

Bi-ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT

1. Description

1.1. Name of **beneficiary of grant contract**: CARE Osterrich

1.2. Name and title of the **Contact person**: Nina Hechenberger

1.3. Name of **partners in the Action**:

1. CARE Nepal
Krishna Galli
Patan, Lalitpur

2. Local partners

- ❖ Forum for Social Development (INDRENI)
- ❖ Nepal Rural Self-Reliance Campaign (NRUSEC)
- ❖ Nari Ship Shrijana Kendra (NSSK)
- ❖ Himalayan Grassroots Women's Organization (HIMAWANTI) Nepal

2.1. **Title of the Action**:

Empowering women in the Churia to improve their livelihoods: SHAKTI

2.2. **Contract numbe**

ONG- PVD/2007/133-412

2.3. **Start date and end date of the reporting period**¹:

This report covers the entire lifespan of the project from January 2007 to 31st December 2009.

2.4. **Target country(ies) or region(s)**: Nepal

2.5. **Final beneficiaries &/or target groups**² (if different) (including numbers of women and men):

The project has reached to 110,000 people in the project district, mainly Terai Dalits, out of which 50% are women, and other thousands across the country through media.

¹ The entire implementation period of the Action

² “Target groups” are the groups/entities who will be directly positively affected by the project at the Project Purpose level, and “final beneficiaries” are those who will benefit from the project in the long term at the level of the society or sector at large.

Terai Dalits representing following caste groups from Nawalparasi, Rupandehi, and Kapilvastu Districts:

- Chamar/Harijan
- Pasi
- Dharikar (Replacement of Khatwe)
- Dhobi
- Dom
- Mushar
- Pattharkatta (Replacement of Tatma)
- Chidimar (Replacement of Batar)
- Kori

2.6. Country(ies) in which the activities take place (if different from 1.7):

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Overall Objective:

The overall objective of SAMANATA, a three year project (2007-2009), in partnership with CARE Nederland, CARE Nepal and Dalit NGO Federation (DNF) with the funding support of European Union, was to promote human rights and social inclusion of Terai Dalits in Nepal so that by the end of 2009, Terai Dalits in the districts would have enhanced skills and capacities to exercise their rights by addressing the policy and socio-cultural barriers that impede their political, social and economic empowerment and the implementation of International Conventions on Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) 1965 to which Nepal is a party, that prescribe and make unlawful the practice of discrimination on the grounds of descent or occupation.

Specific Objectives:

1. Social and political empowerment of *Dalits*;
2. Strengthening institutional capacity of *Dalit* and pro-*Dalit* institution/organisations;
3. Promoting good governance; and
4. Improving policy implementation, monitoring and feedback.

Expected Result #1:

Increased *Dalit* awareness of rights, enhancement of confidence in raising their voice and asserting their rights; improvement in their economic position and widening income generation opportunities.

Expected Result #2:

Enhanced advocacy capacity of DNF its networks and NGOs, giving *Dalits* an effective collective voice.

Expected Result #3:

Increased responsiveness and accountability of government institutions on *Dalit* issues.

Expected Result #4:

Strengthened monitoring feedback systems and processes for policy influence in general, with specific focus of human rights violation and discriminatory actions against *Dalits*.

3. Assessment of Implementation of Action Activities

2.1 Activities and Results

Start-up Activities

Activity 0.1 Recruitment of project staff and orientation

Recruitment of project staff for SAMANATA was completed by the end of April 2007 from both CARE and DNF. Altogether 20 regular staff members from DNF and two from CARE were assigned in the project and field offices. Among them two from DNF were with 50 percent time allocation for this project according to the project plan.

When recruiting staff, DNF adopted its Human Resources (HR) and Financial Policy. During recruitment process, DNF consulted with CARE Country Office (CO), however, DNF made its final decision through its board of secretariat accommodating suggestions made by CARE. DNF made its effort to maintain gender and caste diversity in the Project Team (PT). It was/is really hard to find candidates from Terai Dalits and Dalit women, although DNF maintained gender and caste diversity in its staff structure. Out of 23 staff members in the project, three (13%) were Dalit women. In terms of Hill and Terai Dalits, the ratio was 9:10.

DNF strongly applied the policy of affirmative action for the position of Documentation and Communication Officer by appointing the candidate from Terai Dalits. DNF also fulfilled the vacant position of District Coordinator (DC) in Rupandehi District from Terai Dalit community.

Activity 0.2 Establishment of project offices

DNF established its District Project Office at Butwal Municipality in Rupandehi district. Similarly, DNF setup District Offices in the headquarters of two districts: Nawalparasi and Kapilvastu.

The Project Office was established with the following logistic facilities:

1. Office Room: nine office rooms including a reception and a meeting room.
2. Vehicle: Two motorcycles and one bicycle
3. Desktop computers with printers: two and UPS
4. Laptop: One
5. Phone set: One
6. Fax machine: One
7. Furniture: As per requirement

District Offices were setup with the following logistic facilities:

1. Office Room: Three rooms in each district
2. Vehicle: One motorcycle in each district
3. Desktop Computer: One with printer and UPS in each district
4. Phone: Phone line available in Rupandehi and Kapilvastu
5. Furniture and Fixtures: As per project requirement

Activity 0.3 Start-up workshop (Central and district level)

District level orientation workshop

At first, district level start-up workshops were organised in all three project districts: Nawalparasi, Rupandehi and Kapilvastu. Altogether 153 (42 in Nawalparasi, 70 in Rupandehi and 41 in Kapilvastu) participants from DNF District Chapters, PT, local leaders of political parties, development workers, district level Dalit organisations, journalists and Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) were present in the workshops. The workshops were held on June 4th in Kapilvastu, June 6th in Nawalparasi and June 8th, 2007, in Rupandehi. The main objective of the workshop was to introduce the project to the stakeholders and to hear Dalit issues at local level to be addressed by the project. All the workshops were conducted in an interactive way. After a presentation about the project including a short introduction of DNF and CARE, plenary discussions were held. The queries that raised by the participants were addressed by the team. The participants from different stakeholder institutions made their commitment for cooperation.

Orientation on the project strategy, approach and activities to the Project Team

A three day orientation to the Project Team (PT) including DNF District and Regional Chapters was organised in Butwal from 6th to 8th May 2007. A total of 31 participants were present in the workshop, out of which five were from CARE Kathmandu, two were from DNF Central Office, 13 were from the PT and remaining participants were from DNF District and Regional Chapters.

In the workshop, the discussions took place on the overview of the SAMANATA project, brief introduction of DNF and CARE Kathmandu, the human rights situation of Terai Dalits and relevance of the project, Rights-Based Approach (RBA) to development and good governance, gender and its mainstreaming in SAMANATA project, partnership modality of the project (Roles and responsibilities of DNF and CARE), human resource and financial policies of DNF and CARE.

Activity 0.4 Conducting Baseline Survey

A baseline survey in the project was one of the key start-up activities. Main objective of the study was to establish benchmark information for all project indicators; this in turn could be used as reference measuring the project's goal and expected outcome achievement.

Dalit Studies and Development Centre P. Ltd. was contracted for the study. A survey team consisting of a team leader, analyst, research supervisors, and enumerators at field level led the process. Thematic experts from CARE and DNF were consulted on the selection of the consultant as well as the methodology of the study. Prior to the actual field survey, questionnaires were developed and pre-tested. Most of the SAMANATA team members were involved in the field survey to make them familiar with the Terai Dalit issues. After the field survey, the findings were presented and the report was finalized.

The survey found that the situation of the Terai Dalits living in the three districts is very comparable; their status is much marginalized. Even in Rupandehi, which ranks quite high in the development index, the development of the district does not yield the same benefit to the most marginalized communities to which the Dalits belong. A positive finding was

that there were 20 Dalit NGOs working in the districts, which can be seen as the vehicles of social change.

Furthermore, project logical framework was revised after the baseline study.

Activity 0.5 Finalize procurement plan

The procurement plan was drawn up from March-April 2007 by the AFO of SAMANATA, Bharat Chaudhary. This plan was revised in November 2007 for financial year 2008 and in March 2008 for financial year 2009. The final revisions to the procurement plan were made in September 2008. (The procurement plans can be provided if necessary.)

Activity 0.6 Order equipment, purchase and delivery

Most of the equipment was ordered and purchased in May 2007. The majority of purchases were done by the CARE office in Kathmandu. (Upon request, an inventory list can be provided.)

Activity 0.7 Inception Review

The following activities were undertaken:

1. Review of the necessary documents

The SAMANATA project document as provided by the PT has been extensively reviewed especially the expected outputs, log frame, its indicators and means of verification. The baseline study, which was carried out in the month of November 2007 by applying most of the research methodologies, was taken as a basis to set the new indicators if required especially related to expected result: 1 of the project. The periodic reports were also provided to the Project Review Team and this has been reviewed especially to ascertain the achievements and to draw the lessons learned. This report does not look very deeply into the financial performance of the project, however, some issues are related to it such as its proper management, disbursement and its effect on the project has been seen.

2. Workshops with the stakeholders

The main objective of the workshop was to understand the view and perception of key stakeholders and to evaluate project performance, appropriate approaches and the enabling environment in all three districts. From 26th of December 2007 to 2nd of January 2008 various rounds of interactive workshops were held. On 27th December 2007, the review team sat with the main PT in Butwal where core staffs from DNF and CARE were present. Programme Manager (PM), AFO from CARE, Policy and Advocacy Officer (PAO), Communication and Documentation Officer (CDO), Institutional Capacity Building Officer (ICBO) and Office Assistant from DNF were present in the meeting. The meeting lasted for more than three hours where all of them shared their experiences and concerns related to the project. On the same day a meeting with the team of Rupandehi District also held where DC, Field Officer (FO) and Administration and Finance Assistant were present.

On the second day, 28th December 2007, an interaction with the members of Rupandehi District Chapter of DNF took place where three representatives, the secretary, treasurer and member, were present. Likewise on 31st December 2007, two separate meetings took place in Nawalparasi District with project staff and the members of DNF District Chapter where three staff (DC, FO and Admin. and Finance Assistant) and the members of the DNF District Chapter including the treasurer and the president were also present.

On 1st of January 2008, a meeting with the PT of Kapilvastu (DC, FO) took place. The Administrative Finance Assistant was not present as he had already attended the meeting in Butwal office along with the PT. A separate meeting with the members of the DNF District Chapter took place where four members were present (treasurer and members).

3. Meeting with Central Executive Committee and Staff of DNF

Two separate meetings with the central board member of DNF and core staff took place in Kathmandu on 17th and 21st January 2008. In these meetings the review team explained what it is going to do regarding the review and what is expected of them. They listened to the review team very seriously and provided their comments and feedback.

4. Report finalization workshop with immediate stakeholders

A one day workshop was organised by SAMANATA on 26th May 2008 at Hotel Greenwich Village in Kathmandu in which 25 participants, largely from CARE, DNF and representatives of the European Union, Shiva Bhandari, and the Member Secretary of the Social Welfare Council (SWC) were present. Unfortunately, the representative from the National Dalit Commission (NDC), Ram Lal Bishwokarma, was unable to attend the workshop due to his other priorities.

In the workshop, Bimal Gadai, PM of SAMANATA, welcomed all the participants on behalf of the project. Jay Shankar Lal, Programme Coordinator of CARE and point person of the project highlighted the objectives of the workshop. Diawary Bouare, Assistant Country Director (ACD) welcomed all the participants on behalf of CARE and reiterated the importance of the workshop. Hira Bishwokarma, inception reviewer of the project gave a presentation highlighting the process, outcome of the review and recommendations. Questions, comments and suggestions followed after the lunch. The workshop lasted until 5pm and was adjourned by Diawary Bouare, ACD of CARE, with his closing remarks. He stated that every review and report such as this has shortcomings and it is not an exception, however, overall quality of the report is good and it is customary for the participants to provide their comments and feedback. He thanked all the participants for their active participation.

Expected result 1: Increased awareness and capacity of Terai Dalits for raising voice and to assert their rights

SAMANATA has informed, sensitised, mobilised and empowered Dalit communities by enhancing their capacity, improving access to information for claiming their rights and entitlements. The project has formed Women's Advocacy Literacy Centres, Women's Saving and Credit Groups, Child Clubs, Non-Dalits' Solidarity Groups, VDC level Pressure Groups and People's Organisations and empowered them economically. The project has been successful in raising awareness and enhancing capacity to assert their rights at their level and widening income generation opportunities.

Activity 1.1 Conduct advocacy/literacy classes for 1800 women on Dalit and women rights and seven prioritized issues

Activity 1.1.a Selection of Village Development Committees (VDC)

VDC Selection Committee was formed comprising of members from district level stakeholders, DNF District Chapters, District Coordinator and Program Manager of SAMANATA. The committee devised 'process' and 'indicators' to be adopted for the selection of suitable VDC. Thus, 60 VDCs were selected (20 VDCs in each district) in Kapilvastu, Nawalparasi and Rupandehi Districts.

Activity 1.1.b Selection of Change Agents (CAs)

In the first year, 2007, 50 Change Agents (CAs) from the working VDCs were selected by a 'CA Selection Committee' comprising of District Coordinator, Field Officer and two representatives from DNF District Chapter. However, a huge gap was realised in mobilising community people in 60 VDCs with the support of just 50 CAs, thus, other 10 CAs were deployed in the second year. In Terai region of Nepal, the mobility of women is highly restricted but SAMANATA made it possible by appointing 44% women as Change Agents, this initiative of the project has been an exemplary work. All 60 CAs were from Terai Dalit community.

Likewise, altogether 18 Social Mobilizers (SMs) were appointed out of which 16 were male (89%) and 2 female (11%). All of them were from Terai Dalit community.

Activity 1.1.c Training for Change Agents (CA)

A seven-day-long training was organised for CA in Butwal, Rupandehi in July, 2007. The training was focussed on facilitation skills, literacy classes, advocacy skills, discussion on the issues of Terai Dalits and the strategies to build linkages of local issues with regional and national level policy issues.

The Change Agents were mobilised to form Advocacy Literacy Centres (ALC), Child Clubs, People's Organisations, Women's Saving and Credit Groups, and VDC level Pressure Groups. CAs concentrated effort to bring women from domestic household chores to the outer world helped make them aware of their rights and sensitize them on the issues of domestic violence, women's rights, child rights and speak up against discrimination and exploitation.

The project also formed groups of non-Dalit stakeholders – Non-Dalits’ Solidarity Groups – at community and district level. This helped avoid possible tussle between Dalit and non-Dalit stakeholders, landlords and local elites and also helped to make them realise about the Dalit issues.

The ALC members were provided advocacy literacy classes on weekly basis where they discussed on a number of issues including: inclusion of Dalit representatives in School Management Committees and other user’s group, access to drinking water and sanitation, equal wages for men and women, access of Dalit community to local resources including allocation of VDC budget for them, child marriage, human rights and dignity, caste-based discrimination/untouchability, citizenship and vital registration, restriction on social mobility for women, poor nutrition and health status, workload in family for women, marriage and dowry system, domestic violence, poor literacy, and poor access to and control over of women in family property.

Activity 1.1.c.1 Capacity building of CAs through involving them in the conduction of Underlying Causes of Poverty (UCP) study

This study was carried out with major two objectives of building capacity of SAMANATA staff and social engineering of Terai Dalits to find out the poverty issues so that community based strategy could be developed to apply it in the field.

In May 2008, SAMANATA undertook an analysis of the underlying causes of poverty through action research. This work was facilitated by CARE Bangladesh’ Social Development Coordinator, and co-facilitated by an Action Researcher from CARE Bangladesh’ Social Development Unit, the Social Analysis Coordinator from CARE Nepal’s Kathmandu Office, the Impact and Monitoring Officer from the Bharatpur Cluster Office, and the PM and PAO from the SAMANATA Project Office in Butwal.³

During the research, various methods to better understand the underlying causes of poverty and their implications on the poor and marginalized groups were applied and capacity of the staff was built to internalize and work with these methods in the future. Of particular importance, in terms of analysis, as well as social mobilization, are the methods that capture class differentiation (well-being analysis), coping mechanisms through which poor and extreme poor households (HHs) mitigate economic crisis (seasonal calendar), and exploitation (wage matrix and exploitation analysis). The work in its totality highlighted key aspects in terms of social relations and structures that need to be addressed at the local level; at the same time, the work also brought to the fore the need for the implementing partner organisation to more pro-actively support field level activities.

Activity 1.1.d Advocacy facilitation training to the CAs

Most of the CAs, SMs and majority of DNF staff in SAMANATA had joined the project without experience and this was the first time for them to experience such type of programme focusing on Terai Dalits. Therefore, first year of programme implementation

³ Brigitta Bode (Social Development Coordinator, CARE Bangladesh), Shamsuzzaman Siddiqi (Action Researcher, CARE Bangladesh), Santosh Sharma (Social Analysis Coordinator, CARE Nepal), Rajendra Lamichhane (Impact and Monitoring Officer, CARE Nepal) and Bimal Gadal (Programme Manager SAMANATA, CARE Nepal) and Eman Sunar (PAO, DNF).

was comparatively difficult time for DNF and CARE to make realization of the programme to the staff and entire structures. However, with the greater effort of various technical as well as technical inputs to the PT, it got momentum; CAs became enthusiastically advocate for the rights of Terai Dalits. They have become a watchdog and role model in the community.

Despite this achievement, project felt gaps in facilitating skills of CAs, SMs and FOs in the field. Therefore, project provided an intensive practical training to all in the field. Whole team was divided into six groups and they were taken into the community. VDC hall and school buildings were used as a venue for the workshops. It was mandatory for all participants to live in the village and eat the food served by Terai Dalits.

Training was carried out from 12-16 June 2008 in Nawalparasi, 6-11 June 2008 in Rupandehi and 9-14 June 2008 in Kapilvastu. Altogether, 75 participants took part in the training (24 in Nawalparasi, 23 in Rupandehi, and 28 in Kapilvastu).

INDRENI Social Development Forum, one of CARE's oldest partners, was mobilized to impart theoretical and practical knowledge on facilitating advocacy literacy centre.

The entire training was facilitated by the advocacy facilitation practitioner in the field. Each session was followed by theoretical orientation, brain storming, group work and presentation. After two days of such orientation, all the team members were taken to the women groups to run the advocacy literacy centre. It was observed closely on the methodology adopted by each participants and feedback was given accordingly.

Activity 1.1.e Preparation of resource books and guide books

The project has prepared resource books for CAs with the objective to make easy availability of resource books relevant to run advocacy literacy classes (ALC) on Dalit issues in local language.

While preparing the resource books, the following contents/issues were covered:

Culture of Terai Dalits and its importance and promotion, eradication of child marriage and dowry system, elimination of intra-Dalit discrimination, mainstreaming the Dalit movement in Nepal, role of non-Dalits in protecting and promoting human rights in Nepal, role of stakeholders to free Dalit community from exploitation and discrimination, role of political parties and civil society (CS) in promoting human rights and social inclusion of Terai Dalits and case studies of human rights violation and exclusion of Terai Dalits.

As a process, active CAs, both men and women, were selected from SAMANATA working VDCs and an expert was selected with the capacity to facilitate the process. In the first day of the workshop, participants were informed about the objective of the workshop, theoretical orientation for preparing the books and issue identification.

A seven days long workshop was organised in Butwal Technical Institute (BTI) from 5-11 May 2008. Altogether, 31 CAs participated in the workshop with 10 female and 21 male participants.

As an outcome of the activity, a book was produced for all the CAs so that they can facilitate respective advocacy literacy centres with the help of the produced materials.

Activity 1.1.f Support literacy classes for women (support for skilled labour to construct community building)

Altogether, there are 182 (62 in Nawalparasi, 60 in Rupandehi and 60 in Kapilvastu) women's groups organised in 60 VDCs under SAMANATA. The project provided support to run advocacy literacy centres to these women groups. The main objective of providing this support was to empower the Dalit women and combat marginalization and deprivation. It has further helped the women groups to find ways to speak up for a life of dignity. CARE and DNF have been working together to organise, mobilize and are providing technical support to the women's groups. A total of 3729 women have been associated with women's groups as members. The project had originally aimed to conduct ALC for 1800 women. To achieve the goals, the following activities have been carried out by these women groups in their respective groups:

- Advocacy literacy
- Saving & credit
- Income generating activities (IGA)
- Protection and promotion of Terai Dalit women's rights.

Activity 1.1.g Review and reflection of participants

With the aim of reviewing the works performed, to identify areas for improvement and to get feedback on weakness of activities implementation, the program was carried out at Dhakdhai and Raypur in 13 and 20 November 2009 respectively. The total participants at Dhakdhai were 105 including 45 female. In the same way, 30 people including 10 female were participated at Raypur.

Specially, the work plan document of success and failure was reviewed and made further plan to make the program more effective.

Activity 1.1.h Review and reflection of facilitators

In each programme district, review and reflection of facilitators/ CAs was done by organising meeting in each SAMANATA District Office dated December 9th Nawalparasi, 10th Rupandehi, and 11th Kapilvastu, in 2007. The objective was to review the status of literacy classes, issues identified, challenges faced in running literacy classes followed by the action plan preparation for the next.

Based on the review meeting, it was felt that CAs were new to such a programme and were confused while running the ALC. However, significant changes were observed in their behaviour in terms of their position against discrimination and exploitation of the Terai Dalits, organising people in and around the issue, initiating change from their family and its replication to the wider society. From the meeting, it was also felt that further effort is required to make them more knowledgeable to the government policies, national and international human rights treaties and way to use them in their lives and in the community as well.

In the meeting, all the CAs, SAMANATA DCs, FOs, and DNF District Chapter members participated to know the progress made by CAs by that time. CAs were also provided practical knowledge on running ALC in their community and the groups.

