

# FINAL TECHNICAL REPORT (FTR)

(09 March, 2020 to 30 November, 2020)



## ***Title of the Project:***

**Strengthening Public Advocacy and Awareness for promoting the Human rights of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa by eliminating Forced Labors system in Nepal-(SAHAS)**

## **Submitted to:**

The International Labour Organization (ILO)

## **Submitted by:**

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**Date of Submission: 01 December, 2020**

## 1. General Information on the Implementation Agreement and the Implementing Agent

1. Provide the following information on the Implementation Agreement:

Title: Strengthening Public Advocacy and Awareness for promoting the Human rights of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa by eliminating Forced Labors system in Nepal-(**SAHAS**)

Location: Freed Haliyas at Sudurpaschim province (**Dhangadhi**), Ex-Kamaiyas and Kamlarisat province-5(**Nepalgunj**)andHarawa-Charawa at province-2 (**Janakpur**) in Nepal

Number:**#40302043**

Name of the implementing agent: **Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal**

Address of the implementing agent:

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Agreement Number (EPA, OFC, PO or Commitment Number):**#4032043**

Total Value of Implementation Agreement (Currency and Amount): **NPR 1,469,000**

Actual starting date (day-month-year):**09 March, 2020**

Actual ending date (day-month-year):**30 November, 2020**

Name, Signature of the accredited official of the Implementing Agent and

Date:**Mr.Ganesh BK, Central Chairperson of RDN Nepal**

2.Describe the nature of the Implementing Agent by ticking one or more of the circles in the box below:

<input type="checkbox"/> Governmental Organization, at	<input type="checkbox"/> national government <input type="checkbox"/> regional/ provincial government <input type="checkbox"/> local government <input type="checkbox"/> other (please specify) .....
<input type="checkbox"/> Employers' Organization, at	<input type="checkbox"/> national level <input type="checkbox"/> regional/provincial level <input type="checkbox"/> local/community level <input type="checkbox"/> other (please specify) .....
<input type="checkbox"/> Workers' Organization, at	<input type="checkbox"/> national level <input type="checkbox"/> regional/provincial level

	<input type="checkbox"/> local/community level <input type="checkbox"/> other (please specify) .....
# <input type="checkbox"/> Other NGO, at	<input type="checkbox"/> national level <input type="checkbox"/> regional/provincial level <input type="checkbox"/> local/community level <input type="checkbox"/> other (please specify) .....
<input type="checkbox"/> Training Institute <sup>1</sup>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Research Institute <sup>2</sup>	

## 2. Information on the Types of Intervention

1. Give a brief description on main types of intervention (outputs, activities) carried out under the Implementation Agreement. Structure the description of the outputs and activities by grouping them according to the types of interventions. List the intervention that the IA spends most time on( maximum of three ).

**The Final Technical Report of "Strengthening Public Advocacy and Awareness for promoting the Human rights of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa by eliminating Forced Labors system in Nepal-(SAHAS)" has been produced in order to view the project progress for the period of 9th March, 2020 to 30 November, 2020. Key results and successes have been reflected in this report. The project has been implemented by Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal targeting Freed Haliyas at Sudurpaschim province (Dhangadhi), Ex-Kamaiyas and Kamlarisat province-5(Nepalgunj)andHarawa-Charawa at province-2 (Janakpur) in Nepal. The project aimed to improve the knowledge, sharing and common understanding among relevant stakeholders on ratification of the ILO Protocol and Recommendation as well as socio-economic dimensions of forced labors.**

**Due to the impact of corona-virus (COVID-19) pandemic situation, there was continuous lock-down and threats so that the planned activities of the project could not be implemented smoothly within agreed time-frame. Therefore, The following changes/adjustments were suggested to deal with identified factors for the outputs under the planned activity no 1.4 (Forced labors conference focusing the rights of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa) as mentioned below:**

<sup>1</sup> Please indicate, if the *Training Institute* belongs to one of the above mentioned categories (governmental, employers' or workers' organization or other NGO) by ticking the appropriate box(es).

