery of capacity development interventions. The GESI sensitizations are also conducted over the period among the program stakeholders. The GESI contents are also incorporated during curricula development of the training event.

7. Responding to COVID-19 Pandemic

PLGSP is sensitive and serious towards the COVID-19 pandemic and has been strictly complying the health safety measures for the COVID-19 prevention while organizing any activities. It has conducted in-person trainings by maintaining the physical distance, ensuring the use of hand sanitizer and hand washing facilities, availability of hot drinking water and briefing on the preventive measures made at the beginning of each event. Strict compliances of the preventive measures and health safety standards are also ensured at the work place.

COVID-19 precaution measures: Precaution and preventive measures have been taken during conduction of the training event. Participants are requested to maintain social distance and make sitting arrangements accordingly. The mask and the sanitizer are provisioned in the training budget and their use is made mandatory during the training events.

8. Monitoring and Knowledge Management

Following monitoring visits are conducted in the Madhesh Province to monitor the PLGSP activities during the reporting period:

Monitoring visit of PPIU: The visits have been conducted for last year contracted awarded schemes and reporting year awarded schemes under the Innovative Partnership Fund in different LGs. The objective of the visit was to expedite the schemes with conducting meeting with LG staffs and site visit as well.

Third party monitoring of 2022/023 of PLGSP completed by a third party independent service provider mainly to assess quality of tasks performed under the Programme. The independent third party in close coordination with MoFAGA/PLGSP visited in Madhesh province and consulted with various stakeholders to assess the effectiveness and quality of the program.

Some of the major findings that were highlighted by third party monitoring are i.e, need to improve coordination and communication between PPIUs/PCGGs; support to formulate different laws/policies in Provincial and local levels should be on demand basis and PLGSP need to focus on quality part of various capacity building training/workshop rather than in quantity etc. PLGSP has thoroughly discussed and shared the findings and recommendations of third party monitoring with all its team members and the recommendations were incorporated while preparing P/ASIP in near future.

The visiting team interacted with the team of the PPIUs, PCGGs and also visited Palika and interacted with the staff and elected representatives engaged in the programme implementation including Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, and the board members. The visiting team made

queries if PPIU and PCGG staff have the joint work plan, any issues on audit arrears with its adequacy of policies, system and capacity of the provincial and local staffs, fiscal federalism issues of province.

The visiting teams have also made several queries on local level planning, budgeting, plan prioritization and decision-making process on ward level. Likewise, the team also discussed the governance and service delivery system available at ward level. Team also discussed the OCMCM authority and PPIU team. They have concern on the performance and progress of the PLGSP program. They wanted to see the function of federalism among three layers of the government. PPD updating the current position of implementation of federalism and progress of PLGSP.

9. Financial Progress

The total budget of Madhesh Province for FY 2079/780 (2022/023) is Rs. 397.25 million and the overall financial delivery remains 7%. The financial expenditure of PPIU and PCGG is shown in the below table:

<i>Unit</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>% of Expenditure</i>
PPIU	14,34,00,000	82228714	57.34%
PCGG	25,38,50,000	31910795	12.57%
Total	39,72,50,000	11,41,39,509	28.73%

Regarding expenditure of IPF scheme under the last FY 2021/22 A.D, altogether NRS 497, 000 has expended during the reporting period. Which cover 97.25% of contracted amount of PLGSP.

10. Linkage and Coordination

PLGSP is working to strengthen the government service delivery system in systemic way. The program is functioning under 3 major units PCC chaired by Chief Minister, PPIU the coordination and implementation unit lead by the Secretary/ Provincial Program Director and is managed by the Provincial Programme Manager (PPM) and PCGG is executed by the Executive Director (ED). The PLGSP has been building linkage and coordination on policy guidance, management and implementation of the programme activities.

PLGSP has established coordination at provincial and local government agencies and ministries. It has been building strong coordination with Federation of Municipality and Rural Municipality, governance experts and Development Partner's (DPs) working in Madhesh Province on governance sector.

