



Nirdhan Newsletter

March 2023

Newsletter of Nirdhan Utthan Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Limited

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Message from the CEO



Dear Readers,

Greetings!

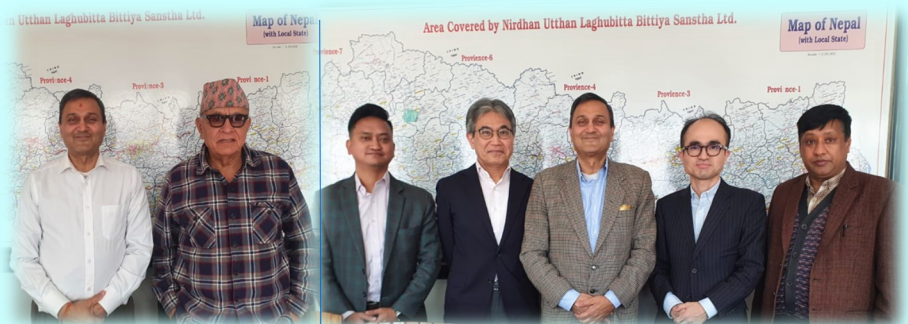
We are delighted to present you progress highlights as of mid-March 2023 including a success story of our member in Bagmati Province and recent capacity building initiatives.

We present you the story of Ms. Sanu Maiya Sarki, our member from Thecho, Lalitpur in Bagmati Province who established herself as a successful entrepreneur engaging in bag industry. Under capacity building, highlights of Global Money Week - GMW 2023 celebrations have been covered. With one event each in all of the seven provinces, we interacted with over 400 participants towards raising their level of financial literacy.

The disbursement under CSR and CP activities continued during the reporting period - 1,799 members received maternity allowance, 367 received critical illness relief and 214 received disaster relief, so far in this FY 2079/80. There has been no significant changes in our service coverage and outreach. However, number of centers (22,609), active clients (403,330) and loan clients (237,167) as of mid-March 2023, marked a slight increase during the reporting month.

The looming crises in MFI sector together with lopsided media coverage calls for credible data and research establishing the significant contribution of the sector towards poverty reduction and economic development together with women empowerment in the country. Nirdhan inputs are sought after by both national and international scholars and we have had the honor of welcoming some dignitaries recently. On 29 March, former Minister of Finance and Foreign Affairs of Nepal, Dr. Prakash Chandra Lohani interacted with us on inception and current status of MFIs in general and Nirdhan initiatives in particular. Earlier on 27 March, we had a discussion on agri-financing in the country with a team from Japan Economic Research Institute (Principal Consultant, Mr. Toshiyuki KATAGIRI and Senior Consultant, Mr. Masahito AOKI). With such knowledge exchange initiatives, we hope to contribute towards a sustainable MFI sector.

Janardan Dev Pant



Former Minister Dr. Prakash Chandra Lohani and Japan Economic Research Institute Team at Nirdhan Utthan - March 2023

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SUCCESS STORY ~ Sanu Maiya Sarki, Bagmati Province

Sanu Maiya Sarki was born in 1973 in an ordinary family in Thangpaldhap of Sindhupalchowk district. She was married in 1998 to Dipak Paheli of Lalitpur. With a small family with 2 sons, she was unable to continue the business despite of skill at hand, capability, knowledge and good market for the business. Due to weak economic condition, the situation had become worse in sustaining household expenses and education of the sons. She shares that, with continuation of her business, the economic, familial and social status has improved substantially.



Dr. Neelam Dhungana Timsina, Deputy Governor of Nepal Rastra Bank handing over Dr. Harihar Dev Pant Entrepreneurship Award 2022 (2079 BS) to Ms. Sanu Maiya Sarki, Thecho, Lalitpur from among the entrepreneurs in Bagmati Province

She has been availing the services since she got affiliated in Tinkunepokhari group formed by Thecho branch office of the institution in 2015. She has been trained in the business working together with her spouse. She first took a loan of NPR 60,000 and established Future Bag Industry. She shares that she has used further loan amounts of NPR 100,000 and NPR 400,000 and invested in the business.

Currently, she has an investment of about NPR 500,000 in the business. She has been producing big and small bags as per market demand. Her bags have more demand abroad than in local markets. She has been making 15 to 20 bags of different sizes daily. She has employed 3 workers in the business.

She shares on her plan of upgrading the business and engaging additional 5 workers. She has been making NPR 600,000 annual income from the bags industry after deducting all expenses. With the income, she has been managing conveniently the loan repayment installments and regular savings. Likewise, she has been ensuring college and boarding school education for her sons.

With the business income, she has made two storied well-constructed house. She shares that, she has been making a monthly saving of up to NPR 5,000. She has a savings of NPR 137,000 at Nirdhan. She has also been managing excellently the Centre at the capacity of the Centre In-charge.

Sanu Maiya reflects on the difficulties in the initial days of her industry – “one gets success if pursued with dedication, with this business, my prestige in the society has enhanced. Even though willing to pursue some business, one had to remain indoors due to lack of financial resources. I have been able to become an entrepreneur as the institution trusted us with the loan as well as necessary advice and suggestions. I thank the institution for this support and request other sisters as well to join Nirdhan group.”