<sup>2</sup> Please indicate, if the *Research Institute* belongs to one of the above mentioned categories (governmental, employers' or workers' organization or other NGO) by ticking the appropriate box(es).

- **Dalit Parliament focusing the socio-economic rights of forced labours at Dhangadhi**
- **Provincial level Policy Dialogue focusing the rights of forced labours; freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas and Kamhlaris at Butwal and Dhangadhi**
- **National level conference of Harawa-Charawa at Janakpur**

**The necessary budget for the activities mentioned above was transferred from Activity-1.2.4: Forced labours conference focusing the rights of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamhlaris and Harawa-Charawa**

Staff members of RDN Nepal have collectively contributed in producing this technical progress report. It was rigorously reviewed and verified by Project management Team (PMT) to share the report with the International Labour Organization (ILO). The analysis and information contained in this report represent the work completed by RDN Nepal. Based upon the result based participatory planning, implementation and monitoring of the project intervention, the following key changes have been observed;

- The members of provincial assembly, ministries and local, elected representatives are sensitized on forced labours issues to fulfill their responsibilities and obligations on P29 and R203 and policy advocacy and research in combating forced labor and trafficking with an ultimate goal of creating a conducive environment to ratify the protocol through local initiative.
- The coordination and collaboration has been enhanced with civil society organizations, policy makers, Forced Labours elimination Advocacy Group (FLeAG) members and other relevant stakeholders to influence the forced labours:freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamhlaris and Harawa-Charawa issues in policy level
- Advocacy materials (pamphlets and booklets) have been designed and published to be disseminated to make effective advocacy campaign to deliver the knowledge on forced Labour Indicators related laws and instruments and HR protection mechanisms among target communities and concerned stakeholders.



### 3. Information on Outputs and Inputs

1. Describe whether the Implementing Agency produced the outputs as planned in the Summary Outline. If there have been any major changes during the life-time of the Implementation Agreement, explain the reasons for and the nature of these changes and how these have affected the outcome of the Implementation Agreement

*The following actions were carried-out to achieve the objectives of the project interventions as mentioned below;*

**-Development and Dissemination of Advocacy materials**

**(booklets/posters):** The project has published 5,000 copies of pamphlets and 2500 copies of booklets to deliver the knowledge on forced Labor Indicators related laws and instruments and HR protection mechanisms among target communities and concerned stakeholders. The advocacy materials have been produced in coordination and consultation with FLeAG members. Similarly, The project has also planned to distribute and disseminate the education materials (Documentary Film, TV and Radio PAS on forced labour) produced by the ILO Bridge Project targeting to local level community leaders, right activists and general public. **Yes, this planned activity has been successfully implemented by distributing advocacy materials (booklets and posters) among both target groups and relevant stakeholders in wider level.**

**-Advocacy workshop with members of provincial assembly, ministries and local, elected representatives on forced labours issues:** Based on the implementation plan of the project, 2 events of Advocacy workshop with members of provincial assembly, ministries and local, elected representatives on forced labours issues have been successfully organized in Dhangadhi and Lahan. The details of workshop are outlined as below:



**-One event of one day advocacy workshop was organized in Dhangadhi (capital of Sudurpaschim province) on 07 August, 2020 for Members of provincial assembly, ministries and local elected representatives. The main objective of the workshop was to increase the capacity of policy makers to fulfill their responsibilities and obligations on P29 and R203 and policy advocacy and research in combating forced labor and trafficking with an ultimate goal of creating a conducive environment to ratify the protocol through local initiative. The workshop was focused to discuss on emerging rights and rehabilitation issues of forced labours; freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas and Kamiharis. A total of 31 participants (Male-23 and Female-8) actively took part in the program. The workshop was facilitated by Hari Shreepaili, CA member. He presented the paper to make the discussion more fruitful.**