Hence, PLGSP team in the Madhesh province has coordinated with all tiers of the government for the effective implementation of the Programme. The PLGSP has conducted provincial coordination meeting for the purpose of effective implementation of PLGSP during reporting period. PLGSP, Madhesh province has provided the coordination support to the various monitoring teams visiting Madhesh Province in relation to the PLGSP, donors etc. The PLGSP team has intensively coordinated with the district coordination committee and local governments of the province and provided technical support in their Local Government Institutional Capacity Self-Assessment (LISA) and the Fiduciary Risk Assessment (FRA) process.

11. Issues and Challenges

There were some issues and challenges, which adversely affected the implementation of the planned activities during this reporting period. The major issues and challenges faced during the reporting period are mentioned as below:

- Delayed in IPF schemes implementation
- Completion of IPF Schemes in reporting period
- Functionality and sustainability of IPF schemes
- Lack of common understanding and interpretation of procurement act and procedures
- Legal identity & autonomous of PCGG– Madhesh province is operating through the executive order passed from the provincial cabinet and drafting and approving act is in the process. It is a wide-ranging issue for their legal identity.
- QA of LG level formulated PLGSP products (Periodic plan, CD plan, RIAP, GESI strategy etc.)

12. Lessons Learned

- It was realized that service delivery/confidence of newly recruited staffs were seemed better if they have received pre-service training before joining office.
- Continuous Meetings and Sharing: Organized meetings by OCMCM with PPD, ED, PPM, and related Officials (including PLGSP TA team) has been fruitful to expedite the implementation activities and getting ownership of the programme.
- Regular consultations and sharing meetings among the Technical Team members and concerning authorities (OCMCM and line ministries) has helped make a common understanding for programme implementation.
- Regular coordination meetings becomes fruitful to discuss key lessons learnt, and challenges encountered, including progress review of PLGSP against the annual implementation plan.

13. Recommendations/Suggestions

- Regular coordination meeting between PPIU and PCGG staffs along with the PPD/PPM and ED.
- Timely initiation of procurement process of the outsourced activities.
- Horizontal sharing of learning and good practices: PLGSP is a national flagship programme with nationwide coverage. Most of the activities in provinces are of similar nature therefore, sharing of ideas, frameworks and good practices, etc. within all seven provinces will contribute in creating synergy and coordinated efforts for successful attainment of PLGSP goals and objectives. In this context, the catalytic role of PCU is expected and suggested to encourage such horizontal sharing of learning and good practices among the provinces/teams in near future.

14. Plans and Priorities for next year

Provincial Program Implementation Unit (PPIU):

- Formulate PG laws
- GESI audit of PG
- Interaction between PG and LGs
- Strengthen provincial service commission
- RIAP & CD plan formulation of PG

Provincial Center for Good Governance (PRTC/PCGG):

- Capacity building of elected LGs representatives and staffs on various areas including planning & monitoring, revenue generation and law drafting
- Procurement of RIAP, CD Plan, ICS and Periodic Plan
- GESI mainstreaming and GESI Audits in LGs
- Conduct pre-service and in-service trainings to LG's and PG's staffs.

Consolidated Result-Based Reporting Against the Targets of P-ASIP

Reporting Period: Annual Report of FY 2022/2023 A.D

Activ ity Num	Activities (ENG)	Milestone Explanation	Milestone (Annual)	Progress	Remarks
4.1	Formulate/review Acts, regulations and guidelines of PGs	Laws/ acts/ regulation/ guidelines	4	4	1 Act is passed by the Province Assembly; 1 Act is tabled in Provincial Assembly; 2 laws are under the approval process
5.3	Provide strengthening support to the Secretariat of Provincial Coordination Council	Support to the Provincial Coordination Council Secretariat	1		Formation of the Provincial Coordination Council initiated
5.4	Provide support to the Provincial Coordination Committee Meeting of PLGSP	Meeting conducted on regular basis	4	4	
5.8	Conduct public hearing of PG projects	Public Hearing events	2		
5.13	Conduct GESI Audit of PG ministries	GESI Audit	4		
5.15	Conduct interaction workshop on GESI/ GRB for GESI focal persons of PGs	Interaction Programme	1		
6.15	Organise orientation workshop to provincial officials on the provincial internal control system of PG	Orientation event	1	1	
6.20	Prepare E-Governance Master Plan of PG	e-governance master plan	1	1	
7.2	Construct new physical infrastructure for PRTC	Renovated infrastructure building	1	1	
7.4	Prepare a long-term strategic/ business plan of PRTC	Detail strategic/ business plan	1		
7.5	Organize capacity building training for PRTC's and OCMCM officer level staffs on General facilitation ToT	Training event	1	1	
7.6	Organize coordination meeting with CD stakeholders	Meeting	2		
7.7	Organize cross sharing and learning visit for PCGG officials	Exposure visit	1		
7.14	Establish resource center at PCGG (establish and operationalize Provincial Resource Centre/ Library)	Resource center	1	1	
7.15	Prepare DPR of PRTC	Detail Project Report (DPR)	1		
8.3	Prepare Revenue Improvement Action Plan (RIAP) of LGS	LGS	54		
8.4	Prepare Capacity Development Plan of LGS	LGS	41		
8.5	Prepare Periodic Plan of LGS	LGS	14		
8.7	Conduct orientation on MTEF to newly elected representatives and officials	LGS	136	98	