A follow-up event was organised in 2008. The primary objective of this activity was to develop common understanding on Terai Dalit issues and SAMANATA's intervention among and between the CAs, SMs, local DNGOs, FOs, DCs and the project office team. To meet those objectives, participants were informed about the objectives of the workshop and they reviewed their works of the past and made a presentation followed by a group discussion, a question and answer session and finally each participant prepared a VDC wise action plan and presented to the meeting. Based on suggestions given by each participant and recommended by the SAMANATA district office, an action plan was developed in cooperation with the community.

In the workshop, altogether, 86 participants participated including 60 CAs, SMs, local DNGOs, FOs, DOs and representatives from the DNF District Chapter and the PO.

Similarly, another follow up workshop was organised at Bhagawanpur and Raypur in Rupandehi in 24 and 21 of November 2009 respectively. The total participants in the program were 29 and 30 including 11 and 14 female respectively.

The program in Raypur was conducted under the presidency of Chhote Harijan, the Chairperson of DSDC, Rupandehi. In the program, action plan and programme activities were reviewed and discussed. Views all participants were collected to make a further plan.

- ✓ *60 Change Agents were trained on facilitation skills, literacy classes, advocacy skills, discussion on the issues Terai Dalit and the strategies to build linkages of local issues with regional and national level policy issues and mobilised to form and organise ALCs, Child Clubs, solidarity groups, saving and credit groups and VDC level pressure groups in the community.*
- ✓ *A total of 3729 women have been organised through 182 (62 in Nawalparasi, 60 in Rupandehi and 60 in Kapilvastu) Women's Advocacy Literacy Centres.*
- ✓ *A total of 5358 women have been engaged with 200 Women's Saving and Credit Groups. This has fostered a habit of saving some amount of they earn which has helped better their economic strength.*
- ✓ *A total of 2227 people have been associated with different people's organisations created by this project where 813 (37%) are women.*
- ✓ *Approximately 600 people have been associated with 60 Non-Dalit Solidarity Groups in which approximately 200 (33%) are women.*
- ✓ *VDC level pressure group is another achievement of this project. A total of 935 people have been associated with 60 such groups out of them 428 (46%) are women. These groups link local advocacy issues with VDC and district.*
- ✓ *Inspired by the ALC activities, a common place to discuss on the issues of Dalit, the communities are working hard for making huts/buildings in the project*

working VDCs of SAMANATA. In total 12 community buildings (Rupandehi-2, Kapilvastu-5 and Nawalparasi-5) are under construction. The community people are overwhelmingly supporting to construct the community buildings (huts) as volunteers without getting wages.

These ALCs, Child Clubs, People's Organisations, have been instrumental in empowering the marginalised and deprived community to understand the root causes of their marginalisation and deprivation and find way forward to claim their rights, inclusion and entitlements for a dignified life. Thus, these groups will remain active even after the completion of the project.

Indicator: Altogether 12909 people, out of whom 10554 women particularly received various trainings that helped them, understand their rights so that they speak against discrimination and exploitation. This is an outstanding achievement against the target of 1800.

Activity 1.2 Conduct advocacy and leadership training for 600 potential Dalit leaders

Potential Dalit Leaders from Dalit NGO, CBOs, Dalit activists, from SAMANATA Advocacy Literacy Classes (ALC) were selected ensuring 50% women participation.

Based on action plan prepared by the Dalit activists during the training, eight activists in each project district were assigned to organize two days training for 600 Dalit activists in three districts. Main objective of the training was to train potential Dalit leaders to enable them take positions against social, economic and political exploitation and discrimination against Terai Dalits. The training provided practical skills and tools to advocate on Terai Dalit issues.

The training was organized from 20 to 28 December 2007 in all program districts. Altogether, 664 (out of which 332 (50%) are women) local level Dalit activists participated in the training more than 90 % of the trained leaders have been engaged with community mobilisation.

Indicator: Altogether 664 (50% are women) Dalit leaders have been trained on practical skills and tools of advocacy against exploitation and discrimination and 90% are engaged with community mobilisation and advocacy over the target 600 and 50% of them applying those skills.

Activity 1.3 Support implementation of issue based advocacy plans (on seven prioritized issues) through joint collaboration of DNF, its district chapters, DNGOs, VDC level pressure groups and other relevant stakeholders

The project has supported and encouraged the target beneficiaries, the DNGOs and DNF to stand against all kinds of discriminations and fight for their rights and entitlements. This community level rights movement has helped to link local and district level issues

and advocacy initiatives with national level Dalit rights movements. The major issues raised through these initiatives are: right to minimum and equal wage, land rights, citizenship, right to natural resources, and access to basic services, education, and health. With this support, target beneficiaries, the DNGOs and DNF have collectively been launching rights movement at local, district and national level with the greater number of participation.

Activity 1.3.a Campaign on Constitute Assembly (CA)/Dalit awareness Shivir (Gau Jaun Dalit Jagaun)

To educate and aware entire Dalit community about the Constituent Assembly (CA) Election process, advocate for the inclusion of Terai Dalits in CA, and to sensitize wider society about the issues of Terai Dalits, this campaign was organised in all three programme districts from 28 to 31 December, 2007.

Before organizing this event, target Dalit communities were informed on its importance and they were organized through advocacy literacy centres. While making discussion with the community people, they were informed about the Jana Andolan-II, the mandate of the Interim Legislative-Parliament, the then government, interim plans, policies and budget. Likewise, review of political parties' manifestos and status of human rights and social inclusion of Terai Dalits was made in light of Constituent Assembly Election and role of the political parties for addressing the issues of Terai Dalits.

A total of 12 campaigns from community to the district levels were organized. One of which was 66 symbolic parliament members ensuring 50% women representing 22 Dalit caste groups from both the hills and Terai were entered into the mock Singha Darbar. About 10,000 people (of which about 50 percent were women) participated in the programme. Major political parties honoured them and they expressed their committed to provide full support for the inclusion of Terai Dalits in forthcoming CA election. These 66 symbolic parliament members made their commitment to fight against all forms of discrimination and exploitation against Dalits.

This programme helped DNF to strengthen its linkages with the local community, local DNGOs, political parties at local, district and national level. This initiative has been taken as the historical step towards Dalit movement in Nepal and huge gathering in the village and the district. A 31-points demand was handed over to the Prime Minister through Chief District Officers of each programme district with 90000 signatures from Dalit and non-Dalit communities.

Upon successful completion of such huge programme, United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) made several queries in the district and they showed their strong desire to cooperate the project on Dalit issue recognising the project initiatives.

The programme was highly covered by local and national media i.e. Nepal Television, Nepal-1, Radio Nepal, and many FM stations broadcasted news with top priorities and Radio Jagaran, which is the Dalit led radio station in Nepal, broadcasted an interview of the SAMANATA team referring to the VDC and district level campaign.

Activity 1.3.b District level Campaign on Constituent Assembly Election with Public Rallies

Terai Dalits born in small huts, work on local elites' lands, grow up on the landlord's farm in the hot sun, and die there without any social connection.

Thus, SAMANATA organised and sensitized Terai Dalits about their situation and rights from the community level by identifying the issue of social inclusion as one of the main dimensions of Terai Dalits' vulnerabilities. The vulnerabilities have sidelined the entire Dalit community including Terai Dalits from enjoying basic rights as a citizen. It has detached the life chances and kills, diminish self-esteem and hope in life of Terai Dalits.

From the past, it is learned that whatever political changes took place in Nepal, all the benefits goes in the hands of so-called higher caste, landlords and elites. There was an urgent need for putting strong pressure over political parties and the state authorities to address Terai Dalit issues adequately through the New Constitution. Thus SAMANATA sensitized political parties on Dalits issues in general and Terai Dalit issues in particular and inclusion of Dalit in Constituent Assembly.

Activity 1.3.c Celebration of International Days against Racism (March 21st)

Since the first year of SAMANATA project, the international days against Racism was marked with special importance every year. These Days were taken as an opportunity to sensitize duty bearers and aware wider society about the rights and status of Dalit community in general and Terai Dalit in particular.

At the national level DNF and SAMANATA organised a 'National Conference on Proportional Representation of Dalits in the CA' on the occasion of the International Day against Racism, March 21st, 2008. DNF organised a week-long campaign at different levels, from the community level to the central level. Mass rallies were organised at district and central level, awareness campaign and interaction programme was organised by VDC Level Pressure Groups. In Kathmandu, a Mass rally with the participation of about 1000 was organised. The rally started from Santibatika, Mandela and converged into mass meeting reaching at New Baneshwor Chwok.

The mass meeting was addressed by prominent Dalit and civil society leaders namely Durga Sob, the President of FEDO, Subhodh Pyakurel, the President of INSEC, Ram Lal Bishwokarma, the then President of NDC, Mahatam Harijan (Chamar), the President of DNF District Chapter Nawalparasi, and Anjana Bishunkhe, leader of Janmorcha party. Other distinguished leaders from different political parties were also present in the programme. The mass was also entertained by musical songs accompanied by Awaj Kalakar Nepal.

The programme became successful to give a clear message widely to the public and political parties about unity of Dalits. The major outcome of the programme was to reiterate the unity of Dalits' voice. The programme was facilitated by Rem Bahadur Bishwokarma, President of Jagaran Media Centre (JMC) and chaired by DNF Treasurer Renu Sijapati. The objectives of the programme were highlighted by Bhakta Bishwokarma, the President of Nepal National Dalit Social Welfare Organization (NNDSWO). Likewise, welcome remarks and vote of thanks were given by Gajadhar Sunar, the President of DWO and Amrit Bishwokarma, the President of Jana Utthan Pratisthan (JUP) respectively.

Activity 1.3.d Marking of Human Rights Day (10 December)

In 2007, SAMANATA, in coordination with local Dalit NGOs, DNF District Chapter, HROs and community people, celebrated the International Human Rights Day, 10 December 2008, in all three programme districts by organising cycle rallies. Along with the celebration of the event, SAMANATA had targeted to sensitize to the wider society on the inclusion of Terai Dalits in political and development mainstream, and draw the attention of all stakeholders, mainly of the political parties, media, and government to end the discrimination and exploitation against Dalit community.

In the rallies, the participants held placards up with slogans. The rallies converged into mass meeting. The speakers urged to the political party leaders, media, and human rights defenders to be serious about the issues of Terai Dalits. Signature collected with an appeal to end exploitation and discrimination against Dalits, ensure free education to Dalit children, and implementation of laws against caste based discrimination and exploitation, handed over to local administration with memorandums. In total around 6000 people from SAMANATA project VDCs of all three district participated in rallies and more than 50% of them were women.

While addressing the mass meeting, leaders of different political parties expressed their commitment to work against all forms of human rights violation and exploitation imposed against Dalits in Nepal. The programme was highly covered by the media.

In 2008, a preparation meeting was held at the DNF central office Kathmandu with CSOs and the human rights organisations to mark the 60th International Human Rights Day. The meeting decided to celebrate the occasion jointly with human rights organisations by organising mass rally and interaction programme. As a result 60th World Human Rights Day was successfully celebrated.

The 60th World Human Rights Day was marked with different programmes in SAMANATA districts on 10th December 2008 with the slogan “Dignity and Justice for All of Us”. This year, the initiative was taken to appeal the entire community to respect the human rights and dignity of all. On the occasion a documentary named “ACHHUT” (Untouchable) made by SAMANAT was also showed. The documentary provided greater insight of the dimension of caste-based discriminations.

Specially, the activists of the HROs and the leaders of political parties were invited in the programme. In Kapilvastu and Rupandehi districts, the programme was held on the presence of the political leaders, human rights activists, journalists, representatives of government line agencies general people and stakeholders.

About 300 people in Kapilvastu district and 170 people in Rupandehi district were present. Out of them 40% were women in both districts. Before starting the programme, the documentary was presented to introduce the human rights violation of Terai Dalit. In Kapilvastu, the FO Sanjay Pasi highlighted the cases of the violation of human rights of Terai Dalits. After the display of the documentary, the representatives from political parties and HROs made their speech on human rights, its violation and the role of the state. In Rupandehi, Ghanshayam Yadav, a representative of CPN Maoist and Constituent Assembly members (CA), made commitment to protect and promote the human rights of Terai Dalit.

In Nawalparasi district, the Day was marked by organising mass meeting in an open square of Parasi Bazaar. About 600 participants including women marched around the Parasi Bazaar and turned into the mass meeting. The programme was addressed by the representatives of the political parties and human rights organisations. The mass meeting was chaired by Mahattam Chhamar, the Chairman of DNF Nawalparasi District Chapter. The chief guest, Gouri Sanker Gupta, District Agricultural Officer, stressed that the new constitution should include the rights of Dalits. In the same way, the representatives of political parties expressed their views on the rights of Dalit.

Mahattam Chhamar addressing the mass stressed that the government has always turned deaf on Dalit issues.

Similarly, DNF central office, in collaboration with its MOs, organised a joint rally from Pradarsani Marg Bhrikuti Mandap Kathmandu in the morning along with other human rights activists and civil society leaders. The rally converted into a mass meeting where all human rights defenders expressed solidarity and commitment to fight against the human rights violation. Around 1000 people participated in the rally. The mass meeting was addressed by the human rights activists and Dalit civil society organisation leaders.

In 2009, with the international slogan of 61st international human rights day: “Embrace diversity and end discrimination” Dalit civil society organization including DNF with the coordination of Dalit civil society organizations jointly marked 61st International Human Rights Day in Kathmandu. On the occasion, a mass rally was demonstrated. The rally of Dalit civil society organisations separately moved from Ratna Park and merged with other civil society organisations’ rally of Human Rights National Magna Meet (mainly non-Dalit, however Dalit organisations were the organisers) at Kamaladi and marched through Ghantaghar, Bagbazaar, Putalisadak and converted into mass meeting at the premises of National Academy. Mr. Bom Bahadur Bishwakarma, General Secretary of DNF, addressed the meet on behalf of Dalit civil society. He urged constituent assembly members to utilise historic opportunity to ensure the human rights Dalits in the New Constitution of Nepal.

Activity 1.3.e Celebration of Women's Day (8th March)

International Women's Day has been celebrated by DNF/SAMANATA project in all project districts on 8th March every year.

98th International Women’s Day, 8th March 2008, was also celebrated in SAMANATA districts. In Nawalparasi District, the Day was celebrated with the participation of about 300 Dalit people including DNF central member Ramlakhan Harijan, Capacity Development Officer of SAMANATA Monoj Kumar Harijan, local Dalit Activists, representatives of ALC, people’s organisations, and saving and credit groups. The main objective of the programme was to inform Dalit women about International Women's Day, because in Nepal this Day used to be celebrated by so-called upper caste women.

On the occasion, Ramgram Dalit Utthan Sewa Samaj (RDUSS) performed street drama with the message of human rights of Terai Dalit women, child marriage, dowry system, and caste-based discrimination in the society. The Bhojpuri language was used while performing the drama. When conducting the programme, participants were saying that they had never heard about this day.

Similarly, in Kapilvastu DNF/SAMANATA held a programme at Labani VDC with slogans of needs of eradicating gender based violence, caste-based discrimination and

Dalit women's proportionate representation in CA. Participants attended in the programme from different seven VDCs. The rally marched with placard from Moti Bhari Primary School to Labani Chok. Demands for equal wages, eradicate caste and gender based discrimination, stop domestic violence, ensure free education and access to resources for Terai Dalit women were the major slogans of the rally.

In the mass meeting, the speakers disclosed that that was the first programme of Terai Dalit women in the district. SAMANATA FO Sanjay Kumar Pasi highlighted on the issues of women's rights violations. Kusum Kori welcomed to all the guests and participants. The programme was chaired by Sunita Raidas, Change Agent. On this occasion, a cultural programme (local popular song competition) was held among the Terai Dalit women groups. Sangam Dalit women group won first prize, Nawa Jiwan Dalit Mahila Group won second and Mahilajagaran Dalit Samuha won third and Jan Jiwan Mahila Sudhar Samuha won the consolation prize.

The local popular song sang in the competition were appealing to end caste and gender based discrimination and they were calling people to stand against all forms of discrimination and exploitation. This programme was addressed by chairperson of SSDC, Pop Narayan Paudel, Nand Ram Paudel from Informal Sector Service Centre (INSEC), Bhes Raj Pande from the Federation of Nepalese Journalist (FNJ), Kapilvastu. Beside this, 13 other SAMANATA working VDCs held interaction programmes at community level with political parties and local level stakeholder on various issues.

In Rupandehi, 98th Women's Day was jointly celebrated by 23 government and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) including DNF/SAMANATA in Bhairahawa. The programme was organised by the coordination committee of 23 organisations in which the District Women's Development Office (WDO) was the coordinator.

Dhurba Kumar Bagale, Chief District Officer of Rupandehi, was the chief guest in the programme. Subhadra Sharma, the acting executive of the WDO, welcomed to all the guests and participants in the programme. Govinda Dhawal and Baburam Pyasi from DNF Rupandehi highlighted about the situation of Madhesi Dalit Women. Krishna Gyawali, representative of Butwal Municipality, Ramsharwan Shapkota-DEO, Prabha Khanal of MAITI-Nepal, Manu Khadaka of the Feminist Dalit Organisation (FEDO), Sharad Poudel and Shoba Kumari Chapagain also highlighted the issues of Madhesi women. Songs, dance and poems related with women's rights were also performed. The programme was chaired Nandakali Glami, a social worker.

On the occasion, Shyam Dulary Harijan, CA of SAMANATA/DNF was honoured with a shawl (dosalla). She has brought a positive change among Madhesi women of Semara Marchawar through her reflect classes. Shabitra Bhandary, conductor of her own bus, Shankuntala Sharki a rickshaw puller woman, and Soharini Tharu, a social worker, were also honoured on the day. More than 3000 people participated in rally and in the conference.

Likewise, 99th International Women's Day was celebrated in project districts by coordinating with governmental and non-governmental organizations on 8th March 2009. On the occasion of day, the women of different strata marked 8th March in different places of project along with the glimmer of hope that their significant issues will be addressed in the new constitution of Nepal.

Disaggregating the events of celebration of day on the basis of districts, 8th March was celebrated at Lavani and Gotihawa in Kapilvastu. There were 626 community people in the assembly. Among them, there were 357 Dalit women. In Nawalparasi district, the day was celebrated at Fenahara, Belatari that adjoins Pratappur and Kudiya. There were about one thousand people in celebration. Out of them, there were almost 600 Dalit female. Likewise in Rupandehi district, the assemblies were organized at Rayapur and Dhakahahi. There were around 1600 participants in opening ceremony of 8th March. Among them, there were 900 Dalit women in the ceremony.

Activity 1.3.f Celebration of International Labour Day (May 1st)

The SAMANATA project organised a programme on International Labour Day, 1st May 2008, in three programme districts. The programme started at the same day and same time in all programme districts.

The main objective of the programme was to organise Terai Dalit men and women against wage exploitation. While organising this event, Terai Dalit men and women at local level were well informed and coordinated with other networks and like-minded organisations for the rally and mass meeting at local and district level was made.

The mass meeting described daily wages labourers' oppression and claims for the value of their labour. Above 2,200 Madhesi Dalits men and women participated in the mass meeting. This event was led by DNF District Chapter and its MO in the district.

In the programme, majority of participants were those who had left the tasks of their Maliks (landlords). This reflects that Madhesi Dalits are stretching their hands to grab the equal share in the state mechanisms. They expressed their age long-pain and poured their anger over the society and state; which have long been the main cause of their plight- in a place where speaking against the higher castes would mean severe beating or expulsion from the village. They reported many grave examples of human rights violations such as low wages, child marriage, unsociability, severe beating, illiteracy, stark poverty and so on that clearly showed the embarrassing and unbelievable situation of human rights in the country. The mass meeting was attended by the local Madhesi DAs, people's organisations, women groups, local level political parties, security officials, journalists and district level leaders of political parties.

Activity 1.3.g Celebration of New Civil Code Day (Naya Muluki Ain 1963)

The main objective of the intervention was to link local and district level advocacy initiatives with micro level social movements on major issues. The movement develops confidence of marginalized people, builds a collective voice and contributes to larger movements of social transformation.

In 1854, the then Prime Minister legalized the caste system with promulgation of Muluki Ain (Civil Code). This caste system was made illegal by enforcing New Muluki Ain in 1963 (New Civil Code). The 11th amendments of the Civil Code have been made; however, there are still many discriminatory legal provisions over Dalits and women. SAMANATA marked this day to highlight Dalit issues. Similarly, interaction programmes were organised in all three project districts. Agenda of Dalits was submitted to the District Administrative Office on August 1st 2008. Dalit leaders, representatives of pressure groups, Dalit social activist and representatives of the District Bar Association, government line agencies and DNF's member organisations participated in the event.

Activity 1.3.h Marking of Democracy (Loktantra) Day (May 28th)

In project districts: Republic day is celebrated after the declaration of Nepal as a republican country. It was the victory of every Nepali as they were continually fighting against feudalism and thousands of people sacrificed their lives for the prosperity of the country. In various social and political movements in Nepal, Dalits contributed significantly and they always stood in the front line. Contrary to this, Dalits and their issues are never heard.

Thus to make it happen, the republican day was celebrated by organising various programmes in coordination with a dozen of CSOs and HROs, media, activists, political parties and the community people in the project districts.

In Kathmandu: DNF along with other CBOs celebrated Democracy Day on 28th May, 2008. A peaceful rally was organised from Basantapur to Ratnapark at 7 o'clock in the morning. A mass demonstration in front of the Parliament house (ICC) and Khula manch (Tudikhel) was carried out and a demonstration continued through the day.