Future Bag Industry of Sanu Maiya meeting abroad and local market demand

Contributor: Ambika Bista, Centre Mobilizer, Thecho Branch Office, Lalitpur

CAPACITY BUILDING

Nirdhan took part in celebrating Global Money Week - GMW (20-26 March 2023) with a slogan “*plan your money, plant your future*” as called by Nepal Rastra Bank issuing a notice to all Bank and Financial Institutions. Several programs on youth-focused financial literacy were organized in all seven provinces, covering over 400 participants including staff, members, guardians, local youth and school children. This section provides some highlights of the GMW celebrations in the provinces.

Global Money Week - GMW 2023 Celebration

KOSHI PROVINCE



GMW 2023 - List of Events

Province	Location/ District	Date	Participant	
			No.	Group
Koshi	Damak, Jhapa	21-Mar-2023	68	Member, Guardian, and Local Youth
Madhesh	Bardibas, Mahottari	25-Mar-2023	11	Nirdhan Staff
Bagmati	Bharatpur, Chitwan	25-Mar-2023	73	Member and Guardian
Gandaki	Pokhara, Kaski	26-Mar-2023	49	Member and Local Youth
Lumbini	Farsatikar, Rupandehi	24-Mar-2023	87	Member
Karnali	Birendranagar, Surkhet	25-Mar-2023	66	Member and Local Youth
Sudurpashchim	Amargadhi, Dadeldhura	26-Mar-2023	60	Secondary Level Student
			Total:	414

In general, the participants were briefed on benefits of transacting through BFIs, importance of savings, utilization of loan, preparation of family budget, insurance coverage, functions of Nepal Rastra Bank, and clean note policy.

The events were also utilized towards sensitizing current and potential members on the effects of multiple-banking and the participants were requested to deal with single MFI.

MADHESH PROVINCE



LUMBINI PROVINCE



BAGMATI PROVINCE



KARNALI PROVINCE



The events organized by respective branch offices with oversight from regional offices aimed to build and renew the cordial relationship with the members, guardians and local youth besides enhancing their financial literacy levels.

The guests lauded Nirdhan services and flouted the charges against microfinance as false and baseless. They also suggested members to use loan on approved projects.

GANDAKI PROVINCE



SUDURPASHCHIM PROVINCE



PROGRESS INDICATORS

Coverage/Outreach

Coverage/Outreach (No.)	Progress as of 12 Feb 023	Progress during 13 Feb - 14 Mar 023	Progress as of 14 Mar 023
Districts Covered	77 of 77	—	77 of 77
Local Bodies Reached	550 of 753	—	550 of 753
Branch Offices	185	—	185
Centers	22,573	36	22,609
Staff Strength	1,161	5	1,166
Active Clients	403,002	328	403,330
Loan Clients	235,425	1,742	237,167

A slight increase was noted in the coverage and outreach in terms of number of centers as well as active and loan clients during Falgun 2079 (corresponding mid-February to mid-March 2023).

The number of centres increased by **36** reaching to a total of **22,609**. Likewise, the number of active clients increased by **328** reaching to a total of **403,330** and loan clients increased by **1,742** reaching to a total of **237,167**.



Ms. Rupkeudi Bista, member under Jumla branch, Jumla district with her cows

Financial Services

Financial Progress (in Billion NPR)	Progress as of 12 Feb 023	Progress during 13 Feb - 14 Mar 023	Progress as of 14 Mar 023
Loan Disbursed	206.56	1.48	208.04
Loan Outstanding	27.02	(0.10)	26.92
Savings & Deposits	18.89	—	18.89

The selected financial indicators suggested no major movement. There was slight increase in loan disbursement yet loan outstanding decreased marginally during Falgun 2079 (corresponding mid-February to mid-March 2023).

The loan disbursement reached to a volume of **NPR 208.04 Billion** with an increase of **NPR 1.48 Billion**. Likewise, loan outstanding stood at **NPR 26.92 Billion** and savings & deposit at **NPR 18.89 Billion**.

CSR/CP ACTIVITIES

Nirdhan continued with its corporate social responsibility (CSR) and client protection (CP) activities during Falgun 2079 (corresponding mid-February to mid-March 2023). Among the benefits, the maternity allowance was disbursed to the highest number of members, so far to a total of 1,799 beneficiaries amounting to NPR 3,524,000 till date in this fiscal year 2079/080.



Ms. Mina Bhandari member under Johang branch, Gulmi district receiving maternity allowance



Ms. Lalita Devi, member under Bijayabasti branch, Parsa district receiving critical illness relief

CSR/CP Activities	Progress as of 12 Feb 022		Progress during 13 Feb - 14 Mar 023		Progress as of 14 Mar 023	
	No.	NPR	No.	NPR	No.	NPR
Maternity Allowance	1,551	3,028,800	248	495,200	1,799	3,524,000
Critical Illness Relief	181	1,675,000	33	330,000	214	2,005,000
Disaster Relief	325	1,242,000	42	159,000	367	1,401,000
Insurance Claim	1,112	100,251,660	223	20,492,517	1,335	120,744,177

Note: Cumulative figures are for the current Fiscal Year (2079-80 BS) only

During Falgun 2079 (corresponding mid-February to mid-March 023), Nirdhan provided maternity allowance to **248** members (total **NPR 495,200**), Critical Illness Relief to **33** members (total **NPR 330,000**) and Disaster Relief to **42** members (total **NPR 159,000**). Likewise, it facilitated settlement of **223** insurance claims amounting to a total of **NPR 20,492,517** during the month.



Ms. Khem Kumari Rana, member under Rahale branch, Parbat district receiving disaster relief



Ms. Biltuniya Devi, member under Nawalpur branch, Sarlahi district receiving insurance claim payment