Activity Num	Activities (ENG)	Milestone Explanation	Milestone (Annual)	Progress	Remarks
8.8	Organize refresher/follow-up training for the implementation of LISA	LGs	136	136	
8.9	Organize orientation on Internal Control System (ICS) for Local Governments	LGs	40		
8.11	Organize refresher/follow-up training to the elected representatives and staffs of LGs on implementation of FRA	LGs	136	136	
9.2	Organize workshop for PG and LGs' representatives to explore priorities in various sectors contributing to SDGs for vertical cooperation agreement among PG and LGs	Workshop event	2		
9.3	Organize Inter-LG Workshop on Collaborative Leadership and Dialogue to explore common priorities for horizontal Cooperation agreement	Workshop event	2		
10.1	Support LGs to contextualize and/or adapt GESI mainstreaming strategy prepared by MoFAGA and get endorsed by LGs	LGs	88		
10.2	Conduct GESI Audit in LGs	LGs	68		
10.4	Conduct capacity building ToT on Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) for Local Resource Persons (LRPs)	Training event	1		
10.4	Conduct orientation on Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) for LGs	Orientation event (for 80 LGs)	86	68	
10.9	Celebrate national /international days (Celebrate various National/ International days i.e international women's day, 16th day of activism against VAW, International Day of Girls child, menstruation day etc.)	Events	4	2	
10.10	Conduct capacity building training on their roles and responsibilities to ensure GESI in local level planning to LG's GESI Focal persons	Training event	2		
11.7	Organize workshop on Multi-stakeholders' Dialogue on citizen engagement in the local development process in coordination with NARMIN and MuAN at provincial level	Workshop event	3		
12.1	Conduct orientation on IPF to PG and LGs' stakeholders	Orientation event	5	11	
12.3	Implement IPF schemes in LGs	8 IPF Schemes	1	7	
12.4	Conduct monitoring of IPF project implementation at LGs	IPF projects	10	10	
13.1	Conduct capacity building training on Federalism and constitutional provisions, parliamentary process, legislations, policies of the provincial government to Member of provincial assembly	Training event	3		
13.1	Conduct capacity building training on Quality Control, public procurement (EGP) and organization management to PG's engineers	Training event	1		
13.1	Conduct capacity building training to district based staffs of PGs on Public procurement and planning aligned with LG/PG	Training event	2		
13.1	Conduct capacity building training on relevant thematic areas to the representatives and staffs of provincial level Commissions, Committees (including Dalit Dev. Comm.) Institutions, Authorities etc.	Training event	2		
13.1	Conduct capacity building training to PG's representatives and staffs on contemporary subjects as per the demand of PG	Training event (TBD)	1	1	
13.3	Organize workshop on Collaborative Leadership and Dialogue (CLD) for elected representative and senior bureaucrats at PG level (related to federalism implementation)	Workshop event	2		