Activity 1.3.i Capacity building of Constituent Assembly (CA) members of parliaments

By following the decisions of a series of joint meetings held at DNF Central Office with FEDO, DWO, NNDSWO, and Lutheran World Federation (LWF) on 14th, 30th of November and 4th and 9th of December 2008, DNF successfully organised a-three-day National Seminar (12-14 December 2008) for the capacity building of the CA members at Godavari Village Resort along with FEDO, DWO, NNDSWO and LWF. 37 CA members attended in the workshop.

In the seminar, the experiences of other countries (focus India) in terms of contents and the processes in the constitution making process and agenda endorsement were shared and debate and discussion made on the position of Dalits in federalism.

Activity 1.3.j Dalit Human Rights Conference at National Level – Dalit Parliament

21 participants from three district of the SAMANATA project participated in the Dalit parliament held in Kathmandu from 24th - 25th December 2008. The objective of the programme was to guarantee the rights of Dalit in the new constitution.

- ✓ *Terai Dalits and non-Dalits are sensitized on human rights and social inclusion of Terai Dalits.*
- ✓ *Political parties made their commitments in front of people for the inclusion of Terai Dalits in political mainstream.*
- ✓ *Strong linkages of DNF are established with the local community, local DNGOs, political parties at local, district and national level*
- ✓ *A 31-points demand handed over to the Prime Minister with 90,000 signatures from Dalit and non-Dalit communities through Chief District Officers of each programme district.*

- ✓ *United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has made several queries once the event is over in the district and they have shown strong desire to cooperate the project on Dalit issue recognising project initiatives.*
- ✓ *Nepal Television, Nepal-1, Radio Nepal, and many FM stations broadcasted news with top priorities.*
- ✓ *Radio Jagaran, which is the Dalit led radio station in Nepal, broadcasted an interview of the SAMANATA team referring to the VDC and district level campaign.*
- ✓ *Women voiced their concerns that educated to the stakeholders and women too.*
- ✓ *DNF appointed as a member of Child and Women Rescue Fund of Rupandehi district.*
- ✓ *Political parties and government line agencies like CDO, DEO, and LDO sensitized on Madhesi Dalit women's issues.*
- ✓ *Madhesi Dalit got information about wage rate declared by the government.*
- ✓ *Representatives of the political parties sensitized about the need to increase wage rates of Terai Dalits considering the present market inflation.*
- ✓ *Various national and international days marked with various programmes in project district as well as in Kathmandu. More than 25,000 (more than 40% women) people mainly Madhesi Dalit men and women mobilised in different rallies and rights movement. These programmes provided them an opportunity to understand something about their rights and causes of marginalisation and poverty.*
- ✓ *A-three-day National Seminar 12-14 December 2008.*
- ✓ *21 participants from each district of the SAMANATA project participated in the Dalit parliament held in Kathmandu from 24th - 25th December 2008*

Indicator: More than 25,000 Madhesi Dalits directly mobilised and about 100,000 people indirectly mobilised to advocate and sensitize duty bearers, stakeholders and wider society on seven major issues: work and descent-based discrimination, low income (extremely low and unfair wages, lack of alternative source of income), lack of citizenship, landlessness, poor family health status, inadequate access to common property natural resources and specific women and children issues (education, health and other gender-based discrimination).

Activity 1.4 Identification, selection and training of 200 Dalit youths (100 of them women) for vocational skills, including assessment of market for those skills

The project, in coordination with the Training Centre Nepal (TCN) Kathmandu, conducted a sub-sector analysis with the objective of interest mapping and needs identification of the local and international labour market in 2007. An intensive field study using Participatory Rural Approach (PRA) tools to identify appropriate candidates was done in all programme districts by the TCN, Kathmandu.

A total of 281 (137 men and 144 women) have received vocational training that helped increase household income and diversify income opportunities through the trainings – masonry, house wiring, bicycle/motorbike/rickshaw repair, sewing/tailoring and hand embroidery.

Institute	Training Title	Male	Female
JCI P. Ltd	Motorbike	30	
JCI P. Ltd	House wiring	30	
JCI P. Ltd	Motorbike	24	
TCN P. Ltd	Mason	30	
TCN P. Ltd	Mason	29	
TCN P. Ltd	Embroidery		29
TCN P. Ltd	Tailoring		26
TCN P. Ltd	Tailoring		24
TCN P. Ltd	Embroidery		30
TCN P. Ltd	Embroidery		29
Total	281	143	138
	%	51	49

Indicator: Altogether 281 (49% women) completed vocational trainings. This is outstanding achievement against the 200 plan .

Activity 1.5 Scholarship for Terai Dalit students above primary level

Activity1.5. a. Information collection about Terai Dalit students and status of Dalit scholarship

In 2007, the project collected information on government policies and norms for scholarship distribution, its mechanisms and distribution patterns. The project also collected the number of Dalit students attending school in the SAMANATA working VDCs of the districts. Based on the primary information collected through the baseline survey and information collected by the CAs, the status of Dalit students and availability of scholarship, a summary figure developed.

The data clearly show that the school drop-out rate for both girls and boys are extremely high in the SAMANATA project districts. The school drop-out rates of girls was found higher than of boys. In the mean time, a total of 16,460 Dalit children were admitted from grade one to ten till the financial year (FY) 2006/07. But the shadow part of this trend is the high school drop-out and none of the students have completed higher secondary education. The government has allocated scholarship provision for 26,834 students for FY 2006/07, but this facility was not provided to the Dalit students despite the provision of the government. Therefore, SAMANATA made a plan to advocate against such worst practices of government.

From the discussion with the community people followed by CAs and children, acute economic crisis, child marriage and dowry system, corrupt mindset of government

authorities, humiliation persisted in Dalits' mind, and discriminatory practices of teachers and non-Dalit community towards Dalits, lack of commitment among the political parties are the underlying causes pushing behind vast majority of Dalit community in SAMANATA programme areas.

Apart from this, some of the important findings related to schooling of Terai Dalits are as follows:

- School drop-out rate of Terai Dalit children is very high above primary level.
- The SMC has been charging admission fees to the Dalit children though the government has made free education to the Dalit students till class 10.
- Almost all the schools are lacking women teachers from Terai Dalit community.
- In the SMC, there is nominal participation of Dalit. In case of Terai Dalits, there is an extreme disregard to this community and their presence in SMC is almost nil.
- Monitoring system of the DEO is very weak.
- The DEO is providing half of the scholarship provisioned by the government and very few children are entertaining this provision.
- Dalit children are facing various forms of caste and gender based discrimination in the school.
- Coordination among and between the organisations that provide the scholarships to the Dalit children is very weak.
- Absences of effective laws and policies to punish the government norms violator have encouraged government authorities for misinterpretation of scholarships allocated for Dalit children.
- Allocating NRs. 350 (USD 5.8)/year/Dalit children for scholarship support is very marginal and a careless decision of the government.

In the year 2008, the project identified the dire economic conditions of Terai Dalits that caused them to discontinue children's education above primary level – whether they could not afford school uniforms, books and stationery. In addition, Terai Dalits could not feed their children after they reach a certain age. To manage livelihood crisis they had to send their children either to graze animals of landlords or to work as child labour in neighbouring household. Girls are married at an early age and are therefore unable to continue their education. To address this complex phenomenon, the project had to implement various activities: interaction among parents in advocacy literacy centres, interaction with the school teachers and SMCs, interaction with the DEOs, EFA campaigning, formation of child clubs and mobilizing them, campaigning against child marriage, providing them various income generating opportunities etc. It created a favourable environment to send children to school at primary and secondary level.

Due to some delays in programme implementation in 2007, the project was unable to provide scholarships to students in that year. In the second year of the programme, 2008, the project provided scholarships for 672 (420 boys and 252 girls) Terai Dalit students

above primary level (from grade 6 to 10) to buy uniforms, books, stationery requirements. In 2009 SAMANATA has distributed 323 scholarships in Nawalparasi, 296 scholarships in Rupandehi and 336 scholarships in Kapilvastu. SAMANATA distributed in total 1816 out of which 878 (48.34% girls) one-year scholarships including test-passed students.

A well being ranking approach was carried out to identify poor candidates and, considering the high dropout of Dalit girls above primary level, priority was given to girls while identifying the scholarship recipient.

The Ministry of Education (MoE) of the GoN has categorized class one to five as the primary level education. The government has provisioned scholarship for both girls and boys up to primary level NRs. 350/year/student which is equivalent to EUR 3.24/year. However, the Terai Dalit children are receiving EUR 1.38/year.

SAMANATA continuously advocated for rights to education of children at local and district level. Out of which, persuading government authorities to avail Rs. 350/- scholarship to all Terai Dalit children below primary level has been one of the major advocacy issues for SAMANATA and we successfully reinforced government authorities to implement policies. By the end of the project, SAMANATA will reach a 100% education enrolment of Terai Dalit children (both boys and girls). Still, the continuation of education above primary level is another big challenge for SAMANATA.

Similarly, just a few students, mostly boys, reach class ten and pass for the send-up test for the School Leaving Certificate (SLC) examination. However, they cannot pass it due to a lack of proper orientation and sufficient preparation to face SLC examination. To pass the SLC examination is one of the tough steps in a student's career in Nepal. Therefore, the project provided financial support NRs. 2000/student equivalent to EUR 18.51 as a token support to 116 Terai Dalit test passed students for their preparation of the SLC exam. Out of 116 students, 60 (70%) passed S.L.C. They will continue their +2 education on their own, which is the greater level achievement of SAMANATA.

During this period, the project has also been able to increase the participation of Terai Dalit men and women in the SMC. In most of the working VDCs of SAMANATA, the CAs have been nominated as Chairperson or other Terai Dalit men and women have been nominated as Chairperson in the SMC.

Activity 1.5. b. Meeting with SMC, teachers and parents and other relevant people and formation of monitoring committee

To discuss about the amount of scholarship distribution, timely distribution of the scholarship and to encourage Terai Dalit to include in the SMC, meeting with SMC, teachers and parents, was organised in Rupandehi and Kapilvastu District in October and December 2008 respectively. The programme was organised in five schools in Rupandehi and five in Kapilvastu including lower secondary and secondary schools.

The total number of participants in Rupandehi district was 281, out of which 49 were from non-Dalit and 85 were females. In the same way all together 125 people participated

in the Kapilvastu District, where 42 were female. The programme was facilitated by CAs, SMs and FOs.

Activity1.5. c. Interaction Nepal's state mechanism and condition of Dalit in Education, practice and special rights

An interaction programme “Nepal's state mechanism and condition of Dalit in Education, practice and special rights” was organised on 20th December 2008 in Hotel New ERA, Butwal. The objectives are to make higher education official and other relevant stakeholders, political parties and CSOs more committed and responsible to provide scholarship and explore other opportunities for the scholarship for Terai Dalit students. The DEO of Rupandehi District, representatives of political parties, head of the colleges, school teachers, SMC and journalists participated in the interaction programme. The programme was organised with the technical support of Vision Nepal. The programme was chaired by Uraj Neupane, chairman of Vision Nepal and conducted by Uraj Ghimire. After the welcome speech, the concept paper was presented by Dr. Madhav Panthi and commented by Dr. Narayan Belbase and Ramlal Shreshtha. After the comments, the floor was opened for discussion. Specially, most of the participants expressed their dissatisfaction on the system of education in Nepal. During the discussion period, most of the participants focused on the need based practical education. Along with this, the DEO of Rupandehi District, made a clarification on the scholarship provided for Dalit students and indicated the weakness in the implementation part. After three hours of hot discussion, the programme ended with the following conclusion.

- Policies and programmes of government, in regards of education are not effective. Therefore, social, economic and education programmes should be launched in the concert form.
- Education should be related with the socio- economic part and it should be need based.
- The curriculum should not be discriminatory. It should not include the content on the basis of discrimination between Dalit and Non Dalit.
- The allocated scholarship for Dalit students should be transparent.
- Awareness campaign, informal education and employment should be provided to the parents of Dalit children to increase the school going ratio of Dalit children.
- Education should be need based and linked with the occupation
- The higher education should be free and it should be written in the constitution
- In the selection committee of scholarship, the representation of Dalit community is essential
- Awareness programmes should be launched on Dalit and non Dalit communities for the eradication of social injustice

Activity1.5. d. Child promotion activities (football, quiz contest, essay, and song competition)

The objective of forming child clubs was to work in and around child issues such as domestic child labour, school enrolment, stopping child marriage and bringing their inner talents out so that they can feel dignity as other non-Dalit children in the society. SAMANATA has 86 child clubs in three districts; different types of games and

recreational activities among their areas were conducted from October to December 2008. Football, essay, quiz, ludo (local game), and different local games conducted at schools level in sixty VDCs.

Activity1.5. e. Scholarship for test passed students (support for tuition)

The DNF/SAMANATA project supported 116 test passed students with NRs. 2000 for the SLC tuition fees. Out of the 116 test passed Terai Dalit students 25 (5 girl and 20 boys) are from Kapilvastu; 48 (9 girls and 39 boys) are from Nawalparasi, and 41(36 boys and 5 girls) are from Rupandehi. The distribution programmes were organised on 14th of March 2008 in Kapilvastu and Nawalparasi and 14th to 15th of March 2008 in Rupandehi respectively. Main objective of the activities was to ensure the students pass their SLC exam that will open the door of higher education for them.

Activity1.5. f. Interaction with the DEO in three districts

An interaction programme was organised in Kapilvastu and Rupandehi Districts on the 5th of December 2008. The aim of the programme is to make DEO, political parties and CSOs more committed and responsible to provide and explore opportunities for the scholarship for Terai Dalit students. Similarly the programme was organised on the 18th of December in Nawalparasi District. In Kapilvastu and Nawalparasi Districts the DEOs, Hem Bahadur Chhetri and Hemraj Arayl, participated in the programme (20 in Kapilvastu District, 12 in Rupandehi District and 24 in Nawalparasi District). Teachers from the government schools, political leaders and activists of Dalit were present. The discussion focused on the provision, trend, distribution and effective awarding of the scholarship. The vivid discussion took place during the programme period on afore- mentioned agendas. In the Kapilvastu District, the participants committed to inform to DEO about the organisations that provide scholarships to the Dalit students. And the DEO also committed to a meeting among the concerned stakeholders, for the effective distribution of the scholarship.

Activity1.5. g. School bags with visibility for 750 students

DNF produced 1040 school bags to support needy students of Madhesi Dalits in SAMANATA districts. Of total bags, 296 bags to Rupandehi, 352 bags to Nawalparasi, and 321 bags to Kapilbastu were distributed. Rest of bags was distributed to the staff of CARE/DNF, SAMANATA project staff, board members of district level organizations for visibility of the project.

- ✓ *SAMANATA provided in total 1657 one-year scholarships were distributed of which 850 (51%) to girls and 807 (49%) to boys Terai Dalit students above primary level (from grade 6 to 10) to buy uniforms, books, stationery requirements.*
- ✓ *The project provided financial support NRs. 2000/student equivalent to EUR 18.51 as a token support to 116 (25 (5 girl and 20 boys) are from Kapilvastu; 48 (9 girls and 39 boys) are from Nawalparasi, and 41(36 boys and 5 girls) from Rupandehi) Terai Dalit test passed students for their preparation of the SLC exam.*

- ✓ *SAMANATA formed 86 child clubs in three districts; different types of games and recreational activities among their areas were conducted from October to December 2008. Football, essay, quiz, ludo (local game), and different local games conducted in schools level in sixty VDCs.*
- ✓ *The DEOs made commitments to make an M&E committee for the effective awarding of scholarship to the Dalit students.*
- ✓ *The DEO of Rupandehi District made commitments to establish a school in the densely populated area of the Dalit community.*
- ✓ *The participants realized the need of a proper scholarship for the Terai Dalit students.*
- ✓ *The representatives of political parties and activists of Dalit organisations made commitments to help the Dalit students to get the allocated scholarship without any delay and lost.*
- ✓ *Meeting with SMC, teachers and parents and other relevant people and formation of monitoring committee (i) SMC and head of the schools committed to provide Dalit scholarship only to the Dalit students, (ii) The SMCs committed to provide free education to the Dalit students up to secondary level, (iii) The representatives from SMCs agreed to make SMC more inclusive, (iv) The SMCs made commitment to prevail awareness in Dalit community to lessen the school dropout ratio.*

By the end of the project, SAMANATA will reach a 100% education enrolment of Terai Dalit children (both boys and girls). Still, the continuation of education above primary level is another big challenge for SAMANATA.

Indicator: Altogether 1773 (51% girls) Terai Dalit students above primary level (from grade 6 to 10) supported to buy uniforms, books, stationery requirements.

Activity 1.6 Facilitate formation and capacity building of 60 Dalit women saving and credit groups (covering at least 1200 households)

Activity1.6.a +b Revolving fund and support women's savings and credit groups

In first year, 2007, the project formed **Women's Saving and Credit Groups (S&C group)** in 60 project VDCs with the belief that the role of women could be changed if they are provided with economic options in their daily lives and increasing access to and control over financial resources would help them establish women's better position in the family and in the community as well. S&C group consisted of 20-30 women in one group (but the number of members in the group went on increasing). SAMANATA provided NRs. 60,000 each district to initiate S&C Groups. Though the project had planned to form 60 S&C Groups and capacitate them, but, by seeing the success and overwhelming support and ownership of the community, the project increased number of 60 S&C group

to a total of 200. The amount provided worked as seed fund for the group. The deposit of members of the group ranges from Rs. 2 to 100 per month/member depending upon the income of women members. However, it has encouraged women members to start something new and has seeded hope in their lives.

The Women's Saving and Credit Groups were encouraged to discuss on the issues that they have been facing in their day-to-day life such as health, domestic violence, education, child marriage, dowry system, and other Dalit (women's) rights issues among their members. SAMANATA formed all these groups from the beginning and mobilized them. SAMANATA/DNF, in consultation with DNF District Chapters, local Dalit NGOs, SMs, CAs and Dalit CBOs, has supported 200 Dalit Women' Savings and Credit Groups where 5358 women have been associated as members from 1786 households.

These S&G Groups have been crucial in the community. These groups have helped associated families be less dependent on landlords and other local money lenders. The savings have been utilized for income generating activities (IGA) and support for other emergencies in the community such as taking loan to purchase school uniforms, medicines, food etc. Thus, now they should not take loan with high interest from local money lender. In total, 975 women have received loan through the revolving fund and have initiated income generating activities from the loan. The interest rate of the S&C Groups is 1%, compared to 10% asked by local money lenders.

This amount worked as seed money for the group. The members of the group not only save money but also grains (rice). The following table illustrate the total amount saved by the communities in addition to that amount so far:

District	Amount of money saved, excluding seed fund (NRs.)	Amount of rice saved (Kg)
Rupandehi	318,323.00	500
Nawalparasi	265,500.00	300
Kapilvastu	708,913.00	700
Total	1,292,736.00	1500
Equivalent to EUR 1= NRs 108	11970.00	

Activity1.6.c Saving & credit management training for CAs/SMs

Saving and Credit Management training for CAs and SMs were organised in all project districts in 2008. The training was focused on enhancing knowledge and S&C Group management skills of CAs and SMs among the savings and credit groups. Altogether 75 (27 in Kapilvastu, 32 in Nawalparasi and 16 in Rupandehi districts), CAs, SMs and members of S&C Group participated in the trainings. The trainings were organised on 10th – 11th January in Kapilvastu, on December 13th in Nawalparasi and on 22nd December 2008 in Rupandehi.

Activity1.6.d Saving & credit management training for women groups

To enhance knowledge and skill of the members of women's groups on S&C Group management (group and its importance, saving, concept of loan and procedure, credit and passbook management) and mobilisation of groups, Saving and Credit Management

Training for Women's Groups was organised in Kapilvastu on 10-11 January 2009. Altogether 29 members of the women's groups participated in the training. The training was facilitated by Ramsharan Raidas (Chairperson Dalit Social Development Centre (DSDC) Kapilvastu), Sanjay Pasi (DC Kapilvastu), Santosh Harijan (Secretary of DSDC) and Mahesh Kori (Accountant of DSDC).

In Rupandehi, the training was organised at Chhipagad on 17th of April, 2009. The total participants were 55. Similar trainings were held at Bishnupura, Sipawa and Pathkhauri in Rupandehi. In total 64 participants attended in the training. The training was facilitated by Change Agents and Social Mobilizer, under the guideline of FO of Rupandehi.

Likewise, the training was organised in Nawalparasi in June 2009. Altogether 94 participants representing 34 Women's S&C Groups participated in the training. The training was facilitated by the Finance Assistant of the Nawalparasi District Chapter.

- ✓ *A total of 200 Dalit Women' Savings and Credit Groups formed where 5358 women have been associated.*
- ✓ *More than 975 women have received loan through the revolving fund – Women's Saving and Credit Groups.*
- ✓ *A total of 242 members representing all S&C Group trained on Saving and Credit management, this has enhanced confidence and motivation of women for the management of deposited amount and loan procedure.*
- ✓ *The members of the group share their economic problem in the group and try to solve within the group, this has enhanced self-esteem of the members of S&C group and community.*
- ✓ *Altogether 75 (27 in Kapilvastu, 32 in Nawalparasi and 16 in Rupandehi districts), CAs, SMs and members of S&C Group trained in saving and credit management.*

Indicator: The project had planned to form and capacitate 60 S&C Groups, but by seeing the success and overwhelming support and ownership of the community, the project increased that number to a total of 200. This is outstanding achievement with 333.33% against the plan.