**-Similarly, one event of similar workshop was organized in Lahan of province-2 on 27 July, 2020. The workshop was concentrated on rights and emancipation issues of forced labours; Harara-Charawa. A total of 30 participants (Male-22 and Female-8) actively took part in the program. The program was facilitated by Mr. DB Shah Shanker.**



-One event of 2 days training at provincial level to members of provincial assembly, trade union representatives, labour lawyers and other right activists on the concept of forced labour and identification of victims was organized from 8-9 November, 2020 at Dhangadhi. A total of 40 participants were trained on the concept of forced labour and identification of victims. The result of the pre and post training measures has been also attached with this report.



-Similarly, 4 events of policy dialogues at Dhangadhi-2 (one event of policy dialogue focusing freed Haliyas and one event of policy dialogue focusing ex-Kamaiyas and Kamhlaris), Kapilvastu-1 and Lahan-1 were organized as well as one event of national conference focusing forced labours through online zoom was successfully carried-out. The screen shot of the webinar national conference focusing forced labour has been attached with this report also.

2. Describe whether the inputs from the ILO, and any local contributions as stated in the Implementation Agreement; have been provided according to plan. (Explain problems, if any, and describe what was done to solve them)

**There were not any problems observed during the implementation of planned activities of the project.**

3. Describe whether the budget allocation has been sufficient or whether a budget revision was undertaken. In case of a budget revision (increase or decrease in budget or major shifts between budget lines) specify the purpose. The budget allocation has been sufficient as it was revised considering the impact of corona-virus (COVID-19) pandemic situation. The budget was increased in the revision process. Initially, NPR 1,363,000 agreed between both parties (RDN Nepal and ILO). While revising the project budget, it was reached NPR 1,469,000 ultimately.

#### 4. Information on the Target Group

1. Describe the group(s) that the Implementation Agreement aiming to reach. Target groups can be either **direct recipients** (receiving funds, equipment, or services) or **intended beneficiaries** (the group whose situation the Implementation Agreement aims at changing). In some cases the two are the same (when the Implementation Agreement aims at delivering services to the target group) but the direct recipients can also be organizations or institutions that in turn provide services to the target group.

The project directly targeted members of provincial assembly; Forced labors organizations, local elected representatives, trade unions, civil society organizations and duty bearers. Similarly, all freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas and Kamhlaris also known as forced labours at Sudurpaschim

province, province-5 and province-2 through policy influence were taken as indirectly beneficiaries.

The relevant stakeholders were intensively coordinated during the implementation of the project. Name of the major stakeholders at local and provincial level are outlined as below:

**Local Level:** Freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris as well as Harawa-Charawa and their organizations, Municipalities, Rural Municipalities, Citizens groups, CSOs, private sectors, Media, Police office, Trade unions, Various user committees, Local elected body, DAO, DCC, District Court, Nepal Bar Association, political parties, ex-masters, media etc

**Provincial Level:** Members of Provincial Assembly, \*Ministries, more specifically, Trade Unions, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Planning, Ministry of Land Management, Agriculture and Cooperatives Office of the Chief Minister and provincial level CSOs, High court, media etc

Altogether 280 (Male- 184 and Female-98) represents from direct and indirect beneficiaries took part in the various interventions of the project. **Out of the total participants of the project outreach, 7.8% participants have been duplicated.** The target populations were regularly involved in the whole project cycle starting from the development of project plans, implementation of the activities, regular monitoring providing feedbacks and reporting of the project results. They were engaged in outlining their presence during coordination and partnership with duty bearers.

2. List the intermediate partner groups, if any. Describe how they have participated in the Implementation Agreement. For each intermediate partner group indicate whether their contribution has been positive, negative, important or not important.