Activity Num	Activities (ENG)	Milestone Explanation	Milestone (Annual)	Progress	Remarks
13.4	Conduct pre-service training (induction/ service entry training) for newly recruited PGs staffs	Training event	2		
13.5	Conduct in-service training for Provincial Staff	Training event	4	3	
14.1	Conduct Capacity Building Training on IEE, EIA to technical staffs of local government	Training event	3		
14.1	Conduct Capacity Building Training on VERSP to Officials of Local Government	Training event	3		
14.1	Conduct capacity building training on Quality Control, public procurement (EGP) and organization management to LG's engineers	Training event	3		
14.1	Conduct capacity building training on role and responsibilities of LGs representatives, planning & monitoring, revenue generation and law making for Local Resource Persons	Training event	1		
14.1	Conduct capacity building training on role and responsibilities of LGs representatives, planning & monitoring, revenue generation and law making for newly elected representatives of LGs	Training event	32	26	
14.1	Conduct Capacity Building Training on demand-base to Local Level	Training event	2		
14.1	Conduct capacity building training on findings of LISA and CD plan along with other contemporary demand for representatives and staffs of LGs	TBD (training event)	1		
14.1	Conduct capacity building training on public procurement and financial management for procurement unit members of LGs	Training event	8		
14.1	Conduct capacity building training on building code to newly recruited Engineers of LGs	Training event	2	1	
14.1	Conduct capacity building training on effective operationalization of Judicial works, planning & Monitoring and Revenue Projection to judicial committee members	Training event	6		
14.1	Conduct capacity building training on transformative leadership and planning to elected women representatives from Dalit, ethnic priority groups and others	Training event	4		
14.1	Conduct capacity building training on e-Governance to ITOs of LGs	Training event	2		
14.1	Conduct capacity building training on SDG localization for elected representatives and LGs staffs	Training event	8		
14.1	Conduct capacity building training on service delivery (Social security, Vital Registration, Planning Process and citizen engagement) forward secretaries and ward chairperson of LGs	Training event	20		
14.3	Organize Workshop on Appreciative planning and Action (APA) for elected representatives and staffs of LGs to facilitate planning and budgeting on time	Workshop event	4		
14.4	Conduct pre-service training (service entry training) for newly recruited LGs staffs (Officer level 4th, 5th and 6th)	Training event	2		
14.5	Conduct in-service training to LGs staff	Training event	2		
14.6	Prepare CD manuals, curriculum, and training materials through PCGG	Training module	2		
14.11	Conduct orientation on environment friendly local governance framework	Orientation event	4		

Output-wise beneficiaries' details:

S.N	Total Trainings conducted of each output	Types	# Nos of events	Grand Total (PG+LG)	Sex		GESI Status					
					M	F	Ethnicity					
							Dalit	Janajati	Madhesi	Muslim	B/c	Others
	Output 7											
	ToT to PCGG, PPIU & PGs staffs	PG Staffs	1	18	18	0	1	0	9	2	6	0
		Others		9	7	2	0	2	3	1	3	0
	Output 8											
	Orientation Program on LISA & FRA with Action Plan for DCOs and DCC staffs	LG Staffs	1	22	19	3	1	2	14	1	4	0
	Orientation program on LISA and FRA to LGs representatives & staff	Total	8	672	576	96	55	71	361	29	156	0
		LG Staffs		536	510	26	45	52	275	23	141	
		LG ERs		136	66	70	10	19	86	6	15	
8.11	Orientation on RIAP CD Plan, Periodic Plan and ICR for CD Demand	Total	3	145	133	12	6	15	75	4	45	0
		LG Staffs		87	85	2	4	10	38	2	33	
		LG ERs		58	48	10	2	5	37	2	12	
	MTEF Orientation(Bara, Parsa, Mahottari, Dhanusha, Sirah & Saptari)	LG Staffs		183	175	8	8	17	115	7	36	
	Output 10											
10.4	Conduct orientation on Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) for LGs (Parsa, Bara, Sarlahi, Rautahat, Sirah & Saptari)	Total		315	212	103	3	63	153	15	81	0
		LG Staffs		259	193	66	3	51	122	12	71	
		LG ERs		56	19	37	0	12	30	3	11	
	Output 13											
13.5	In-service Training for Sub-Engineer Assistant 5th level (1st Batch)	PG Staffs	1	32	30	2		2	27	1	2	
13.5	In-service Training for Officer level 7th/8th level (1st Batch)	PG Staffs	1	33	30	3	4	6	17	1	5	
	PIS training	PG Staffs	1	32	31	1			22	1	9	
	In service training(4'th, 5th & 6th Level)	PG Staffs	2	47	46	1	2	3	34		8	
	Output 14											