Activity 1.7 Support poorest 600 Dalit households (members of the saving and credit groups) for income generation activities

At first, the poor households were identified within savings and credit groups by adopting a participatory well-being ranking approach. Similarly, the appropriate income generation activities were identified through sub-sector analysis of all potential activities. While, selecting of appropriate income generation and economic empowerment activities, women's S&C groups, CAs, SMs, local Dalit NGOs, DNF District Chapters, VDC authorities, political party leaders and social leaders were also involved. The need assessment was done in two times in 60 working VDCs from September to October 2007

and from January to March 2008. The following were the findings of sub-sector analysis of potential activities for income generation and economic empowerment:

- Goat and pig farming
- Community fish pond supporting
- Bicycle, rickshaw and motorcycle repairing
- Maroon framing
- Bee keeping
- Poultry farming
- Fish keeping

These initiatives were implemented by mobilizing local Dalit NGOs, and these are the member organisation (MOs) of DNF and CAs at local level.

In 2007, the project covered 252 Terai Dalit HHs with various IGA. Towards this, the following activities have been started in 2007:

These activities have supported 155 Terai Dalit HHs in 2008 (against 154 planned) (

- goat farming 45 households;
- small groceries 51 households;
- bicycle, rickshaw and motorcycle repairing 25 households;
- community fish pond support 7 groups and
- cooperative agriculture farming to one community.

These activities have supported 155 Terai Dalit HHs in 2008 (against 154 planned):

Goat rearing 45 households: Poor Dalit HHs have been encouraged to rear 2/3 goats on a gift passing approach, in which recipient HHs return the same number of goats to the group while they give birth and they grow-up. These goats are provided to other new HHs of the same group.

Small groceries 171 households: Most of the Terai Dalits households have very limited land to run farm-based IGA. Therefore, off-farm activities are most suitable where women can easily handle them. Altogether 171 households have been supported small financial support, which they will repay to their respective S&C groups on an instalment basis. Later, the S&C groups provide the fund to another beneficiary in the same community.

Bicycle, rickshaw and motorcycle repairing 25 households: Considering the geographical orientation of SAMANATA project districts, there is a great scope to run small scale bicycle and rickshaw repairing centres in the rural villages. This initiative provided small support to Terai Dalit youths for establishing bicycle, rickshaw and motorcycle repairing centres. Those who received two months training now they are running bicycle, rickshaw and motorcycle repairing centres at their locality.

Community fish pond support 7 groups: To help overcome the impasse that Terai Dalits have been facing, women's groups were brought together to identify collective actions that they most like to engage in the short term. Of the options, it was apparent that the most feasible option was to restore a pond that had become silted and fallen into

disuse or being used by local elites. A plan was made collectively to identify public ponds available in the area. Moreover, a series of dialogues were made with the local authorities to handover those ponds to the Dalit community. The works were divided among the group members to remove water hyacinths. The pond was refilled and fish stocked in the pond. The income of the pond is shared among the members of the group involved in maintenance activities.

Cooperative agriculture farming to 1community: The project identified public lands that are misused or not used yet. Women groups grow fresh vegetables on the land. The benefits are shared equally within the members. This initiative is also planned as a pilot project. The project will replicate the model, if the results are satisfactory.

Indicator: Altogether 664 (50% are women) Dalit leaders have been trained on practical skills and tools of advocacy against exploitation and discrimination and 90% are engaged with community mobilisation and advocacy over the target 600 and 50% of them applying those skills.

Activity 1.8 Conduct 30 interactive joint sessions for non-Dalits and Dalits - political and social leaders, teachers, students, etc. - for sensitization on social inclusion and Dalit rights issues

Activity 1.8.a Discussion meeting with non-Dalit or pro-Dalit stakeholder's, including political parties at national level

The aim of such interactions was to develop a common understanding between like-minded people and organisations to broaden the constituency of target beneficiaries as well as to draw attention of policy makers to address issues of Terai Dalits. An in-depth understanding on the causes and consequences of the issues can develop a common and better understanding among different stakeholders to make them more responsible and accountable in Dalit issues.

Some of the pressing issues which were identified such as affirmative action for Terai Dalits, landlessness, equal wages for equal works, inclusion of Terai Dalits in political parties, have placed Terai Dalits in the viscous cycle of poverty. Apart from this, community people in their respective literacy advocacy centres have identified unequal and unfair wages which is another burning issue as the majority of the Dalit community have been exploited throughout the districts by the local elites and landlords. The landlords and local elites are mainly non-Dalits.

The DDC is one of the key policy implementing agency at both local and district level. Therefore, the project conducted one-day interaction session with the government authorities with the participation of CSOs, political parties, community people and government authorities in Nawalparasi, Rupandehi and Kapilvastu Districts on 16th, 21st and 23rd of December 2007. A total of 90 participants participated in those programmes.

The objective of the initiatives was to sensitize government officials, human rights activists, political party leaders, media professionals and DLs on Terai Dalit issues. All these initiatives were based on a situation analysis of the community and the requirements

in the present political context in Nepal. Before performing these activities, detailed homework was done which included consultation with local and national level Dalit NGOs and other stakeholders.

Activity 1.8.b Lobbying visit at district level government authorities

Activity 1.8.c.1 Lobbying visit with DDC Kapilvastu

To make the government authorities (Kapilvastu) known about the real situation of Terai Dalit community and seek commitment from them to work on the issue of Terai Dalits, a visit was organised on 17th of December 2007. A total of 77 people (including 32 women) participated in the programme. The participants in the programme were LDO, and representatives of DDCs, political parties, GLAs and the Dalit community.

In the programme the issues of the Dalit community were floored, discussed and shared among the participants. The leaders of political parties responded on the raised issues concerning the Dalit community.

As a result of this visit, Damodar Bhandari, LDO of Kapilvastu, made a commitment to make a Dalit profile and to ensure participation of Dalit in the VDC level committee. And the leaders of political parties made a commitment to inform the Dalit community about the allocated budget for Dalit.

Activity 1.8.c.2 Lobbying Visit to Local Bodies, Service Providing Agencies and Authorises – Rupandehi

To make the local government and authorities known about the issues of Terai Dalit community and seek commitment from them to work on the issue of Terai Dalits, a series of lobbying visits were made. The program was carried out in 10 VDCs of Rupandehi District. Altogether 29 participants including 6 female representing different organisation different Dalit organisations i.e. DSDC, SMs and CAs visited Health post, Police stations, and VDC offices and submitted a 9-point demand letter on the issues of Dalits. The points were focused on demands for reservation, inclusion, land rights, minimum and equal wages.

As result of the visit, at least VDC level authorities were sensitized on Dalit demands and issues of Dalits and made their commitment to provide service to Dalits without discrimination. Similarly, Health Post in Charge made his commitment to pay attention to Dalit community's patients.

Activity 1.8.c.3 Lobbying visit with NBA – Rupandehi

A lobbying meeting with the Nepal Bar Association (NBA), Rupandehi was made on June 29th 2009. The objective of the lobbying visit was to make NBA sensitive on the cases of caste-based discrimination and untouchability. Altogether there were 13 participants in the program. The currently identified issues of Terai Dalits were also discussed in the programme. The Vice Chairperson of Nepal Bar Association (Rupandehi) suggested conducting legal awareness campaign in the Dalit Community so that Dalit people know about their rights and seeking to enjoy them.

Activity 1.8.c.4 Terai Dalits, on the policy and plan of the GoN - Nawalparasi

With an objective of making government line agencies more accountable and responsible on the issues of Terai Dalits, and draw their attention for the proper implementation of existing plans and policies, a discussion meeting was held with CDO, LDO, leaders of political parties on 6th of January, 2009 at Officer Club in Nawalparasi District. The Bal Krishna Panthi, the CDO of the district was invited as the chief guest in the meeting and Tikaram Ghimire, the LDO of the district as the special guest in the programme. Altogether 27 people representing different political parties, government line agencies and non-governmental organizations participated in the meeting. In the program, Bal Krishna Panthi, the CDO, stressed on a decade special program in education for the overall development of Dalit community. Tikaram Ghimire, LDO stressed on the implementation part of policies, which are made for Dalit's betterment. He further said that the policies made for the development of Dalit should be practiced in daily life. In the same way, representatives from the political parties also expressed their views. The program was chaired by Mahhatam Harijan, the chairperson of DNF District Chapter.

Activity 1.8.c.5 Lobbying meeting with CDO

Another program was carried out in Nawalparasi district on 25th of June, 2009 initiated by Indrajit Harijan, the president of RDUSS. The purposes of the visits were to discuss on the issues of equal wage and fish farming on the public land by Dalit community. The participants of the visit held a meeting with the Chief District Officer. And the meeting was concluded with the circulating a letter by CDO to the secretary of Sarwal VDC to take decision about the pond by holding the meeting. With regards to wage issues, a written paper was submitted to the VDC secretary for the increment of wages. Both CDO and secretary of VDCs became positive on the issues raised by the visit team.

Activity 1.8.c.6 Lobbying visit to DDCC

An additional lobbying visit took place against the unfavourable decision of District Dalit Coordination Committee (DDCC) in Nawalparasi. The DDCC decided to work through a non-Dalit organisation to which DNF District Chapter of Nawalparasi objected. The District Chapter urged the DDCC to reconsider its cooperation with the non-Dalit organisation in favour of working with Dalit organisations.

Activity 1.8.c.7 Lobbying visit to District Administrative Office, Kapilvastu

A lobby visit was made with Tek Raj Niraula, the Vice-Chief District Administrative Officer of Kapilvastu on 30th June 2009. In the visit, 28 people participated including 3 females representing civil society organisation participated. Sanjay Pasi, DC of Kapilvastu, facilitated the visit. At the end, the Vice-Chief District Administrative Officer made his commitment to provide security and justice to all, without any discrimination.

Activity 1.8.c Meeting with non-Dalit stakeholders

On the occasion of 60th World Human Rights Day, a meeting was held at the office of the DNF District Chapter in Kapilvastu District with non-Dalit stakeholders - NGO Federation Kapilvastu, INSEC, Siddhartha Social Development Centre, SAHAJ Nepal, and Advocacy Forum on the 7th of December 2008. The aim of the meeting was to develop a common and better understanding among different stakeholders, and make non-Dalit human rights activists more responsible and accountable to speak for the rights of Dalits – caste-based discrimination and untouchability. Altogether, there were 12

participants including five women in the meeting. The meeting was facilitated by Surya B.K., DC of Kapilvastu District.

As a result, 60th World Human Rights Day was marked in the district with huge participation of people and the human rights activists (non-Dalits) started to consider the caste-based discrimination and untouchability as the violation of human rights. The meeting also made a conducive environment to work together in the future.

- ✓ *The human rights activists (non-Dalits) have started to consider the caste-based discrimination and untouchability as the violation of human rights and speak against it. Likewise, World Human Rights Day is marked jointly with Dalit and non-Dalit organisations in the district. This has given a message to the wider society that untouchability and caste-based discrimination is the grave violation of human rights.*
- ✓ *District Administrative Office expressed their commitment to provide security and justice to all, without any discrimination.*
- ✓ *Issues of equal wage and fish farming on the public land by Dalit community discussed with CDO. The meeting concluded with circulating a letter by CDO to the secretary of Sarwal VDC to take decision about the pond by holding the meeting.*
- ✓ *LDO stressed on the implementation part of policies, which are made for the betterment Dalit community and that the policies made for the protection and promotion of Dalits' rights should be practiced in daily life.*
- ✓ *16 interactive meetings held with stakeholders on different time.*

Indicator: An in-depth analysis and understanding of the causes and consequences of the issues has led to a common and better understanding among different stakeholders and has made them more responsible and accountable towards it. This initiative helped enhance the self-esteem of Dalit community and empower them locally. It raised awareness, tolerance and respect for Dalits among the non-Dalit stakeholders.

Activity 1.9 Conduct media advocacy campaigns in local language through: support to local media (print and radio) and local Dalit groups for the development of IEC materials, staging street drama and production of documentary for wider sensitization of society-at-large on Dalit rights and concerns.

From early July 2007 onwards, the project has successfully coordinated various media groups in the project districts. All the electronic and print media have been effectively mobilized during this period. To this effect, Vision Nepal, a local media institution has been mobilized to work closely with local and national level FM stations, television channels and print media. The main objective of engaging media groups in SAMANATA was to engage them in Terai Dalit issues and bring these issues to the forefront of

national audience, influence policy making authorities at district and national level and to sensitize Dalits and non-Dalit communities for Dalit issues. To this effect, the following activities have been accomplished during this period.

Activity 1.9.a Production and transmission through FM station

The SAMANATA programme broadcast FM radio programme on weekly basis through the Radio Jagaran (only radio station run entirely by Dalit management committee in Nepal), Radio Lumbini, Parasi FM, and Rupandehi FM for 30 minutes. The programmes aim to empower the marginalized Terai Dalits, create pressure to the stakeholders to speak up for the rights of Dalits and ensure meaningful representation of Dalits and for the media advocacy. The programme covers the news of SAMANATA, important events of the period, human rights violation and abuses against Terai Dalits, women's and children's issues, scholarship, social inclusion, interviews with community people, DAs and policy makers.

Activity 1.9.b IEC Materials (comics and posters)

Activity 1.9.b.1 Support to DNF Central Office for the publication of "MUKTI KO AWAJ" with SAMANATA's activities (25% of the total cost)

DNF publishes a quarterly news bulletin "Mukti Ko Awaj" (Voice of Liberation), which is partly supported by SAMANATA from July 2008 onwards. In August 2008, DNF published the bulletin with the main slogan: "Making an Inclusive Constitution and institutionalisation of democratic republic". The bulletin covers the new political development in Nepal and the articles – "the Constituent Assembly Election and the Dalits", "Caste discrimination free society- declaration and implementation status. The Dalit community insists the new GoN, and journey of Prachanda to Baluwatar. The bulletin also contains activities of DNF- Central and regional and international.

It also covers the news on SAMANATA project- "Promoting Human Rights and Social Inclusion of Terai Dalits". Moreover, the bulletin covers the newly elected CA members' name list and congratulation to them. Another bulletin was published in December 2008.

The news bulletin published in 2009 covers DNF's activities from January-March 2009.

Activity 1.9.b.2 Publication of human rights violation case stories

SAMANATA targeted a media advocacy programme to cover the wide range of target audiences. It can make targeted beneficiaries aware of their rights to explore different cases and real life stories of marginalization. This activity can also play a crucial role to amplify the voice of voiceless people to broaden the constituency and influence service providers and policy makers on their behalf. Therefore, the project cooperates with the media people who are raising issues and creating pressure on stakeholders.

The aim of publishing the feature news was to raise the suppressed issues of Terai Dalits, to empower the media and to mobilize the journalists as watch dogs. As a result, altogether, 120 features news on the issues of Terai Dalit have been published in local, district and national media.

Activity 1.9.b.3 SAMANATA Bulletin

As a reference material on the successes and failures of the SAMANATA intervention, SAMANATA published a SAMANATA Bulletin and widely distributed it to the CAs, SMs, VDCs and district level government authorities, NGOs, HROs and political parties. The Bulletin has been published on a regular basis since March 2008.

Activity 1.9.b.5 Documentar y "ACHHUT" - produced by SAMANATA

Activity 1.9.b.5.1 Documentar y production

SAMANATA has produced a documentar y on real life stories of Terai Dalits putting the human rights violation and its consequences at the centre. The name of the documentar y is "ACHHUT" (meaning Untouchable) for its production, DARPAN Films Pvt. Ltd, Kathmandu was involved. The production of a documentar y is supported by the research to identify cases; literature reviews, field shooting and editing. The documentar y has been produced in three different languages viz. Bhojpuri (local language), Nepali and English. Bimal Gadai, the then PM designed the concept of the documentar y.

Activity 1.9.b.5.2 Documentar y launching

DNF launched the documentar y "ACHHUT" by organising a programme. Mr. Richard Bennett, Chief of the OHCHR in Nepal launched the documentar y at Yak Palace, Kathmandu on the 14th of August 2008. The programme was chaired by the Acting President of DNF Mr. Tek Bahadur Raika and hosted by Mr. Bom Bahadur Bishwokarma, the General Secretary of DNF. The programme was witnessed by the sister organisations of various political parties, leaders, human rights activists, journalists and other social activists.

Mr. Bimal Gadai, PM of SAMANATA project, highlighted the historical background of the Dalits in Nepal. Mr. Gadai conceptualized the documentar y and monitored the documentar y production process. Highlighting the aim of the documentar y Mr. Gadai said that the international organisations, political parties and other stakeholders should understand the real plight of the word "ACHHUT" meaning untouchable. Hold policy makers at the national and international level accountable and encourage them to implement policies eradicating caste-based discrimination from our society.

The Representative of the OHCHR-Nepal, Mr. Bennett, launched the CD of the documentar y "ACHHUT" by opening the cover of the VCD. Addressing the programme after launching the documentar y Mr. Bennett thanked DNF and CARE Nepal for the release of the documentar y and congratulated the team of the documentar y makers. He said that looking at the long hard caste discrimination we need to address the root cause of the discrimination. He added that OHCHR is intensifying its works on the human rights violation issues and to uphold the economic, social and cultural rights. He also accepted that the CA has been recognizing the human rights of each society. He said that OHCHR is looking forward to the new government to address the issues of marginalized communities and especially the issues of the Terai Dalits.

The speech was followed by the premier show of the documentar y. Other leaders from various political parties also expressed their commitments to work for the betterment of Terai Dalits.

Activity 1.9.b.5.3 On air charge (NTV and KTV)

The documentary "ACHHUT" was broadcasted through the 'Sahayatra' programme of DWO on the Nepal Television on Saturday the 6th of December 2008, at 5:30 pm and Sunday the 7th of December 2008, 12:30 pm. The specific objective of broadcasting the documentary "ACHHUT" was to draw attention of the policy makers, CAMs, HR defenders and the whole Nepali society on the status of human rights of Terai Dalit, publicize and nationalize the documentary "ACHHUT".

Activity 1.9.b.6 *Documentary Cousin from Kathmandu – produced by SAMANATA/ CARE Netherlands*

The documentary is one of the most effective visual means to sensitize people. Thus, SAMANATA produced two documentaries of Terai Dalit issues. CARE Nederland prepared one of the two documentaries. It visualises how a Brahmin girl from Kathmandu feels when she lives with Terai Dalits. To make this documentary, Ms. Anupa from a Brahmin family was placed in a Terai Dalit house for one week to pass a life of Terai Dalit without any changes in the given living condition. She continued for three days. In the 4th day of her stay, she was caught by fever and acute diarrhoea. It clearly shows how difficult it is to live like Terai Dalit. The documentary is also translated in the Dutch language.

Activity 1.9.c Street Drama

To raise awareness in the society and sensitize stakeholders, SAMANATA organised 30 street dramas which mobilized local DNGOs in each project district. The street dramas were made on the issues of gender based violence, child marriage, the dowry system, alcoholism, wage exploitation, land issues, education, social inclusion, CA election and caste-based discrimination in the society.

Street Drama was performed from 7th to 15th of May 2009 in 20 VDCs of Kapilvastu and from 20th to 23rd of May 2009 in 8 VDCs of Nawalparasi. The objective of the program was to sensitize the community through cultural activity and to develop the structure for the cultural campaigning. The characters in the drama were CA and SMs. More than 10,000 people (of which a majority were women and children) observed the dramas.

In the same way the street drama also performed in 5 VDCs of Rupandehi on 26th to 27th of June 2009. Around 1500 people observed the drama.

Activity 1.9.c.1+2 *Cultural group formation and promotion at district level through child clubs and cultural show competitions*

Building capacities and skills of Terai Dalit children and to raise awareness in the Dalit communities, a cultural programme was held at Bal Mandir in Kapilvastu on the 24th of December 2008. 64 children (of which 20 were girls) participated in the programme. The participants came from the child clubs which were established in the 14 VDCs of Kapilvastu District. Five children from each VDC were selected on the basis of their talent and performance. Besides this dance, song, art and quiz competitions were also held.

Activity 1.9.d Documentary production in three languages (English, Nepali, Bhojpuri), Title: People's power

SAMANATA has produced a documentary about the impact of the project. The title of the documentary is "People's Power". DARPAN Films Pvt. Ltd. Kathmandu was involved for documentary production. The production of the documentary is supported through literature reviews, field shootings and editing. The documentary is produced in three different languages; Bhojpuri (local language), Nepali and English. Eman Sunar, PM has designed the concept of the documentary.

Activity 1.9.e Media reporting

Media reporting aims towards activating and mobilizing the SAMANATA media network by publicizing on human rights violations of Terai Dalits and SAMANATA activities. Vision Nepal, a media organisation based in Butwal, Rupandehi has been mobilized in all three districts of the project and is active in the field. The following media activities have been undertaken:

- Media network mobilization,
- Fact finding,
- Wall newspaper journalist training,
- Interaction with VDC secretary,
- Coordination meeting;
- Journalist sensitization training;
- Journalism training to terai dalit youths;
- Research based news;
- Media related activities:
- Press release and press trip project site;
- Cultural and anthropological study of Terai Dalits caste groups in Nepal and printing of T-shirts.

Activity 1.9.f Information update of DNF website, achievement pictures, brochures

DNF is reconstructing its website on which a link has been placed that refers to the SAMANATA events. DNF restructured its website with the support of SAMANATA. Previously, the interventions carried by SAMANATA were missing from the DNF website. After the restructuring, the layout of DNF website also includes the features of SAMANATA in a special section. All the SAMANATA related information and interventions can be observed by visiting www.dfnepal.org/samanata.

Activity 1.9.g Publication of success and human interest stories

The SAMANATA published Untold Stories (500) copies and Advocating Equality (500).