**Overall programmatic and financial arrangement of “Strengthening Public Advocacy and Awareness for promoting the Human rights of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa by eliminating Forced Labors system in Nepal-SAHAS” was managed by RDN Nepal in close coordination with Forced Labours elimination Advocacy Group (FLeAG) members. Particularly, the following partner groups represent from freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamhlaris and Harawa-Charawa were widely coordinated as mentioned below:**

- Rastriya Mukta Haliya Samaj Federation (RMHSF) Nepal
- Freed Kamaiya Women Development Forum (FKWDF)
- Kamaiya Pratha Unmulan Samaj (KPUS)
- National Harawa-Charawa Rights Forum

**Mr. Ganesh BK, central chairperson of Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal provided his strategic guidance and assistance voluntarily for result based management and timely execution to achieve the anticipated results of project intervention. He also coordinated communicated and**

**collaborated with relevant stakeholders at various levels. He guided and provided his support for the effective mobilization of FLeAG members.**

3. What are the views of the target group(s) by sex, age and other social status as appropriate on the usefulness of the outputs of the Implementation Agreement in meeting their needs?

**As Rastriya Dalit Network (RDN) Nepal has been working on the issues of forced labours; Freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas and Kamlaris as well as Harawa-Charawa since last 20 years, it has developed strong functional linkages with target groups, key relevant stakeholders and policy makers. They are providing necessary support and collaborative measures for implementation of the action.**

**Therefore, the views of the target group(s) by sex, age and other social status as appropriate on the usefulness of the outputs of the Implementation agreement in meeting their needs remained quite positive and critical.**

4. Describe the effects of the Implementation Agreement on the situation of the target group(s) by sex, age and other social status as appropriate.

**The effect of project remained as mentioned below:**

- **Forced labours: Freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamlaris and Harawa-Charawa living in just society in peace and dignity through elimination of forced labours system under the federal structure and inclusive development of the state.**
- **Similarly, the impact of direct beneficiaries and target groups; Members of provincial assembly, Forced labors organizations, local elected representatives, trade unions, civil society organizations and duty bearers are highly sensitized towards the issues of forced labours. The trade unions realized that they cannot have organized the traditional labours in their networks and also delivered their commitment that they will have focused this issues within their organization in future days to come.**

5. Please describe the methods that were used to appraise the views of the implementation agreement's target groups, what and the specific arrangements for the appraisal. Please describe also specific gender-responsive approach in the arrangements and the findings for each target group by sex and age, as appropriate.

**The project adopted the following implementation methodologies:**

- **Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA): Project adopted human rights based approach for development that empowered and strengthened forced labors (freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamhlaris and Harawa-Charawa) to systematically claim their rights and entitlements.**
- **Streamlining Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Approach: Maximum participation of forced labours' women and other**



marginalized groups was ensured during the implementation of project activities. The project initiated some innovative steps for social acceptance during project implementation as a key strategy.

- **Accountability and transparency:** RDN Nepal believed on both upwards and downwards accountability for the success of each project and interventions. Thus, both upwards and downwards accountability was practiced and ensured during the entire project period. Regarding the downwards and upwards accountability, the project carried out the following methodologies:
  - *The rights holders were encouraged to raise their dissatisfaction in the form of feedbacks and suggestion and treated positively as an opportunity for continuous learning and improvement.*
  - *Similarly, the stakeholders, policy makers and duty bearers were intensively coordinated during the planning and implementation of the project activities.*
- **Alliance, Networking and Collaboration:** Alliance, networking and collaboration are the key factors for bringing synergetic effect/impact of any project or interventions. RDN Nepal worked closely with local and provincial government bodies and people based organizations of freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamhlaris and Harawa-Charawa.

## 5. Information on the Objectives

1. List the objectives of the Implementation Agreement as stated in the Summary Outline. If the initial objectives had to be revised or modified during implementation specify the type of changes and the reasons.