S.N	Total Trainings conducted of each output	Types	# Nos of events	Grand Total	Sex		GESI Status					
							Ethnicity					
				(PG+LG)	M	F	Dalit	Janajati	Madhesi	Muslim	B/c	Others
14.1	Conduct capacity building training on building code to newly recruited Engineers of LGs	LG Staffs	2	62	56	6	5	3	46	3	5	
14.1	Training to Ward Presidents on their roles and responsibilities(Bara, Parsa, Rautahat, Mahottari, Dhanusha, Sirah & Saptari)	LG ERs		902	890	12	29	123	586	80	84	0
	EIA/BEA/IEE training to LGs' engineers	LG Staffs	3	104	101	3	10	11	58	4	21	
	In service training(4'th, 5th & 6th Level)	LG Staffs	1	33	21	12	3	2	21		7	
	Total Madhesh Province PCGG			2609	2345	264	127	320	1541	149	472	0
	Output 6											
	Organise orientation workshop to provincial officials on the provincial internal control system of PG	PG Staffs	2	58	54	4	1	1	33	1	22	
	Output 12											
12.1	Conduct orientation on IPF to LGs and PG Staffs	Total	11	549	441	108		9	430	26	84	
		LG Staffs		391	370	21		4	306	19	62	
		LG ERs		157	70	87		5	124	7	21	
		Others		1	1						1	
12.4	IPF Review Workshop	Total	1	37	29	8		4	20	4	9	
		LG Staffs		24	23	1		1	15	3	5	
		LG ERs		13	6	7		3	5	1	4	
	Total Madhesh Province PPIU			644	524	120	1	14	483	31	115	0
	Grand Total of Madhesh Province (PPIU + PCGG)			3253	2869	384	128	334	2024	180	587	0

Stakeholder wise beneficiaries' details:

S.N.	Types	%	Total	Male	Female	Remarks
1.	PG ERs					
2.	PG Staffs	6.76	220	209	11	
3.	LG ERs	40.64	1322	1099	223	
4.	LG Staffs	52.29	1701	1553	148	
5.	Others	0.31	10	8	2	
	Total		3253	2869	384	

*ERs- Elected Representatives

Joint Efforts of Local Government on Fire Response Programme

In past, property and lives of people destroyed till arriving fire truck from district headquarters or adjoining districts. These *fires* cause more than millions in property *loss*. People are “eyewitness of house which has caught fire will be reduced to ashes.”

While fire brigade was established in Hariwan Municipality, Sarlahi the frequency of *fire* deaths and losses of property has steadily decreased over the past five years in their LGs and adjoining LGs of Madhesh Province. Now, people say, “If there was a fire engine, I’m sure it would help a lot.”

Being operation cost of fire brigade is high, Hariwan Municipality extended their hands to other LGs of Sarlahi district for operation of fire brigade under her LG’s leadership. So, Hariwan Municipality, Sarlahi district started cooperation, coordination and collaboration with other LGs and succeed to conduct agreement for co-financing in operation cost with two Local Governments namely Bagmati



Municipality and Ishworpur Municipality of Sarlahi district. As per the agreement both LGs are co-financing NRS 300,000/- per LG. Similarly, municipality leadership also in the process of agreement with adjoining four LGs namely Haripur, Lalbandhi, Kabilashi and Barahatawa municipalities of Sarlahi district. This intervention, set one example of horizontal cooperation/coordination among the LGs in solving/addressing the common issues/agendas of the citizens beyond their LG’s territory. Similarly, LGs are planned to solve other common issues/agendas among different LGs by common efforts by providing their services to citizens. Hariwan Municipality representatives and staffs were realized for the effective operation of fire brigade, there is utmost need of firefighting training and insurance programme for their staffs, who are directly and indirectly engaged in response efforts.

Photographs of some key events:



Photo no. 1: First Trimester Review Workshop of PLGSP, Janakpurdham, Madhesh Province



Photo 2: Provincial Coordination Committee meeting, Janakpurdham, Madhesh Province



Photo 3: Participants during In-Service Training



Photo 4: Participants during In-Service Training



Photo 5: Hand craft under IPF scheme, Madhesh Province



Photo 6: Under charging station under IPF scheme, Madhesh Province



Photo 7: Agriculture tools under IPF scheme, Madhesh Province



Photo 8: Agriculture library under IPF scheme, Madhesh Province