- ✓ *Altogether 64 children (of which 20 girls) participated in a cultural programme held at Bal Mandir, Kapilvastu district headquarter. All the participants were from the child clubs formed in 14 VDCs of the District. This programme also helped to form district level Child Club.*
- ✓ *DNF publishes a quarterly news bulletin "Mukti Ko Awaj" (Voice of Liberation), which was partly supported by SAMANATA from July 2008*

onwards. This bulletin is also widely distributed including Constituent Assembly members and national level Dalit organisations, thus has contributed in advocating the issues/agenda of Dalits to be addressed by the New Constitution.

- ✓ SAMANATA produced a documentary about the impact of the project titled "People's Power". This documentary presents how project can bring about change in the life of excluded, deprived and marginalised community like Terai Dalits.
- ✓ The project published a SAMANATA Bulletin and widely distributed to the CAs, SMs, VDCs and district level government authorities, NGOs, HROs and political parties. The Bulletin published on a regular basis since March 2008 contributed to sensitize stakeholders, raise awareness in the community and helped stakeholders of the project understand about the essence of such project.
- ✓ Documentary is the best way to make people understand about the real situation and issue of a particular community. "ACHHUT" a documentary produced by SAMANAT will also sensitize the international organisations/community, political parties and other stakeholders about the real plight of the "ACHHUT" (meaning untouchable) community Dalits.
- ✓ FM radios are the easiest measure of mass communication in Nepal. Thus, the programmes produced and transmitted through four FM radios of project area has immensely contributed to the effectiveness of the project's activities; sensitised to non-Dalit and other stakeholders on the issue so of Terai Dalits and draw the attention of government authorities for the Dalit cause.
- ✓ Altogether, 120 features news on the issues of Terai Dalit have been published in local, district and national media. This has not only sensitised to the non-Dalits and stakeholders, but also made local elites aware of the issues of raised by Terai Dalits. Furthermore, this has sensitised to the journalists because it was neglected issue by them too.
- ✓ About 10,000 people of 25 VDCs observed street dramas performed on the issue of gender based violence, child marriage, the dowry system, alcoholism, wage exploitation, land issues, education, social inclusion, CA election and caste-based discrimination in the society

Indicator: street dramas in 25 VDCs, 120 features news, FM radio programmes through four stations, two documentaries – ACHHUT and People's Power, SAMANATA Bulletin, Mukto Ko Aawaj (Voice of Liberation) and cultural programmes carried out by the project reached a number of people and households with the issues of Terai Dalits.

Expected Result 2: Increased capacity of DNF, its local networks and other pro-Dalit institutions to promote and advocate for the rights, issues and concerns of Terai Dalits

This project conducted orientation on SAMANATA project to local NGOs, all project staff, board and staff members of DNF central, region and district chapter, completed capacity assessment of DNF and developed follow-up action plan, organised trainings on advocacy, RBA, network and alliance management and capacity building training for DNF district chapter and MOs, conducted training on Dalit rights, social inclusion and advocacy to VDC level pressure groups and completed number of issue based interactions.

Activity 2.1 Conduct project orientation, implementation and monitoring workshops to SAMANATA staff, DNF local chapters and local DNGOs

Activity 2.1.a Project orientation to DNGOs and DNF district chapter

The project orientation of 47 local DNGOs at three programme Districts was completed on the 5th, 7th and 9th of June 2007 in Kapilvastu, Nawalparasi and Rupandehi respectively. A total of 120 participants from 47 NGOs participated in those workshops.

During the workshops, a detailed discussion was held on the SAMANATA project and possible coordination and cooperation for future action was explored. Most of the NGOs raised concerns over the name of the project as 'Terai Dalit' instead of 'Madhesi Dalit' and involvement of NGOs established by Hill Dalits in SAMANATA.⁴ After having provided detailed information about the project and its justification, participants remained calm and were later convinced of the project. During the workshop, discussions focussed on the SAMANATA project, human rights and social inclusion of Terai Dalits.

Activity 2.1.a.1 Follow up orientation to local DNGOs and DNF District Chapters

Despite the project's initiation to provide detailed insights into the project to the local DNGOs and DNF District Chapters, the project team sometimes found it difficult to mobilise them in favour of Terai Dalits. The DNF District Chapters regularly raised issues on their role in the project seeking direct intervention in the decision making role while implementing project and remuneration from the project source. There was no any possibility to manage the fund for their remuneration and it could not be found the space for their direct involvement in the decision making role for the project implementation. There were other issues raised focussing on the project name and the beneficiary by the NGOs. Therefore, a two days intensive follow-up orientation workshop was organised

⁴ Terai or Madhesi Dalits are from the southern part of Nepal; the plains. The Hill Dalits originate from the hilly areas of Nepal. There are various differences between the two groups, including differences in socio-economic status. In general, Terai Dalits are considered to be more marginalised than Hill Dalits. Due to their differences there sometimes is friction between the groups. Also, there is a feeling among some Terai Dalits that Hill Dalits do not understand the plight of the Terai Dalits and therefore Hill Dalits are unable to properly advocate on behalf of them.

with the participation of all the DNF District Chapter members and representatives from local DNGOs.

The workshop was organised in Hotel Taj of Butwal on the 16th and 19th November 2007 with 34 participants from concerned districts. The workshop was facilitated by the PM of SAMANATA/CARE Nepal, the Programme Director of SAMANATA/DNF and the Vice-Chairperson of DNF Central Office Kathmandu.

Activity 2.1.b DIP orientation (July '08-June '09) at project level and national level

SAMANATA organised a three days training on "Orientation for Detail Implementation Plan" to DNF District Chapters and its MOs from 5th to 7th August, 2008. Objective of the training was to strengthen DNF and DNGOs in programme implementation for qualitative results. Altogether, 39 participants from local level partner NGOs from three districts participated in the training. The training dealt with the structure of the organisation, overview of organisation management tools and techniques, governance, DIP with budget, project management techniques, M&E of process, and reporting and reporting channel.

- ✓ 47 representatives of local NGOs oriented on SAMANATA project
- ✓ 34 participants of project districts made clear about the roles of responsibilities of stakeholders of the project.
- ✓ 39 participants from local level partner NGOs of three districts oriented on the Detail Implementation Plan of the project.

Indicator: Altogether 120 representatives of local NGOs including all project staff board members of DNF district chapter, regional and central offices oriented on SAMANATA project, trained/coached on organisational development, RBA and advocacy. This has immensely contributed for the institutional development of DNF and its chapters.

Activity 2.2 Capacity building of DNF on overall governance and development of follow-up action plan (capacity assessment - initial in the first year and reviews in consecutive years to assess the progress)

Activity 2.2.a Good governance training

The project organised a three day workshop from 24th to 26th January 2008 to assess DNF's and its networks' internal governance, to make a future action plan to improve it and to make it more inclusive and transparent at all levels. To meet this objective, the following specific objectives were set:

- To facilitate DNF to assess their internal governance status using a participatory governance assessment tool.
- To identify key areas for improvement in present governing body and provide effective suggestions for restructuring its present composition to make it more inclusive.

- To develop DNF's district, regional and central office internal governance capacity.
- To facilitate DNF to prepare an action plan to strengthen the specific improvement areas identified by the assessment.
- To facilitate DNF to re-assess their governance status annually.

The workshop was organised in the Village Development Resource Centre (VDRC) in Gaidakot of Nawalparasi District. A total number of 18 participants including two representatives from the DNF Board, the Programme Director and FO of SAMANATA/DNF Central Office, two representatives from the District Chapters and two from the Regional Chapter participated in the workshop. TEs and DCs from the SAMANATA project also participated in the training.

The workshop came up with the following:

- DNF is committed to be more transparent, accountable and responsible towards its members.
- Training enhanced DNF's capacity in networking and coordination skills to work with different like-minded individuals to widen and deepen their constituency.
- DNF is committed to be a more inclusive organisation in terms of inclusion of women and Dalit sub-caste in the governing board and its staff structure.

Activity 2.2.b Refresher training to SAMANATA Team and orientation to the local DNGOs and Media Groups on Conceptual Clarity on RBA and Advocacy

A two days refresher training to the SAMANATA team and local DNGOs was held in Butwal from April 22nd to 23rd, 2008. A total of 31 participants participated in the training from local DNGOs, DNF District Chapter including the PT. The main objective of the training was to give an overview of the implemented SAMANATA programme. The training was facilitated by TEs and the PMs from CARE and DNF. All participants had shown concerns about SAMANATA and raised many questions based on their one year experience with SAMANATA. This training gave them an opportunity to make them familiar with SAMANATA to the new staff and made further clarity to the old one.

The training covered an overview of the SAMANATA: status, achievements, problems, learning, human rights and social inclusion, detail activities orientation based on the four expected results, an overview of the staff mobilization: role and responsibility, SAMANATA working structure and monitoring system and documentation and Action Planning.

Activity 2.2.c Financial management training to the SAMANATA/local DNGOs staff and media groups

SAMANATA organised a two days training on finance management dated April 24th-25th, 2008 in Hotel New Era, Butwal. A total of 19 participants participated in this training including board members from local DNGOs and Media. The main objective of this training was to develop a better understanding of SAMANATA staff and its partner at local level about better finance management for the consistency in report and sustainability of the programme. Mr. Bharat Prasad Chaudhary, Assistant Finance Officer

(AFO), CARE/ SAMANATA, Mr. Tilak Shripali, Finance Officer, DNF Central Office and Ms Sabita Bista from CARE Nepal facilitated the two days training.

Activity 2.2.d Staff competency workshop

SAMANATA's staffs (20 full-time employees from CARE and DNF) facilitate community, district and national level programme intervention. To assess staff capacity and to identify the gaps, SAMANATA organised a two days intensive workshop on capacity assessment and improvements on 3rd-4th May 2008 in Butwal. However, only 15 staff members were present.

Due to this workshop, the staff fully realized their potentials and areas for improvements. Based on analysis, the staff members were suggested to make their individual action plan for capacity building so that more synergy could be developed in the project and in their personal career.

Activity 2.2.e Development of capacity enhancement plan based on capacity assessment of DNF

A capacity assessment of DNF Central was held at the Greenwich Village Hotel in Kathmandu from 9th to 11th January 2009. On the first day, the Partnership Manager, AFO and the PM reviewed all statutory documents, financial documents and policies and strategies of DNF Central in the participation of 25 staff and board members.

On the second day, the Partnership Manager facilitated a self assessment of DNF, in which DNF Central staff and board members reviewed the federation's capacity on planning, M&E; coordination, networking and implementation; organisational structure and management; resource mobilization; and good governance. Each of these topics was divided into sub-topics which were individually rated on a scale of 1-4 (1 being the lowest score and 4 being the highest score)

On the third day, the Partnership Manager presented his findings to DNF and final adjustments were made. The outcomes provided an input for developing an Action Plan. *(The findings of the capacity assessment of DNF and the Action Plan have been submitted earlier)*

Activity 2.2.f Coaching on time management, planning, documentation and reporting of activities

In November 2008, a CBA arrived from The Netherlands to provide support to the SAMANATA project. The CBA is responsible for providing support and guidance to partners and staff, thereby increasing the staff's ability to analyze data and assess the project progress. After a field visit to the DNF District Chapters and DNGOs in all three districts (24th-26th November 2008) it became clear the project staff are not planning the activities in advance and are also not documenting meetings and activities in proper manner. This has hampered the execution of planned activities and timely reporting. For this purpose, the CBA highlighted the importance of taking meeting minutes and proper documentation of activities during several meetings. A format for documenting for collecting data on project progress for reporting purposes as well as project monitoring has been developed and distributed in cooperation with the Communications and Documentations Officer (CDO) and staff from DNF Central Office. Additionally, the

CBA has been responsible for donor reporting and coaching of the District Coordinators and CDO on this topic. The main focus of the coaching was on the types of information which are necessary to include in a report and how to build a report. Also CDO has been trained in using Project Information Management System (PIMS) software to monitor the progress of the project. Altogether 29 participants attended the workshop.

Furthermore, to ensure a proper planning of activities staff was coached on making monthly work plans. Other coaching activities included preparation of activities, documentation, taking meeting minutes and reporting.

The CBA has also assisted in the preparation and facilitation of M&E training for partner staff of the local partner NGOs, District Chapters, as well as the project office; a workshop on analysis of plans, policies and budget for SAMANATA and a proposal and grant writing training. She further provided necessary thematic information on topics such as human rights and social inclusion, fundraising, organization development, etc. to staff of the local partner NGOs, District Chapters and the project office.

- ✓ *A total of 18 representatives of DNF central office, DNF district chapters, local partner NGOs and SAMANATA staff received Good Governance Training.*
- ✓ *A total of 31 representatives of local DNGOs, DNF District Chapter including the PT received two days long refresher training that made them clear about the project activities and issues, their role and responsibilities for implementation enhancing their confidence.*
- ✓ *A total of 19 representatives including board members from local NGOs and Media received three days long finance management training.*
- ✓ *15 staff of SAMANATA from both CARE and DNF attended two days intensive workshop on capacity assessment.*
- ✓ *25 DNF staff and board and CARE Nepal representative assessed the capacity of DNF Central Office by organising a workshop that helped DNF identify its strengths, areas of improvement and develop action plan for improvement.*
- ✓ *Altogether 29 staff and board members of DNF, local partners organisation and SAMANATA staff received coaching on time management, planning, documentation and reporting.*

Activity 2.3 Training on RBA, advocacy, network and alliance building for DNF local chapters and DNGOs

Activity 2.3.a Training on RBA, advocacy, networking and alliance building for DNF District Chapters

As it is mentioned in the project document and considering the local situation, the project carried out a three days training to its District Chapters with the objective to widening their understanding in human rights, knowledge about development shifts in RBA to development, knowledge and skills in public advocacy. Likewise, the training also oriented on relevant national and international human rights treaties and laws, acts, policies and procedures, tools and techniques to identify and prioritise advocacy issues, analyze relevant policies, mobilize constituency, formulate advocacy strategies and implement an effective plan.

The training was facilitated by the ICBO and PAO of SAMANATA Project and was held from 16th to 26th December 2007 in all its programme districts. Altogether, 80 participants from the DNF District Chapters, DCs and FOs participated in the training. The project had ensured 50% women participation in the training.

In 2008, as per DIP, another similar training was conducted with the objective of providing technical know-how about the RBA to development, networking and alliance building to the DNF District Chapter members and its MOs. The training was conducted from March 18th to 21st, 2008. Basically, the training focussed on human rights, sift in development approach, RBA to development and knowledge and skills in public advocacy among the board members. The training also oriented on relevant laws, acts, policies and procedures of the Nepal Government, tools and techniques to identify and prioritize advocacy issues. A total of 25 participants participated in the workshop of which 10 were female and 15 were male. The venue of the workshop was Hotel New Era, Butwal and was facilitated by Mr. Rudra Parajuli.

- ✓ *Altogether, 80 participants from the DNF District Chapters, DCs and FOs received two days training on RBA, advocacy, networking and alliance building training that helped link Terai Dalit issues identified by the ALC with national level advocacy initiatives.*
- ✓ *A total of 25 (10 female and 15 male) DNF District Chapter members and representatives of its MOs received two days training that helped project launch advocacy activities effectively in the community.*

Activity 2.4 Conduct capacity building training and/or coaching focusing on organisational development, leadership, advocacy, governance and social inclusion for 21 DNGOs

Activity 2.4.a Appreciative Inquiry & Conflict Management Training

The appreciative inquiry and conflict management training was organised by DNF/SAMANATA considering the fragile political scenario in Nepal, political conflict, violence and inter and intra Dalit conflicts. Criticizing and opposing each other is rampant among DNGOs and there was a huge mistrust from the non-Dalit communities and the non-Dalit NGOs towards the Dalit community and the DNGOs.

The main objective of the training was to develop trust, conflict management within the organisation and negotiation skills with conflicting parties. To meet this objective, the training was organised from 8th to 9th June 2008 in Kapilvastu; 20th and 21st June in Nawalparasi and 22nd to 23rd June in Rupandehi respectively.

In the two days trainings, discussion was primarily focused on identifying conflict areas in the family, society and the institutions, negotiation skills to manage it, and skills to deal with conflicting organisations. Positive thinking leads to positive change, which is the idea behind appreciative thought. The concept of 4D-Dream, Discovery Design & Delivery was given on the second day.

The training was facilitated by Mr. Gudnidhi Bhushl, Ghan Shyam Koirala and Bal Bd. Acharya. A total of 65 participants from three different districts participated in the workshop from local DNGOs, CBOs, Political Parties and DNF District Chapters.

Activity 2.4.b Organisational Management Training

SAMANATA organised a three days training on "Organisational Management" to DNF District Chapters and its MOs from 18th to 20th June 2008. Objective of the training was to strengthen DNF and DNGOs in organisational management for sustainability of the programme.

Despite tremendous potentials that the DNGOs have, they are lagging far behind to run the organisation and the programme at community level for wider social transformation as it is compared to non-Dalit NGOs. NGOs and development history clearly shows that the DNGOs and the people from this community are given very less chance to operate the organisation and the programme. All the development benefits including state's facilities go in the hands of non-Dalits mainly because of power relation. Dalits do not have access to power and the resources.

With this background, SAMANATA urgently felt a need to provide training on organisational management so that they would be able to run the organisation and to run the development programme at community level. Altogether, 25 participants from 22 Dalit organisations from three districts participated in the training.

Activity 2.4.c Leadership and Gender Equity Training to DNGOs

Training on leadership development and gender equity was held on March 4th and 5th, 2008 in Taz Hotel, Butwal. Altogether 23 people including the DNF Chapters participated from three programme districts on the two days training out of which 11 participants were female. A lack of the strong leadership and gender sensitization in the organisation prevented the Dalit movement to raise the issues strongly to the government even in the Constitution Assembly. The training highlighted the change on gender roles and leadership development of women in their respective organisation. The training was facilitated by Mr. Eman Bahadur Sunar, PAO of the DNF/SAMANATA Project.

Activity 2.4.d Organization of Proposal Writing Training

To strengthen institutional capacity of Dalit and pro-dalit institutions/organizations, DNF Central Office with the support of SAMANATA project office organized a 5-day proposal writing training at Nagarkot, Kathmandu from 9th-13th of October 2009. The delay in the execution of the program has been cause by illness of all project office staff during the time the activity was supposed to be organized. Altogether, 23 participants from partner organizations of SAMANATA benefited from the training. The organizations involved in the training from three districts were; Ramgram Dalit Sewa Samittee and Legal Awareness and Research Centre (LAARC) from Nawalparasi, TDCC and DSDC from Rupandehi and DCDC and DSDC from Kapilvastu. The aim of the training was to equip the participants for enhancing their proposal writing skills. Mr. Puspa Raj Poudel, development professional, was the main Resource Person of the training. Mr. Suman Poudel (Bishwokarma), Programme Coordinator of DNF, facilitated the whole training with adequate exercises to make the training more practical oriented and interesting as per need of the participants.

The content of the proposal writing were; General background of the proposal writing, Problem Tree Analysis, setting SMART Objective, other important parts of the proposal

such background/Introduction, rationale, methodology, Activities, sustainability, Evaluation, Log frame and budget among others.

At the end of the training, participants evaluated the training to be very successful and useful for their relevant action. Participants had confidently expressed that they can implement their learning's of the training into practical at the time of developing proposal, particularly for exploring local resources from different concerned governmental and non-governmental institutions. The project team had also felt the training to be instrumental for the participants as per their expectation.

Activity 2.4.e UCP training to the staff, CAs and SMs

SAMANATA organised four days long training on "PRA tools and skill transfer to SAMANATA staff and refresher for the underlying causes of poverty" to CAs, SMs, local DNGOs and DNF District Chapters chair person from 26th to 29th of August, 2008.

The main objectives of the training were to strengthen the capacity of the CAs, SMs, DNF and DNGOs in UCP analysis and PRA tools as well as facilitation skills for qualitative results of the programme. Altogether, 39 participants from local level partner NGOs from three districts participated in the training. The entire training facilitation and the field work were done by CARE Bangladesh, Bipul Development and PAO of SAMANATA.

In Nawalparasi and Rupandehi a UCP analysis had already been conducted, but the UCP analysis was still remaining in Kapilvastu. Aiming to find out cause of poverty and to build up skills of CAs, the program was successfully carried out at Gotihawa of Kapilvastu from 11th to 14th February, 2009. The number of participants was 28, including 5 females. The participants of the program were the CAs and SMs of the district. On the first day, a power mapping analysis of Gotihawa VDC was carried out in the presence of the VDC secretary, representatives of political parties, GLAs and NGOs. Then, the participants were divided into two groups and visited the Didlaha and Shivapuram wards of Gotihawa, to find out the causes of poverty, applying the different methods. The UCP training covered PRA tools for the social development, social map, social classification, seasonal calendar, men and women mobility and power analysis. A similar program was carried out at Shivangar VDC in Kapilvastu on 18th April, 2009. Altogether 33 participants attended in the training.

Activity 2.4.f Organisation development training (policy guidelines review and development)

A five-day-long Organisational Development Training to the leaders of local Dalit NGOs was organised from 6th to 10th March 2008 in Hotel Taj, Butwal. The training focused primarily on strengthening Dalit NGOs to manage the organisation and make them feel accountable towards the Dalit community they represent. The training included leadership, advocacy, networking, gender equity, social inclusion and conflict sensitivity.

Local Dalit NGOs are representative organisation of the Terai Dalit community. They are involved in facilitating Dalit movements in their area from the very beginning. They have a good understanding about vulnerabilities of the Dalit community. However, due to

ineffective coordination and linkages with likeminded networks and pro-Dalit institutions, the movement has not got its shape. This could affect the process of bringing out the voices of Terai Dalits.