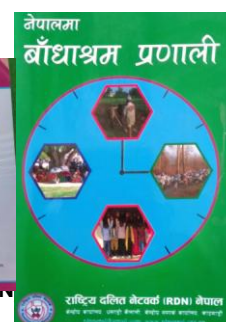
### Objective of the project:

- **Improved knowledge, sharing and common understanding among relevant stakeholders on ratification of the ILO Protocol and Recommendation as well as socio-economic dimensions of forced labors**

2. Describe the achievements of the objectives and specify major accomplishments and/or drawbacks. Please specify any specific gender and age-specific results, when feasible.

The observed status as expected at this stage of progress towards achievement is in line with the proposed objectives of the project as outlined below;

- The development of advocacy materials (5,000 pieces of pamphlets and 2500 copies of booklets) has contributed to



deliver the knowledge on forced Labor Indicators related laws and instruments and HR protection mechanisms among target communities and concerned stakeholders.

- Similarly, the advocacy workshops contributed to increase the capacity of policy makers for fulfilling their responsibilities and obligations on P29 and R203 and policy advocacy and research in combating forced labor and trafficking with an ultimate goal of creating a conducive environment to ratify the protocol through local initiative.
- The remaining activities with necessary changes/adjustments of the project will contribute to improve the knowledge, sharing and common understanding among relevant stakeholders on ratification of the ILO Protocol and Recommendation as well as socio-economic dimensions of forced labors
- The advocacy materials (2500 copy of booklets and 5000 pieces of posters) have been published for wider level of dissemination
- -A total of 61 participants represent from members of provincial assembly, local, elected representatives and forced labours; freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamhlaris and Harawa-Charawa organizations sensitized on forced labours issues
- Members of provincial assembly, trade union representatives, labour lawyers and other right activists were trained on the concept of forced labour and identification of victims. **Similarly, the participants delivered their commitment to seriously undertake the issues of forced labours in regards to influence the plan and policies of government through collective efforts.**
- The policy makers were sensitized on socio-economic rights of forced labours: Freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas and Kamhlaris as well as Harawa-Charawa through carrying out 3 events of policy dialogues and national conference of forced labours

## 6. Special Concerns

1. How the achievements of the Implementation Agreement could be made sustainable, i.e. to what extent are the effects and impact durable after withdrawal of ILO funds? (Please specify if institutional arrangements have been made and if personnel or other resources will be available to assure the continuation of the activities)

**Sustainability concern could be addressed considering several key sustainability factors such as ownership, organizational management capacity, resource creation and mobilization, coordination, linkages and networking, inclusive participation in decision making process, effective program management and implementation capacity, and need identification and planning cycle management. The key strategies and mechanisms include:**

- **Strategic links of target groups and their networks with local government bodies to increase the access of forced labours in policy formulation process**
- **Priority was given to use locally available material and resources and promote local productions.**
- **Enhance knowledge of local people on constitutional and legislative rights by developing and disseminating various knowledge products and the local government across the targeted groups was encouraged and advocated to replicate the knowledge products to amplify the result.**
- **Establish working relationship with local legal service providers and stakeholders as well as human rights organizations**
- **Creating ownership and engagement of government bodies as well as community-based stakeholders is always key element for the sustainability of the interventions.**

2. Describe whether the technical and administrative support provided by the ILO was adequate or not. Describe whether it was positive, insufficient or negative and make suggestions for improvement, if any.

**Yes, the technical and administrative support provided by the ILO was adequate. The support of ILO was positive which is always appreciative.**

3. Describe gender-equality promotion measures used in the implementation agreement, constraints and good practices as well as notable results at the end of the programme.

**Following measures were taken to ensure that the diversified groups (men/women and boys/girls) with different ages from target community benefitted from project intervention as mentioned below:**

- **RDN Nepal followed its Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) mainstreaming guideline to ensure gender and age balance in project cycle management and facilitate FLeAG members accordingly.**
- **At least 40% women's participation and the proportionate participation of all other excluded groups was emphasized in regards to the implementation of project activities.**
- **The code of conduct (CoC) was duly followed to avoid the negative impact in order to promote women empowerment and gender equality.**
- **The disaggregated data including male, female was properly maintained during tracking the results of the project implementation. During the reporting period, a total of 576 (Male-390 and Female-180) were mobilized under different interventions of the project. The event tracker data-sheet will be shared you soon.**

## 7. Recommendations, Findings and Lessons Learned

1. List the factors which you consider to have contributed most to the success of the Implementation Agreement (main success factors) or which have put the success of the Implementation Agreement most at risk (main risk factors).

***The main success factors under the implementation of the project were as below;***

- **Result based Participatory planning, implementation and monitoring system**
- **Coordination and collaboration with FLeAG members**
- **Critical engagement with duty bearers and policy makers**
- **Development and implementation of COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan (CPRP)**
- **Selection of target groups ensuring GESI consideration**

2. Please list the main findings, recommendations and lessons learned which you may consider important to improve your work as well as ILO technical co-operation in general.

**The main findings, recommendations and lessons learned of the project interventions are outlined as below:**

***Main findings;***

- **Government of Nepal officially ended Haliya slavery system in 2008 and Kamlahari slavery system in 2013. However, the rehabilitation modality is still not clear, thus, they have not yet fully realized true sense of freedom. They have become homeless after their release and historically been subjected to a wide range of human rights abuses, including severe beatings, forced starvation and water deprivation as punishment, and various forms of humiliation.**
- **Forced labours: Harawa-Charawa have not been emancipated yet. The combination of interest rates from land-lord to Harawa-Charawa, as high as 60% to 72% per annum, and extremely low wages resulted in years of bonded labour and even to hereditary debt.**
- **There is need of integrated bonded labour Act to address the overall socio-economic issues of forced labours; freed Haliyas, ex-Kamaiyas, Kamhlaris and Harawa-Charawa**

***Recommendations***

- **Conduct advocacy campaigns for land and housing rights of forced labours**
- **Create pressure to government of Nepal to formulate and implement integrated bonded labour act**

***Lesson Learned:***

- **Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) to development is best tool to empower the rights holders**

- Financial management is the landmark for transparency and accountability
- Collaboration with issues based movements (Land rights, Dalit rights, Human rights) ensured the collective effort and further sustainability
- Capacity building of FLeAG members is successful journey to lobby and advocacy at government bodies at local, provincial and federal level

Make suggestions, if any, on how the ILO could work more effectively with Implementing Agents to deliver technical co-operation.

International Labour Organization (ILO) is suggested as mentioned below to work more effectively with Implementing Agents to deliver technical co-operation:

- Continuous support to FLeAG members to advocate on the socio-economic rights of forced labours in Nepal
- Capacity enhancement of implementing partners to develop the linkage of diversified funding partners

2. Describe any problem areas within the ILO's mandate that you may have been identified in the course of implementation of the Implementation Agreement that require future action. Specify which action would be necessary and indicate whether you, the ILO or any other organization should act.

The faced challenges during the implementation of the project and its mitigation measures were outlined as below:

**Faced Challenges** to deliver the project outputs:

- Mass gathering of target groups to conduct the project activities
- Mobility of project team due to continuity of lock-down.

**Explanation:** Nepal has been locked-down since last 6 months. As a result of this, all the industries, educational institutions, transportation, tourism are fully closed and human life has become more suffering.

**Mitigation Measures:** The project adopted following mitigation measures as;

- The project adopted safety measures; use of mask, sanitizer and social distancing practice and also coordinated with local government bodies

**Future plan:** *If the covid-19 situation will get worse*, maximum use of technology such as telephone and webinar/zoom meeting will be carried-out to implement the planned activities of the project.

*If the situation will get better*, the planned activities of project will be completed by developing fast track methodology.