Therefore, SAMANATA organised this training to reiterate the present status of human rights and social inclusion of Terai Dalits and stimulate consistent advocacy. Nirak Sunar, ICBO and Eman Sunar, PAO were assigned as resource persons to facilitate the entire training. Altogether, 34 participants (11 female) participated in the training from 25 organisations.

Activity 2.4.g Capacity Assessment of DNF District Chapters and Dalit NGOs

Local Dalit NGOs in SAMANATA Programme Districts and DNF District Chapters are active in the districts to work on the causes of Dalits' vulnerabilities. However, due to ineffective coordination and linkages with like-minded networks and pro-Dalit institutions, these organisations have not been able to advocate with a united voice. Similarly, they are also lacking effective organisational management in terms of capacity building of staff and its members, particularly in the field of leadership skills, understanding human rights and RBA to development, internal conflict management and in some cases accountability towards the Dalit community. Likewise, they are also lacking in the knowledge of social inclusion and its practice in their own organisations/institutions. Therefore, SAMANATA assessed their present structure, understanding human rights and social inclusion, leadership skills, governance, internal conflict, finance management and governance as well.

This workshop was held from 5th to 7th December, 2007 in the respective districts. The ICBO of SAMANATA facilitated these workshops. Altogether 43 participants representing 15 organisations (Nawalparasi -7, Rupandehi-3, and Kapilvastu-5), of which 18 participants were female, participated in the workshop.

The CBA facilitated the start of follow-up capacity assessments of Dalit NGOs conducted in year three.

So far three DNGOs have been assessed. The aim of this activity is to analyse the status of the organisations and help them develop Action Plans. The DNGOs were made aware about the importance of capacity assessments and the organisation's strength and weaknesses. During the assessment, gender inclusion, good governance practices, office infrastructure and financial transparency were also considered. The capacity assessments were led by Ranjit Kanaujiya, ICBO with assistance from Fani Chaudhary, Partnership Manager of BCO; Eman Sunar, PM SAMANATA, Wieteke Daniëls, CBA SAMANATA; and Upendra B.K., PAO of SAMANATA. From the DNGOs the following people were involved: executive board members, general board members, program staffs, beneficiaries and other local organisation representatives.

✓ *A total of 65 representatives of local DNGOs, CBOs, Political Parties and DNF District Chapters of project districts received two days long appreciative inquiry and conflict management training.*

- ✓ *Altogether, 25 representatives of 22 DNF District Chapters and its MOs received organisational management training that enhanced confidence of local Dalit NGOs to manage their organisation and implement programmes effectively.*
- ✓ *Altogether 23 (11 female) representatives of 19 local organisation (MOs of DNF) including DNF District Chapters received two days leadership and gender equity training that helped them make their organisation gender sensitive and inclusive.*
- ✓ *Altogether, 39 representatives of local level partner NGOs from three districts participated attended two days training that helped them internalise UCP analysis and PRA tools and integrate them in their programming of the organisation.*
- ✓ *Altogether, 23 participants from partner organizations of SAMANATA received proposal writing training.*
- ✓ *Altogether 33 participants received UCP training.*
- ✓ *Altogether, 34 participants (11 female) from 25 local Dalit organisations attended five days long organisational development training which has helped them to expand their mission based membership for organisational sustainability.*
- ✓ *Altogether 15 organisations' capacity assessed (Nawalparasi -7, Rupandehi-3, and Kapilvastu-5). In these workshops 43 (18 female) members of the organisation attended.*

Activity 2.5 Conduct training on Dalit rights, social inclusion and advocacy for 60 VDC level pressure groups

Activity 2.5.a ToT to CAs and SMs on RBA

To broaden up the knowledge and understanding of CAs and SMs on RBA, a Training of Trainers on RBA was organised in Raypur and Amuava VDCs of Rupandehi District on 11th December 2008. Altogether 45 participants attended in those trainings.

Similarly, the training was held in Kapilvastu District from 25th-26th December 2008 and in Nawalparasi District on 21st December 2008. Altogether 67 CAs and SMs (41 from Rupandehi and 26 from Kapilvastu) attended the training.

The training included human rights, development approaches, stakeholder analysis, RBA, power relation analysis, gender and social inclusion and behavioural meaning, significance and practice of advocacy.

Activity 2.5.b Training on RBA and advocacy to Women's groups, people's organisation and pressure groups

Activity 2.5.b.1 Training on RBA and Advocacy to the representatives of Dalit CBOs

CBOs are the foundation of social movement in SAMANATA. However, understanding of rights and its claim from the concerned stakeholders is not possible without sensitizing CBOs on RBA and advocacy. Therefore, a training on RBA and advocacy to the representatives of Dalit CBOs was organised in three districts bringing representatives

from women and pressure groups together (dated May 28th to June 4th of 2008 in Nawalparasi District, May 23rd to 30th 2008 in Kapilvastu District and May 20th to 28th in Rupandehi District).

Two representatives from all women's groups, one person from people's organisations and one person from pressure groups were invited in the training. A total of 260 participants participated in the training from all 60 VDCs. Training was facilitated by Ajaya Patal and Haidar Ali from Indreni Forum for Social Development, Nawalparasi.

Activity 2.5.b.2 Training on RBA and Advocacy to women's groups and people's organisation

With the objective of further enhancing women groups and people organisations on RBA to development, a-four-days training was held in five VDCs (Bahadurjung, Shivanagar, Vagawanpur, Khuriya and Ganeshpur) of Kapilvastu District from 3rd to 6th December 2008. All together 67 participants representing women's groups and people's organisations participated in the training. Out of them 60% were women. The facilitators of the training were SMs, Satish Harijan and Chinta Pariyar.

Similarly in Rupandehi, the training was held in Madhubaniya VDC on the 14th December 2008 in which 46 trainees were participated; Jeginga 15th of December 2008 with 50 trainees, Bhagawanpur 25th December 2008 with 72 trainees; and Pathkhauri 27th of December 2008 with 60 trainees. Out of them 47% were women in all VDCs.

Likewise in Nawalparasi, the training was held from 20th - 21st December 2008. In the training, 140 trainees from the women's groups and people's organisations of working VDCs participated.

All the trainings included: difference between human rights and rights, definition of human rights and scope, development and its concept, needs-based approach and welfare approach and advocacy tools.

Activity 2.5.b.3 Training on RBA and Advocacy to Pressure Groups

This training was organised at Raypur VDC in which 14 women participated. The training aimed to enhance people's organisations on RBA, advocacy, human rights. In the training group works, presentations and reflections methodologies were used.

Training on RBA and Advocacy was organized at Palm Hotel in Kapilvastu district on 19th and 20th April 2009. The total number of trainees was 56, including 25 females. The participants were from 14 VDCs and one municipality. The facilitators of the training were Ramsharan Raidas, Indra Harijan, Bishram Kori and Santosh Harijan.

In the same way, the training was held on 18th April, 2009 at Sipawa VDC in Rupandehi. The total participants in the trainings were 67, including 9 females. The participants were the presidents of the VDC Pressure Groups.

The training included human rights, development approaches, stakeholder analysis, RBA, power relation analysis, gender and social inclusion and behavioural meaning, significance and practice of advocacy.

Activity 2.5.c Child rights training to child clubs

With the aim of enhancing the capacities and skills of the children and make them aware of their rights, Training on Child Rights was organised in Raypur VDC of Rupandehi District on 9th December 2008. A total of 40 children from VDC level Child Clubs participated in the training.

To make Dalit children aware about their rights and to enhance their capacity in different sectors, Training on Child Rights was held by DCDC, Bahadurgunj in Kapilvastu o from 13– 14 April 2009. Altogether 16 children including 6 girl children from 5 VDCs in which DCDC is working attended in the training. Satish Kumar Harijan and Ramesh Thapa facilitated the training.

A similar training was organized at Taulihawa in Kapilvastu from 9th to 10th of April 2009. The total participants in the trainings were 34 from 14 VDCs. Out of them 13 were girl. The facilitators of the trainings were Ramsharan Raidas, Indra Harijan and Bishram Kori.

In the same way, the training was conducted in Nawalparasi district on 14th March 2009 with the participation of 31 children including 9 girls. The training was facilitated by Bechu Gaund, the reporter of Kantipur daily form Nawalparasi District.

The training included definition of Dalits, Dalit caste, importance of network and alliance, the issues of Dalits, rights and human rights, child rights, and caste based discrimination, advocacy and its steps, Convention on the Rights of Child (CRC 1989). Group work and presentation, case studies and review of learning, game and brain warm up, and lecture are the major methodologies used in the training.

- ✓ *Altogether 67 CAs and SMs (41 from Rupandehi and 26 from Kapilvastu) attended ToT on RBA.*
- ✓ *A total of 260 representatives of CBOs from all 60 working VDCs received training on RBA and advocacy.*
- ✓ *435 members of women's groups and people's organisations of project districts received RBA and advocacy training.*
- ✓ *137 members of pressure groups received RBA and advocacy training.*
- ✓ *Altogether 121 children, the members of child clubs received training on child rights.*

Activity 2.6 Issue based interaction of stakeholders (District Line Agencies; political parties; government officials; human rights activists; journalists)

Activity 2.6.a Issue based interaction with stakeholders at district level

One Day Interaction Programme

Terai Dalits are facing tremendous pressure of caste based discrimination and other forms of exploitation since a long. To rescue them from the vicious cycle of poverty caused by discrimination and exploitation, an increasing role of CBOs, political parties, government authorities and media can play a vital role. Therefore, SAMANATA facilitated this

process to bring various Dalits and non-Dalit stakeholders together to discuss in and around the Dalit issues and to make a combined effort to address them.

In this connection, SAMANATA organised a one-day interaction programme with the stakeholders in all programme districts. This activity was carried out on December 18th, 21st and 26th in Kapilvastu, Rupandehi and Nawalparasi Districts. Altogether 132 (50 Kapilvastu, 50 Nawalparasi and 32 Rupandehi), out of which 42 were female, had participated in the workshop from all three programme districts.

The interaction issue was identified from the advocacy literacy centres. The centres brought out many issues. Community people with the facilitation of CAs have clustered the issues, prioritized and made action plans for its solution at different levels. At the same time, some of the issues were brought to the district level for wider consultation to get attention of district level government authorities, political parties, human rights organisations and media. Representatives of major political parties such as Nepali Congress, Nepal Communist Party/UML, Nepal Communist Party Maoist, Nepal Sadbhawan Party, Madhesi People's Rights Forum (MPRF), and Janamorcha participated in the workshops. The following issues were discussed in the workshop:

- Inclusion of Terai Dalits men and women in political parties- Kapilvastu District
- Unequal wage for Terai Dalits- Rupandehi District
- Inclusion of Terai Dalits men and women in political parties-Nawalparasi District

In the workshop, after a short introduction among participants, presentation of the situation of Terai Dalits based on issues identified from the advocacy literacy centres were made. Then the participants were asked to express their view and commitment to address the causes of Dalits vulnerabilities.

Interaction with pressure groups, VDC level authorities and political party leaders to promote human rights and social inclusion and their mobilization:

An interaction programmes were organised in 20 working VDCs of Kapilvastu District as a week-long campaign from 8th to 12th December 2008. The objective of the programme was to sensitize government officials, human rights activists, political leaders, media professionals and Dalit leaders on Terai Dalit issues: to analyze the underlying causes of key issues, policy and implementation gaps and for effective implementation of policies. Altogether, 647 (of them 285 women) participants representing political parties, DAs, teachers, representatives of the government and NGOs, women and pressure groups participated in the programme. The programme was conducted by the CAs and SMs whereas it was monitored and helped by the FO of DNF SAMANATA project.

In the programme: human rights violation, access on resources of Dalit community, the house tax certificate to the Dalit community, allocation of budget to the Dalit community, and issues of the Dalit community were discussed.

In Rupandehi, the programme was held in Hotel Himalayan, Bhairahawa on 19th December 2008 and 5th January 2009. In the programme, altogether 68 representatives of political parties, Dalit Activists, Pressure Groups, Dalit NGOs, SMs and CAs participated. Pardeshi Kewat, leader of CPN-UML, was invited as the chief guest in the programme. The programme was chaired by Chhote Harijan, the chairperson of DSDC.

Aiming to develop a common understanding between Dalit and non-Dalit stakeholders and establish close linkage with non-Dalit to making them more responsible and accountable on the Dalit issues, another program was held on 25th June 2009 at the Project Office of Rupandehi. The total participants were 77 people, including 13 female. Out of the total number of participants 18 were non-Dalit. The major discussion topics were: allocation of VDC budget for Dalits, unequal and unfair wages and untouchability. The programme was facilitated by the Sunnar Harijan, Field Officer of Rupandehi District.

Along with this, the participants of the program put forth their view regarding the issues of Dalits.

Ashtha Bhuja Pathak, representative of Nepali Congress expressed his regrets for once obstructing the water way (canal) to the Dalit community. Apart from this, he committed that he will help to eliminate the discrimination that the Dalit are facing.

Similarly, Bindhayachal Tripathi, head teacher of Betkuinya Adarsh Secondary School, stated that he would give priority to Dalit students in his school on the facilities provided by the school. Kumar Pandey, a landlord, stated that he is providing a daily wage of NRs 100 to his labours. Apart from this, the representatives of the Dalit community expressed their effort to demand the VDC budget for Dalit community.

- ✓ *Altogether 132 representatives of political parties, civil society organisation, local NGOs, pressure groups, S&G group, and people's organisations (50 Kapilvastu, 50 Nawalparasi and 32 Rupandehi), out of which 42 were female, had participated in the workshop from all three programme districts.*
- ✓ *Government authorities have expressed their commitment to allocate budget for Terai Dalits in their programme.*
- ✓ *Political parties have expressed their commitment to put the Dalit agenda at their central board and include Terai Dalits in their parties.*
- ✓ *Altogether, 647 (of them 285 women) participants representing political parties, DAs, teachers, representatives of the government and NGOs, women and pressure groups participated in 20 VDC level interaction programme.*
- ✓ *Representatives of political parties committed to make VDC level organizations more inclusive with the proportional participation of Dalits.*
- ✓ *In 2008, for the first time, International Human Rights Day was celebrated at the VDC level.*
- ✓ *The concerned parties/organisations' attention drawn on the issues of the Dalit community.*

Expected Result 3: More responsive and accountable institutions towards Dalit rights, issues and concerns

The project organized participatory M&E system workshops to representatives DDCC, government line agencies, political party and their sister organisations' representatives. Organised visits of policy makers to SAMANATA project districts, analysed budget of local bodies with Dalit perspective, and organized social audit in all working VDCs, DDCs and at national level which is first intervention of this kind in the project area.

Activity 3.1 Support for strengthening the monitoring systems of 3 DDCs to collect information/data with regard to status, needs, concerns and rights of Terai Dalits, including orientation on social audit.

Activity 3.1.a Enhance the capacity at DDC level to monitor the protection of rights of the Dalits by jointly establishing a monitoring mechanism

DDCC vice-chairpersons of all project districts participated in the M&E training organized from 2nd-5th of June 2009. The same DDCC vice-chairpersons attended the training organized by SAMANATA for the analysis of budget, policy and plans of GoN, DDCs, VDCs and local bodies. Altogether 32 participants attended the workshops.

With an objective of promoting the access of Dalits to government resources (increase access of Dalits to the DDC budget as well as effective implementation), a program was organised in all three program districts. In Rupandehi district the program was organised on 22nd of September 2009. There were a total of 50 participants, including 8 females. Likewise, a similar program was held in both Kapilvastu and Nawalparasi districts on 20th September 2009. There were 70 participants including 25 female in Kapilvastu and 27 including 1 female in Nawalparasi district programmes.

Similarly, with the objective of sensitizing DDC on allocation of budget for Dalit and lobbying the DDCC for Terai Dalit rights, a program was organised at Hotel Himalayan in Rupandehi on 23rd October 2009. In the program, process of budget allocation and the total budget allocated for Dalits in the last year and monitoring mechanism for the proper implementation of allocated budget were discussed in the programme. The chief guest in the program was Durga Shrestha, Social Development Officer of DDC. The total participants in the program were 50 including 8 female.

Activity 3.2 Organise field visits of policy makers (both from national level and district level) to the Terai Dalit communities to sensitize them about the rights and concerns of Terai Dalits

Activity 3.2.a Field visit

The board members of DNF, central and Executive Director visited SAMANATA project area from 21-22 April 2008. On the visit, a meeting with the Butwal field office staff was held and monitored their work. On the following day, visit team attended a meeting with SAMANATA Rupandehi and selected a new FO for Rupandehi Branch.

Similarly, the Asia Regional Country Director of CARE Dr. Mohammad Musa from Thailand along with the Country Director (CD), Ms Alka Pathak, and ACD, Diawary Bouare, from Nepal also visited the SAMANATA project districts in May 2008. Senior Programme Coordinator from CARE Nederland, Mr. Nok van de Langenberg, also made his valuable visit to SAMANATA project district from 15th to 22nd July 2008.

These visits have added additional value to SAMANATA and its initiatives and interventions. All the staff members were encouraged through the insights of these senior experts. Due to this visit, Terai Dalits became quite optimistic to get further support to the project in their fight against injustice.

- ✓ *Altogether 32 participants attended M&E training including vice-chairperson of DDCC.*
- ✓ *Altogether 147 representatives of DDCC, local Dalit organisations and project staff participated in M&E training in three districts.*
- ✓ *The visit of Asia Regional Country Director of CARE Dr. Mohammad Musa from Thailand along with the Country Director (CD), Ms Alka Pathak, and ACD, Diawary Bouare including DNF Central Board Member and Executive Director added additional value to SAMANATA, encouraged staff and increased hope of Terai Dalits.*

Activity 3.3 Support local DNGOs and DNF chapters for analysis of policies, plans and budget of local elected bodies (3 DDC, 60 VDCs) and other district agencies in order to enhance their capacity to understand and influence these plans and policies

Activity 3.3.a Analysis of budget, policy & plans of GoN, DDCs, VDCs & local bodies

Every year DNF analyses and publishes “Dalits and Budget” by analysing fiscal year budget as a tool of budget advocacy. Thus, under SAMANATA, the budget of fiscal year 2009/10 was analysed with Dalit perspective and published. This has been a good tool of budget advocacy for Dalit civil society organisations and DNF members.

A six days long training on Analysis of Budget, Policy and Plans of GoN, DDCs and local bodies was conducted from 21st to 26th of June, 2009 at BTI Guest House in Butwal. In total there were 36 participants representing project office staff, vice-chairpersons of DDCC, chairpersons of DNF District Chapters, representatives from CA, SMs, non-Dalit solidarity groups and women’s groups. The facilitator of the program was Sandesh Sing Hamal (Policy, Advocacy and Impact Measurement Coordinator of CARE-Nepal).

The objective of the program is to make government bodies and political parties more accountable towards Terai Dalit community and to provide a common forum to Terai Dalit, policy makers and political parties in the same place to review program and budget allocated for last four years and take further action to address the gaps. The plans and policies formulated by the government seem unclear/not specific to the Dalit. The policy makers seem to put Dalit in confusion though it has been seen as Dalit friendly. The following methods were followed up in the workshop:

Interaction on “Budget and Dalits”

Policy analysis and research is one of the important activities of DNF. Every year DNF interacts with policy makers and executers for providing feedback and suggestions to include Dalit related policy and programme in fiscal year budget. In this regard, before budget session of legislative parliament, DNF organized an interaction programme entitled "Budget and Dalits" on 20th April 2009 in UWTC Tripureshwor, Kathmandu. DNF provided written suggestions to the representatives of GOs to include special policy and programmes for the fiscal year 2009/10. Representatives from I/NGOs also provided crucial feedbacks and suggestions to the representatives of GOs for securing Dalit rights. There were around 60 participants from various ministries, government agencies, civil society organization, INGOs, donor agencies, students unions, Dalit sister organizations of the political parties and journalists in the programme.

Meetings with DDCs

A meeting was held in Kapilvastu with the DDC and DNF SAMANATA in the presence of members of the District Dalit Coordination Committee (DDCC), Social Development Officer of DDC, DNF SAMANATA team and Dalit NGOs working in the district on 21st September 2008. The meeting was focused on budget plan for the year 2008/2009 of DDC Kapilvastu as well as to prepare a District Dalits' profile.

SAMANATA organised such meetings with DDC Rupandehi on 20th August 2008 and Nawalparasi on 16th September 2008.

Altogether 47 participants in all the three districts were present. The main purpose of the meeting was to develop a close relation with DDC and influence the policy and the budget of the government for Dalit communities and ensure proper monitoring of the Dalit programme in the Districts.

- ✓ *Altogether participants including project office staff, vice-chairpersons of DDCC, chairpersons of DNF district chapters, representatives from CA, SMs, non-Dalit solidarity groups and women’s groups sensitised about ambiguous plans and polices of the government for the betterment of Dalit community including Terai Dalits.*
- ✓ *As the result of advocacy initiatives, every VDC allocated budget for Terai Dalits ranging from NRs. 30,000 to NRs. 450,000. The project has been successful in also allocating budget from DDC for Terai Dalits: Rupandehi NRs. 1,100,000; Nawalparasi NRs. 900,000; and NRs. Kapilvastu 4,800,000.*

Activity 3.4 Support DNF District Chapters and DNGOs to implement a yearly social audit at VDC level, including local government, government line agencies and other existing programmes and projects in the project area

Activity 3.4.a District level orientation workshop to discuss government plans and policies with local government, government line agencies and other existing programmes and projects in the project area

Orientation Programme to the Government Authorities and political party leaders:

Government authorities are the primary duty bearers to fulfil, protect and promote the rights of its citizens. However, from the previous experience it seems that the government authorities in Nepal are not serious to perform their responsibilities as given by their respective positions. It is mainly due to knowledge gap of government and political parties in the present policies and plans of the government for Dalits. Considering the issue, SAMANATA organised an orientation programme to the government authorities and political parties on government plans and policies related with Dalits. The programme was organised from 20th to 24th December 2008 in three programme districts. A total of 101 participants from three programme districts, representing various stakeholders, participated in the workshop, out of which 10 were female. Specifically Chief District Officer (CDO), LDO, DDCC, District Agriculture Development Officer (DADO), WDO, District Forestry Officer (DFO), District Health Officer (DHO), Nepal Bar Association (NBA), INSEC, DEO, District Land Reform Officer (DLRO), Nepal Army and Police Officers, Representative from District Court, Land Revenue Officer, Representative of Banking Sectors, Political Party Leaders, Landlords, Local Money Lenders, Elites, Women Police Cell and other relevant stakeholders from NGOs participated those workshops.

In the workshop a rigorous discussion among participants was done on review of the policies, plans and budget of the line agencies, government plans and policies (formulation implementation and monitoring) and role of the line agencies for the Terai Dalit issues.

Dalit Status in all Spheres Workshop

In order to further increase awareness among district government line agencies (GLAs) on the human rights situation and inclusion issues of Terai Dalits, the programme was held in Kapilvastu, Rupandehi and Nawalparasi Districts on 8th, 16th and 21st of December 2008 respectively. Altogether 144 participants of whom 40% were women (52 in Kapilvastu, 54 in Rupandehi and 38 in Nawalparasi District) attended in the programme. In the programme, CDO, LDO, DFO, WDO, representatives of political parties, GLAs, journalists and representatives of district level pressure groups were presented. Veshraj Pandey, Bechu Goud and Aviram B.K. presented a concept paper in Kapilvastu, Nawalparasi and Rupandehi districts respectively. The concept paper was on "Dalit Status in all spheres". After the presentation of the concept paper the participants expressed their views and interact on the base of government plans and policies. The representatives of political parties, Chief District Officer (CDO) and representatives from the organisations said that the government should be sincere on the implementation part.

Activity 3.4.b Organize social audit at VDC level, including local government, government line agencies and other existing programs and projects in the project area

With the objective of knowing the impact of SAMANATA and make a refreshment of the program of SAMANATA in community, the Social Audit program was carried out in 20 working VDCs of Nawalparasi district from 6 to 8 of November 2009. In the program 45 people were participated. Out of them 23 were female.

In the program, a paper including all carried out activities of SAMANATA were presented. Along with this, a discussion was held among the participants on the raised queries of SAMANATA.

In the same way, the very program was carried out at Bhagawanpur VDC in Rupandehi in 6th of October 2009. In the program, 36 people were participated.

- ✓ *A total of 101 participants including CDO, LDO and head of other line agencies in the district attended and representatives of civil society organisations attended district level orientation programme in three districts. As a result political leaders and landlords have shown positive attitudes towards Terai Dalits, government authorities have been committed a basket fund to address the issues of Terai Dalits, and a functional relationship between government line agencies and NGOs have been established.*
- ✓ *District Line Agencies (DLAs), political party leaders have been sensitized on the policies and plans of the government and status of Terai Dalits.*
- ✓

Expected Result 4: Improved monitoring and open forum for feedback and learning about Dalit rights, issues and concerns

The project organized issue based interactions, lobby and advocacy for proportionate representation of Dalits in Constituent Assembly Election, submission of Dalit Agenda and Memorandum to CA Committees, held meetings with bi-lateral and multilateral agencies and other like-minded non-Dalit organizations, tea party on the occasion of Vijaya Dashami and Dipawali. Likewise, DNF developed plan of action, arranged visit of international delegations to SAMANATA districts, attended Durban Review Conference (DRC) 2009, held series of meetings with NDC and with CA members, analyzed budget with Dalit perspective, carried out fact findings and organized trainings to DDC and staff.

Activity 4.1 Issue based interaction with other Dalit organisations and existing initiatives to coordinate efforts at the national level

Activity 4.1.a Issue based interaction with stakeholders at national level

Role of political parties for ensuring proportionate representation of Dalit community:

DNF, in association with the European Union and CARE Nepal, organised a half day interaction programme on “Role of Political Parties for Ensuring Proportional Representation of Dalit Community” in Kathmandu on August 6th, 2007. In the interaction, Arjun Narshing KC from Nepali Congress, Dr. Minendra Rijal from Nepali Congress (Democratic) and Rhidyesh Tripathi from Sadvawana Party (Aannandidevi) were the guest speakers from the main political parties. Ram Lakhan Harijan, Acting President of DNF, chaired the programme.

During the programme, various issues of the Dalit community were raised. Ram Sing Sarki from Jumla, spoke on behalf of the Karnali zone. He told that the Karnali zone also sacrificed in different national movements including during the 19 days long people's movement April 2006; he asked the political parties and other concerned parties to visit to Karnali to understand and experience the real problem of Dalit. “Why no Dalits from Karnali are represented in NDC” he asked.

Similarly, Nirmala Badi said that there is a tendency of participating Dalit males in the quota of female Dalit. While speaking, she raised several issues including how to maintain balance in the representation of males and females, how to ensure 33% representation of Dalit women in the Constituent Assembly. In the same way how to ensure the representation of Dalit women in the election to the CA and on top of it, how to include Badi and Gandarva the most marginalized Dalit. She also added to create an environment to contest between Dalit in the upcoming CA.

The central member of the Nepali congress, Arjun Narashing KC said: “We are going to make an excellent Constitution and in the process of making the Constitution, all Nepali, whoever they may be Dalit, Janajati, from the hills to the Terai, should have an equal

opportunity to participate in the process. And all of them should feel it is their own Constitution.”

Hirdyes Tripathi advised Dalit leaders to seize the right by fighting not by begging. He also reminded nothing was addressed significantly for the issue that concern the Dalit and other marginalized groups.

Similarly, Chakra Man Bishwakarma, Bhakata Bishwakarma and other representatives including from National Federation of Disabled urge political parties to take the issues of these group as their own.

Activity 4.1.b Forum including different Dalit organizations

Meeting with Madhesi Dalit Development Federation (MDDF):

DNF Central organized a meeting with MDDF on 30th January 2009 at Ashoka Hotel. The meeting aimed to increase cooperation and coordination with the Madhesi Dalit Development Federation and find out the possibilities to join hands together for the cause of Dalits focusing on Terai Dalits. The meeting also discussed about the need to develop a common agenda of Terai, hill and Mountain Dalits and unite together for campaign to ensure the rights of Dalits in the new constitution. The meeting concluded with a decision to move DNF and MDDF jointly to submit agenda of Dalits to the CA committees.

Activity 4.1.c Identification and coordination of existing initiatives taken by other organizations

Various stakeholders were invited to a meeting as part of the development of an exit strategy for SAMANATA. All stakeholders showed a high willingness to work closely with SAMANATA and the communities, but it was clear that bilateral meetings were necessary to discuss the details. For this purpose a mapping of all existing initiatives by I/NGOs and government line agencies on issues and geographic coverage has been conducted in each district. The District Chapters then took on the responsibility of approaching these actors to make concrete agreements on how to link SAMANATA’s communities to other efforts already being taken.

Activity 4.1.d Develop Action Plan of DNF Central to adapt activities to current socio-political context

Action Plan of DNF Central to adapt activities to current socio-political context

Commitments made by Tirtha BK, ED of DNF Central

SN	Actions to be taken	By date	Progress
1	Study on position of Dalit in political parties	2010	
2	Review of political parties manifesto and distribute to related	January 2009	Completed
3	Analysis pro- Dalit policy programme and budget of GoN and orient to related stakeholders	October 2009	Analysis of fiscal year budget from Dalit Perspective

4	Analysis the pro-Dalit provision in a three year interim plan of GoN and develop a five year Dalit development action plan jointly with the National Planning Commission, the NDC and the Dalit development committee.	March 2009	Completed
5	Alliance building with different federations to work for proportional representation of Dalit	2008	Formed
6	Study on the position of Dalit in the federal structure of the country	2010	
7	District and national level campaign to sensitize Dalits, non-Dalits, political parties and CSOs on the agendas of Dalit to include them in the Constitution of Nepal.	2009	Ongoing as per DIP
8	Publish Dalit related issues/information to sensitize CAMs	2009	Ongoing as per DIF
9	Monitoring Dalit related government programme to influence the GoN for effective implementation.	November 2009	
10	Lobbying to international Human Right Organisations to create the conducive environment to include Dalit rights in the new Constitution	September 2009	
11	National level campaign in Kathmandu to influence CA to include Dalit agendas	December 2009	
12	Broadcasting of Radio and TV programmes to sensitize Dalits and the non-Dalit community	2009	Completed
13	Monitoring the violation of Dalit human rights	2009	Ongoing as per DIP
14	Lobbying visit with CA committees to influence Dalit agendas		
15	Publication of "Mukti Ko Awaj" (Voice of Freedom)	2009	As per DIP
16	Updating website DNF		
17	Issues based interaction with CA committees	November 2009	All related information related will be uploaded
18	Planning, M&E	December 2009	
19	Review of policies of DNF	2009	Completed
20	DNF orientation package preparation	December 2009	
21	Preparation of HR- Roster	December 2009	

Activity 4.2 Critical engagement with relevant non-Dalit stakeholders

Tea Party on the Occasion of Vijaya Dashami and Dipawali:

On the auspicious occasion of Vijaya Dashami and Dipawali, DNF central office organised an informal tea party by inviting wide range of stakeholders at its Central Office premises Sanepa Lalitpur on 24th of October 2008. Bom Bahadur Bishwokarna

addressed the guests invited in the tea party. More than 250 people attended the party. The United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) Chief cum special representative of the UN Secretary General, Mr. Ian Martin; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Country Director, Anne-Isabelle Degryse-Blateau; and International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Head of Delegation, Mary Wertz, granted their valuable time in the tea party.

The objective of the party was to share good wishes and strengthen good relationship with its partners, networks, alliances, I/NGOs, bi-lateral and multilateral organisations and stakeholders. It also promotes the working relationship with the donors in the future. The tea party builds good relationships between DNF and its MOs, and Dalit and non-Dalit stakeholders. Several INGOs and UN agencies like UNDP, UNICEF were showing their interest to work with DNF.

Activity 4.2.a Meeting with CAMs, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), NDC and National Planning Commission and other relevant stakeholders

Campaign against the reduction of Dalit education quota:

DNF offered its solidarity to the series of campaigns lead by the students union on the reduction of Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) quota from 15% to 9% by the Ministry of Education (MoE). The campaign started on 16th December, 2008 by blockade of MoE, followed by *Chakka Jam* till 24th December 2008. The police force charged lathi over the peaceful mass meeting and dozens of people were injured. DNF supported the injured student in the incident. DNF released the press release condemning the incident and met the CAMs, sister organisations of the political parties along with the CSOs. The Dalit members of Constituent Assembly expressed their solidarity and made commitment to create situation on the parliament not to pass the bill. As a result, the then government took the provision back to 15%.

International Delegation Visited to SAMANATA District

An international team called "Alternative Breakthrough Team" consisting of international delegates from International Commission for Dalit Rights (ICDR) and the American University visited Nepal. They came to Nepal to study the situation of Dalits in Nepal and internationalise the issues of Dalits seeking solidarity and support.

The team visited particular districts of western region namely the Palpa District (Hill region) and the Rupandehi district (Terai region). They visited SAMANATA working VDC Mania of Rupandehi District to understand the issues and situation of Terai Dalits. Delegation members had heard stories from the villagers on the daily hardship they have been facing, so they also observed SAMANATA interventions to overcome the situation.

The delegation team had met Honourable Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal and submitted a memorandum on Dalit Rights. The ICDR/American University delegation expressed their solidarity and commitment to continue their work on Dalit issues of Nepal.

The delegation assured DNF and Dalit civil society of Nepal that they will play a significant role in internationalising the issues of Dalits and creating local, national and

international pressures to the government of Nepal to end caste based discontinuation and untouchability. DNF facilitated the team to organize their events and programmes.

Meeting with Constituent Assembly Members

The country is in the process of constitution making and nation building for a new Nepal. In March 2009, the CA members of different thematic committees had visited various districts to collect public opinions and feedbacks from the people. DNF submitted the agenda of Dalits to the CA members for the new constitution of Nepal by mobilizing its networks in more than 50 districts of Nepal out of 75.

Similarly, DNF organized an interaction programme with CA members of different Thematic Committees and submitted the issues of Dalit community on 22nd of March 2009 in the presence of the members of Dalit civil society organizations. Hon'able CA member Narayan Man Bijucjee received the memorandum. The CA members expressed their commitment for ensuring Dalit rights in the New Constitution.

Submission of memorandum to the Hon'able Finance Minister

DNF, along with other 12 federations, jointly submitted a memorandum to the Finance Minister Surendra Pande on 28th June 2009. The memorandum was about providing written suggestions of marginalized and excluded people, including Dalits, for the fiscal year 2066/2067 (2009/2010). The finance minister assured to incorporate the suggestions given by civil society federation for protecting and promoting the rights of marginalized and excluded people of Nepal.

The Federation were Dalit NGO Federation, NGO Federation Nepal, Nepal Adivasi Janjati Mahasangh, Community Radio Broadcasting Association, Federation of Water and Sanitation Users, Users Interest Protection Forum, National Human Rights Alliance, FECOFUN, Federation of Community Electricity Users of Nepal, Federation of National Irrigation and Water Users of Nepal, Campaign for We Do, and National Youth Alliance.

Activity 4.2.b Meeting with bilateral and multilateral agencies

To sensitise bilateral and multilateral agencies on issues of Terai Dalit, a meeting was held on 12th of September, 2007 at SAP Falcha in Kathmandu. Before organising this event DNF consulted with the Dalit Support Group, an informal network of Dalit activists of which DNF is a member. DNF also held a preparation meeting with SNV. In the meeting, representatives from DanidaHUGOU, SNV, Embassy of Finland, CARE-Nepal, Embassy of Australia, GTZ, LWF, UNMIN, ActionAid, and European Commission were present. In the meeting Madhesi Dalit Development Forum (MDDF) also invited. In the meeting SAMANATA presented a paper on the status of Terai Dalits and the role of stakeholders. Additionally, the Madhesi Dalit Network (MDN) presented another paper on the same issue. The agencies present in the meeting made their commitment to internalize and include the Terai Dalit issues in their strategies and programmes.

Activity 4.3 Support DNF and Dalit Commission to develop a participatory M&E system in order to monitor the implementation of government policies and programmes (analysis of government policies, plans and budget) and provide feedback to the government on annual basis

Activity 4.3.a Support DNF and Dalit Commission to develop a participatory M&E system

Activity 4.3.a.1 Interaction with National Dalit Commission I

DNF organised a talk programme on "Experiences sharing on Dalit issues based on working experience of SAMANATA" on December 20th 2007 with the NDC and DNF at Hotel Orchid, Kathmandu. The objectives of the interaction programme were to share the experiences on Dalit issues, policies and programmes, activities carried out and explore future possibilities for joint collaboration between DNF and NDC. Out of 17 members from NDC, fifteen members attended the programme. The programme was chaired by Tek Bahadur Raika, Acting President of DNF. The session was facilitated by Bom Bahadur Bishwokarma, General Secretary of DNF. Ram Lal Bishwokarma, President of NDC was invited as the chief guest of the programme and other commissioners of NDC were as guest in the programme.

The Programme Director of SAMANATA/DNF reiterated that DNF is now advocating on 14 common Dalit agendas from its own to be ensured by the state in the current changing context of the country. Likewise, the Chairperson of NDC requested DNF to create pressures to the government and other stakeholders of the state to make NDC autonomy. He also let DNF to know that the bill of the NDC has now reached in the Ministry of Justice of the GoN after various pressures created by newly formed NDC members. "Strong pressures from the Dalit civil society need to create for greater level pressure to the government to pass the bill of NDC" said the president of NDC.

After briefing on the programme and policies from both sides, the floor was opened for discussion. Major issues discussed in the programme were about unification of the Dalit Movement, DNF's role to support NDC for creating pressures to pass the bill of NDC, NDC role to monitor policies and programmes of GoN respectively. In the meeting, it was expressed that DNF, as an umbrella organisation of around 300 DNGOs of Nepal, can mobilize Dalit critical mass from grassroots to national level to ensure Dalit rights at the changing political context of the country. The participants of both sides have seriously raised the issues of Dalit women, Madhesi Dalits and other marginalized groups within Dalits. Especially Dalit women and Madhesi Dalit representatives expressed that without true representation of Dalit women within the Dalit organisations and sister organisations it is difficult to bring the issues of Dalit women out.

One of the most important achievements of this meeting was the consensus developed between NDC and DNF to form a committee representing both organisations to work on Dalit agenda in the days ahead.

Activity 4.3.a.2 Interaction with National Dalit Commission (Second)

DNF organised another interaction programme with NDC on 18th of March 2008. The purpose of the meeting was to bring clarity on the role of NDC and Civil Society

Organisation and reiterate the role of NDC to ensure the Dalit human rights. All together there were 55 participants attended in the programme.

Chief guest Ram Lal Bishwokarma, the President of NDC, focused on inhuman condition faced by Dalit people across the country. NDC is developing a strategy to provide the service to Dalit victims. Hom Khati, member of NDC, highlighted that there are more cases of human rights violations concerning Terai Dalits than other Dalits. Participants also discussed on the working modality of DNF and NDC on the issue and their role to protect the rights of Dalits.

Before organising this interaction programme, DNF held a preparation meeting with NDC on 27th of December 2008. President of the NDC Ram Lal Bishwokarma, DNF Acting President Tek Bahadur Raika, Bom Bahadur Bishwokarma the General Secretary of DNF, Ganesh Bishwokarma, Central Member and ED Tirtha Bishwokarma attended the meeting. The meeting discussed on how to implement policies related to Dalit and make NDC powerful. The NDC and DNF will find out the policies related to Dalits advocate for the implementation through RBA.

DNF organised a meeting with the NDC on 18th of September 2008. The objective of the meeting was to discuss on the increasing caste based discrimination, to assess the present political development with Dalit perspective, to discuss the common agenda of Dalits and its strategy and to make NDC constitutional. 17 people participated in the meeting including the DNF policy members, DNF staffs and the NDC chairperson and members.

Ram Lal Bishwokarma, the President of the NDC, said that the agenda is related to the national issues. Consultative meetings of national political issues and the current socio-political status of Dalits are to be discussed. He said that the Dalit perspective is not strongly raised. Therefore it is necessary to join forces for the common Dalit cause. In Nepal, the authorities need to be pressured; otherwise the issues are not heard. It is the responsibility of CSOs and political party sister organisations to create pressure on political parties and government.

DNF organised a meeting on 13th August 2008 with the NDC to discuss the case of MBBS scholarship provided by the Education Ministry, and how to work in the case of Terai Dalits in collaboration. The meeting was attended by the General Secretary of DNF and the ED. Mr. Om Prakash Patel son of Nandalal Das Patel of Palhi VDC-5, Nawalparasi district is a non-Dalit. He has applied in the MBBS scholarship programme provided by the MoE under the Dalit quota and passed the Entrance Exam 2065 Baishakh under merit list of Dalit quota. Mr. Patel issued the Dalit certificate from NDC by producing a fake certificate from Harijan Sewa Samiti in the region. To investigate the community of Mr. Patel and to make the genuine Dalit student to get the scholarship DNF set a meeting with NDC.

Om Prakash Patel filed a case in the Supreme Court against the Education Ministry and NDC for cutting his name from the MBBS qualified candidate list and urged for his rights to get information. Advocate Arjun Bagale also pleaded the case against Om Prakash Patel at Supreme Court from NDC along with the lawyer of Professional Development and Research Centre (PDRC) and others.

Though there were evidences of his community as non-Dalit community, the Supreme Court decided in favour of Patel on behalf of violation of his rights to get information. He succeeded to get the scholarship for the MBBS study from Dalit quota being a non-Dalit. A genuine Dalit candidate has been deprived of his right and reserved quota for the MBBS study.

Activity 4.4 Conduct training for DNF local chapters, DNGOs and Dalit Leaders for participatory M&E

Activity 4.4.a Conducting participatory M&E training for DNF local chapters, DNGOs and DAs

Participatory M&E Training:

A two days 'Participatory M&E Training' was organised for DNF local chapters, DNGOs and DAs in each project district. To promote participation of Dalits in district level M&E processes, and develop a participatory M&E system of DNF and DDC in order to monitor the implementation of government policies and programmes on behalf of Terai Dalits, trainings were organised in Nawalparasi and Kapilvastu Districts on from 12th - 15th and 24th - 25th of December 2008. Altogether 50 participants (31 in Nawalparasi and 19 in Kapilvastu out of which 50% were female) form DNF local chapters and DNGOs attended in the training. The training was facilitated by Balam Neupane in Nawalparasi and by Gunanidhi Bhushal and Chakra Chhetri in Kapilvastu.

M&E training to SAMANATA staff and local implementing partners:

M&E training was organised from 2nd -5th June 2009 at Butwal. The training was originally scheduled for April 2009, but due to several Terai Bandhas and the urgency of organizing Exit Strategy activities, the training had to be delayed. The facilitator was Amleshwar Singh, CARE's Impact, Monitoring and Learning Manager.

All SAMANATA staff, including representatives from local implementing partners, participated in the training. Unfortunately, there was no representative from DNF Central Office attended the training, however Bom Bahadur Bishwokarma, DNF General Secretary, was there on the last day to give some instruction to the participants.

The training was divided into three parts: the first day and a half was utilized to introduce and clarify the participants about M&E elements (outputs, outcomes, impacts and their indicators), another day was utilized for analyzing the SAMANATA indicators, data needs, methods to be used to collect data (tools), sources of data and questions to be asked while collecting data. The participants were given a group exercise to put what they learned into practice and also presented their work. The exercise was very useful to get to know SAMANATA from an M&E perspective. Another half day was used to collect data from 29 households of three Dalit communities in two VDCs (Suryapura and Bishnupura in the Rupandehi district). The household survey and group discussion tools were designed including a few questionnaires regarding education, drinking water, sanitation status and health seeking behaviour such as regular health check-ups of pregnant women and delivery places. Group discussion was concentrated on scholarship support to Dalit students, support received from VDCs, representation on SMC and health facilities management committee. The participants were divided into groups of two. Three groups conducted one group discussion at each community and other groups conducted household surveys.

The last day of the training was used to analyze data and prepare a brief report in groups. The results were presented to the group and discussed in plenary. The exercise was very useful for the participants to learn about the importance of M&E and utilization of the information received from it.

After the presentation and discussion, participants realized that they should have received this M&E training in the very beginning of the project so that they can monitor the outcome of the activities and make adjustments to the plan of activities to be implemented in the following years. Now we have only six month left and even we know the fact there is no time to make the improvement. It was also realized that this learning can be use for another projects. All project staff (all levels) should know about project indicators to be used to measure the performance of the projects; then only can they support to achieve project goals and objectives.

Activity 4.4.b Updating PIMS

To enhance monitoring of the projects' progress, CARE-Nepal developed the Project Information Management System (PIMS) software. From 26th-30th of January 2009, Krishna Sunar, CDO, and Wieteke Daniëls, CBA, attended a training conducted in Janakpur by CARE's Impact, Monitoring and Learning Manager, Amleshwar Singh. Mr. Singh again provided support to SAMANATA for data entry into the PIMS software during a visit to the Bharatpur Cluster Office from 23rd-26th of February 2009. The CDO of SAMANATA has taken the lead in keeping the software up to date and has made regular visits to the field. The documenting format that has been developed and distributed in cooperation with the CDO and staff from DNF Central Office has also been based on the information necessary for PIMS. Krishna Sunar, CDO, made a regular visit to three districts to collect data for PIMS.

Activity 4.5 Support DNGOs and DNF District Chapters in monitoring and documenting on human rights violations for their input in the DNF annual report and HRTMCC reports

Activity 4.5.a HRTMCC meetings

Activity 4.5.a.1 Special session of HRTMCC on International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD)

HRTMCC is a civil society network which monitors the state's compliance with international treaties. By March 2009, the GoN is required to submit a state report on the situation concerning racial discrimination in the country under its obligations under the ICERD. DNF as the coordinator of ICERD sub-committee under the HRTMCC organised a meeting of sub-committee members at its office at Kamalpokhari on 4th of July 2007 to prepare the shadow report it plans to submit to the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD). Focal persons for the sub-committee from the various member organisations of HRTMCC were present in the meeting. The main purpose of the meeting was to review and to share findings from previous regular meetings of the sub-committee. Strategies on how to address human rights issues, particularly those concerning Terai Dalits were discussed and decided on.

Activity 4.5.a.2 Meeting with HRTMCC

Strengthening HRTMCC is one of the activities of the project. DNF, as the coordinator of ICERD sub-committee under the HRTMCC, organised monthly meetings of the sub-committee members at its office at Kamalpokhari. The role of the HRTMCC is to monitor state's compliance with international treaties, as well as put pressure on the government to submit state reports in a timely fashion and to fulfil its international obligations. The sub-committee appreciates the role of DNF bringing issues from remote and marginalized Terai regions. The meetings have extensively discussed why Dalits are facing so many problems every day on the grounds of caste and descent.

As a result, DNF and its MOs have committed to take position against all forms of caste based discrimination and gender based violation for which orientation to the political parties, CS and GLAs about national and international instruments could be crucial. And, the government authorities, political parties and CSOs have been sensitized on the Dalit issues.

HRTMCC Fact Findings:

To find out the actual facts of the incidents DNF is regularly doing fact finding study about the incidents happened in the project area.

Durban Review Conference

The Durban Review Conference (DRC) took place from 20-24 April 2009 in Geneva. The Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA) provided an important framework for Governments and NGOs to combat racism, racial discrimination, and related intolerance.

To prepare for participation in the DRC, DNF organised several meetings with various thematic organizations (Blue Diamond Society, (JUP), DNF, Jaghrit Nepal, NNWI, NGO-Federation of Nepalese Indigenous Nationalities (NGO-FONIN), DWO, NNDSWO and OHCHR-Nepal) to prepare presentations in Durban Review Conference.

On 31st of December 2008 a coordination committee of Nepali Civil Society was formed on sharing responsibility of preparing various thematic chapters- Dalit Chapter; Indigenous Peoples Chapter; Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) Chapter, Madhesi Chapter, and Religious Minorities Chapter- Muslim.

On 30th of January, 2009 a meeting took place for sharing the draft report of the Dalit chapter. The draft includes prevalence of the problem, implementation status of DDPA, gaps and weaknesses, critical areas of concern and recommendations. This draft chapter was prepared on the basis of the outcomes of a consultation meeting held on 23rd January 2009 with representatives of Dalit NGOs. Several meetings were held on 3rd, 11th, 18th and 25th of March 2009 to discuss on the draft chapters, and presentation of Nepal Civil Society Report in DRC, Geneva.

DNF has participated in Durbar Review conference in Geneva from 15th to 25th of April 2009. Three delegates from DNF namely Hari Shreepaili, Ganesh B.K. and Arjun Kumar Bagale attend the conference. Mr. Shreepaili and Mr. B.K. are the central board members and Mr. Bagale is the Legal and Rights Officer of DNF. Other delegates from different

organizations of Nepal also participated in the event. The main aim of the conference was to review the DDPA passed in 2001.

The Dalit civil society team had submitted an alternative report on the status of implementation of Durban Declaration Plan of Action from the government of Nepal. Likewise, DNF and other Dalit CSOs lobbied with UN mechanisms to recognize caste-based discrimination under a specific chapter of UN. Several demonstrations and meetings with the concerned stakeholders were carried out in Durban. Dalit civil society also met the Nepalese Ambassador to Geneva to lobby on caste-based discrimination from the government level. DNF organized several programs, including a joint workshop with Dalit CSOs of other caste affected countries, including India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, among other to recognize the caste based discrimination issues officially within the UN mechanisms. During the Durban Review Conference DNF drew attention to caste issues, including Terai Dalit issues, and urged the UN mechanism to act more on this type of discrimination.

Activity 4.6 Support DNGOs and DNF district chapters in monitoring and documenting on human rights violations for their input in the DNF annual report and HRTMCC reports

Activity 4.6.a Organization of Public Hearing on Madhesi Dalit Issues and Constitution Making Process

DNF organized a Public Hearing Programme on Madhesi Dalit Issues and Constitution Making Process on 24 December 2009 at Basantapur Dabali, Kathmandu. DNF invited the representatives of the government, different political parties and Dalit civil society organization to address on Madhesi Dalit Issues. Ms. Kalawati Paswan, State Minister for physical planning and construction, Mr. Ram Lal Bishwokarma, ex-president of National Dalit Commission, Mr. Ramprit Pasawan, the central committee member of CPN (UML) and Mr. Bom Bahadur Bishwakarma, General Secretary of DNF are the key speaker in the programme. The public programme was also broadcasted from Avenues Television at 8:00 PM on 26 December 2009 for wider audience.

Activity 4.6.b Support DNF and Dalit Commission to implement a social audit at national level

With an objective of promoting accountability and transparency at both local and national level, SAMANATA started a process of conducting social audits across the three districts. Social Audit were organised in all SAMANATA working VDCs in different time. Likewise three district level and one national level social audit events were held. In the programmes, SAMANATA analyzed the project itself as well as its social relevance in a public hearing to which community members and stakeholders, political party representatives, VDC secretaries and government line agencies were invited to ask critical questions about the project.

2.2 What is your assessment of the results of the Action? Include observations on the extent to which foreseen specific objective and overall objectives were met and whether the Action has had any unforeseen positive or negative results. (please quantify where possible; refer to Logframe Indicators).

	Logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
OVERALL OBJECTIVE	To promote human rights and social inclusion for Terai Dalits in Nepal.	Perception of Terai Dalits about decrease in violations of their basic human rights and social exclusion decreased from 62.6% to 40.1%*	Comparison of perceptions during the baseline and at final evaluation (through perception mapping).	Social inclusion and human rights protection continues to remain a priority agenda in government policies and plans
		Self-esteem of Terai Dalits enhanced to exercise their rights and to participate and influence the processes and decisions that affect their lives increased from 5.2% to 12.7%.*	Case studies (media reporting, documentary, project reports)	Conflict and political situation does not deteriorate further
		Government's development plans and policies (local and national) are responsive and accountable to Terai Dalits needs and priorities increased from 8.2% to 24.0%.*	Government's plans and policies; social audit and budget analysis reports	Constituent Assembly has drafted a constitution ensuring Dalit rights by 2009
		Improved enforcement of anti-discrimination laws and policies from 9.3% to 26.4%*	HRTMCC, NHRC and Government reports; Perception Scales	
<i>*Impact level indicators are often immeasurable within the scope of projects</i>				
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES	Specific Objective 1. Social and political empowerment of Terai Dalits	8.3% in CA/Parliament, Increased from 17.0% to 39.7% in local institutions* Baseline and End-Line	Comparison of survey (to be conducted) and final evaluations; review of organizational records of local and district institutions; interview of Dalit and non-Dalit representatives	Local bodies/actors follow the state policies concerning reservation/proportional representation
		Increased from NRs 55 to NRs 93 Baseline and End-Line reports	Comparison of baseline and final evaluations; case studies; project reports	Government actively enforces existing labour laws and policies

		Increased from 8.2% to 24.0% in access to basic services ³	Comparison of baseline, survey (to be conducted) and final evaluations; review of government agency records; interview of Dalits	Government actively enforces existing laws and policies concerning the provision of/access to basic services
		Cases of action taken against perpetrators increased from 5.2% to 12.7%. From very few*(no actual baseline data) to <500 cases registered.	Police records, case studies, interview with both Dalits and non-Dalits	Government actively enforces the prohibition on caste- and gender-based discrimination
		450 news/articles published by media and 25 reports broadcast via national television. *(no actual baseline data)	Comparison of survey (focuses on newspaper, FM stations and televised broadcasting) and final evaluation, interview with both Dalits and non-Dalits on media impact	
	Specific Objective 2. Strengthening institutional capacity of Dalit and pro-Dalit institution / organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Members organizations of DNF increased from 11 to 23 ▪ Membership/association of Dalits increased from 17.0% to 39.7% ▪ 600 CBOs formed and one network in each district formed. ▪ 200 S&C Groups ▪ 182 ALCs ▪ 83 Child Clubs ▪ 97 People's organisation ▪ 64 Non-Dalit Solidarity Groups ▪ 60 VDC-Level Pressure Groups 	Review of DNF membership records and Dalit NGO records; Project reports	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Terai Dalit NGOs and CBOs are utilizing available VDC and DDC level resources by 31 December 2009 ▪ NRs 6800000 (EUR 7555.6) allocated by three DDCs.*(No actual baseline data) ▪ NRs 1800000 (EUR 2000) is utilised by CBOs 	VDC and DDC reports on resource allocation, interview with Dalit NGOs and CBOs	Government introduces proportional pro-poor local development budgets
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In current fiscal 2009/10 budget GoN has planned to build 3000 houses for Terai Dalits and NRs. 100000 reward has been fixed for inter-caste (Dalit and non- 	Review of DNF and National Dalit Commission reports on advocacy initiatives;	National Dalit Commission will become a constitutional

	<p>Dalit) married couple.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two (i) bill against Untouchability and caste based discrimination (Crime and Punishment) and (ii) Bill for the making Dalit commission legal entity. The age for old age allowance for Dalits is 60 and it is 70 for non-Dalits 	perception of Dalit communities	body
	Partnership with 66 pro-Dalit (non-Dalit solidarity networks, media, vocational training institutes) CBOs and local organizations established	Review of organizational reports	
Specific Objective 3. Promoting good governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three DDCs allocated NRs 6800000 (EUR 7555.6).*(No actual baseline data) 60 VDCs allocated approximately NRs 1800000 (EUR 2000) is utilised by CBOs 	DDC's monitoring reports; DDC's and VDCs annual budget plan, DDCC's meeting is regularized, annual reviews; project reports	Government introduces proportional pro-poor local development budgets
	DDCC's and DDC's enhanced participatory monitoring of Dalit programmes	DDC's monitoring reports; DDC's and VDCs annual budget plan, DDCC's meeting is regularized, annual reviews; project reports	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's group members participated in ward (1 VDC constitutes 9 wards) level planning meetings. From a few participations* (data not available) to 5 members each from 60 VDC level pressure groups and 10 members each from District Level Pressure groups receive invitation for VDC and DDC Council (annual planning meeting). 	Comparison of survey (to be conducted) and final evaluations; interview with DDCs and VDCs.	Government enacts policies on reservation/proportional representation
Specific Objective 4. Improving policy implementation, monitoring and feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <100 Terai Dalits participated in consultative workshops of Interim Plan of GoN 1 Terai Dalit worked as a member of specialist team in the Interim Plan 	Review of project reports; meeting notes of consultative meetings between government agencies and Civil Society.	Government enacts policies on reservation/proportional representation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 15 Terai Dalit CA members and one of them is the Chairperson of a Thematic Committee. Of them 2 women are from the SAMANATA Project district. Thousands of Terai Dalits participated in community/district level consultative meetings in the presence of CA members 	DNF records, CA meeting records, Project report.	Constitution will be finalized by April 2010. (Preliminary draft completed by July 2009 and first draft completed by

				December 2009.)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ DNF and other Dalit civil society organisations are frequently invited in consultative meetings while developing plans and policies 	Review of project reports; meeting notes of consultative meetings between government agencies and CSOs	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Most of the bilateral and multilateral agencies working in Nepal invite representatives of Terai Dalits in consultative meetings. ▪ DFID/ESP provided funding to DNF to implement Dalit empowerment project in three districts for Terai Dalits. 	DNF records and meeting minutes.	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <100 Terai Dalits participated in consultative workshops of Interim Plan of GoN ▪ 1 Terai Dalit worked as a member of specialist team in the Interim Plan 	Review of HRTMCC reports; project reports	Government of Nepal submits state reports to UN treaty bodies
EXPECTED RESULTS	Expected Result 1. Increased awareness and capacity of Terai Dalits for raising voice and to assert their rights	A total of 3729 women have been organised in 182 (62 in Nawalparasi, 60 in Rupandehi and 60 in Kapilvastu) Women's Advocacy Literacy Centres. The members of these groups are advocating on seven prioritised issues.	Advocacy centre reports; post class completion knowledge assessments; case studies.	
		Altogether, 664 (out of which 332 (50%) are women) local level Dalit activists trained on advocacy and leadership.	Training records and post training knowledge assessment; follow up on post training action plans of participants	
		A total of 281 (137 men and 144 women) trained on masonry, house wiring, bicycle/motorbike/rickshaw repair, sewing/tailoring and hand embroidery. 90% of them are employed.	Vocational training institution reports; follow up with the training participants; case studies	

		Altogether 1816 (878 girls and 938 boys) students of above primary level received scholarship.	School records; interview with parents and teachers; project reports	
		2100 (all girls) primary level students received dress, stationery and tuition fee support. The project lobbied to ensure government scholarship for them.	DoE/DEO reports, school records; interview with parents and teachers; project reports	
		VDC level pressure groups has been successful to claim local resources and increase access of Terai Dalits to local bodies budget and make them accountable and responsive.	interview with Dalit and VDC level stakeholders. Project reports.	
		975 women have received loan through the revolving fund and have initiated income generating activities from the loan.	Saving and credit groups records; FGD with participants, Project Reports.	
		Significant number of households have been reached by advocacy campaigns i.e. FM radio programmes which covers 6 district of the area.	Comparison between survey(to be conducted) and final evaluation, Media campaign reports; project reports;	
	Expected Result 2. Increased capacity of DNF, its local networks and other pro-Dalit institutions to promote and advocate for the rights, issues and concerns of Terai Dalits	47 Staff and board members of DNF at district, regional and central level have been trained and coached on several aspects concerning organizational development, RBA and advocacy.	Comparison of capacity assessment reports (initial and follow up) of DNF; Project reports and training records.	
		120 staff and board members of 21 Terai Dalit NGOs and 22 staff and board members of 5 pro-Dalit NGOs have been trained and coached on several aspects concerning organizational development, RBA and advocacy.	Comparison of capacity assessment reports (initial and follow up) of Dalit and pro-Dalit NGOs, Project reports and training records.	
		DNF's capacity assessment have been done and follow-up plan developed. Board and staff members of DNF attended good governance trainings. DNF also revised some policies.	Comparison of capacity assessment reports (initial and follow up) of DNF; interaction with members of district chapters; project reports of advocacy initiatives	

		60 pressure groups (1 per VDC) have been formed and trained and coached for policy dialogue and advocacy on Dalit rights, issues and concerns	Training records and post training assessment; follow up of their action plans; project reports	
		Members organizations of DNF increased from 11 to 23.	Dalit NGOs membership records, project reports.	
		60 VDC level and 3 DDC level advocacy plans are developed and implemented on 7 priority issues in consultation with VDC level pressure groups, DNF District Chapters and Dalit NGOs and other relevant stakeholders	Dalit NGOs and DNF annual plans and reports; VDCs and DDCs level advocacy plans, DDCs report, project reports	
Expected Result 3. More responsive and accountable institutions towards Dalit rights, issues and concerns		DNF district chapters and local Dalit NGOs are invited by local non-Dalit NGOs, and Government line agencies in their programmes, which has been good opportunity to influence plans and policies.	Project reports; interview with government line agencies officials and other relevant stakeholders, interview with Dalit and Non-Dalit communities.	
		The awareness level of Terai Dalit community about government line agencies and service providers has significantly increased (from 25.0% to 55.5%).	Project reports; interview with government line agencies officials and other relevant stakeholders, interview with Dalit and Non-Dalit communities and social audit reports.	
Expected Result 4. Improved monitoring and an open forum for feedback and learning about Dalit rights, issues and concerns		DNF collaborated with national Dalit organizations, non-Dalit federations/issue based alliances and human rights organizations at the national level to unite efforts for the Dalit cause.	DNF annual reports, Project reports and meeting minutes.	
		DNF and Dalit Commission held series of meetings to establish more transparent and effective system of policy feedback on government policies and plans. As the result there are two bills in the parliament.	DNF and Dalit commission annual reports, including budget, policies and plans analysis reports; project reports	

		<100 cases were published and broadcast through different publications i.e. bulletins, FM radios and other publications and print media.	Project reports, case studies, DNF annual reports, HRTMCC report;	
ACTIVITIES				
		Name	Achievement	
Result 1		1.1 Conduct advocacy/literacy classes for 1800 women on Dalit and women rights and seven prioritized issues ⁴	A total of 3729 women have been organised in 182 (62 in Nawalparasi, 60 in Rupandehi and 60 in Kapilvastu) Women's Advocacy Literacy Centres. These groups actively advocated on these seven prioritised issues: (i) work and descent-based discrimination, (ii) low income (extremely low and unfair wages, (iii) lack of alternative source of income), (iv) lack of citizenship, (v) landlessness, (vi) poor family health status, (vii) inadequate access to common property natural resources and specific women and children issues (education, health and other gender-based discrimination)	
		1.2 Conduct advocacy and leadership training for 600 potential Dalit leaders.	Altogether, 664 (out of which 332 (50%) are women) local level Dalit activists trained on advocacy and leadership.	
		1.3 Support implementation of issue based advocacy plans (on seven prioritized issues) through joint collaboration of DNF, its district chapters, Dalit NGOs, VDC level pressure groups and other relevant stakeholders.	60 VDC level, 3 district level and 1 national level advocacy plan were developed and implemented in collaboration with DNF, its 3 district chapters, 6 Dalit NGOs, 182 ALCs, 60 People's organisation, 64 non-Dalit solidarity networks, 83 child clubs, 60 VDC level pressure groups and 3 district level pressure groups.	
		1.4 Identification, selection and training of 200 Dalit youths (100 of them women) for vocational skills, including assessment of market for those skills.	A total of 281 (137 men and 144 women) trained on masonry, house wiring, bicycle/motorbike/rickshaw repair, sewing/tailoring and hand embroidery. 90% of them are employed.	
		1.5 Identification, selection of Dalit students who have completed primary level education (at least 50% girls) for scholarship support (1800 one-year scholarships).	Altogether 1816 (878 girls and 938 boys) students of above primary level received scholarship. Furthermore, 2100 (all girls) primary level students received dress, stationery and tuition fee support. The project also lobbied to ensure government scholarship for them.	
		1.6 Facilitate formation and capacity building of 60 Dalit women saving and credit groups (covering at least 1200 households)	In total 5358 women have been associated in 200 S&C group as members from 1786 households. Though the project had planned to form 60 S&C Groups and capacitate them, but, by seeing the success and overwhelming support and ownership of the community, the project increased number of 60 S&C group to a total of 200.	

	1.7 Support poorest 600 Dalit households (members of the saving and credit groups) for income generation activities	In total, 975 women (one member of a household gets this fund) have received the loan through the revolving fund and have initiated income generating activities from the loan.
	1.8 Conduct 30 interactive joint sessions for non-Dalits and Dalits - political and social leaders, teachers, students, etc. - for sensitization on social inclusion and Dalit rights issues	A total of 400 Interactive joint sessions held: meeting with SMC (80), Sub-health post management committee (40), VDC level meeting with political party leaders, VDC secretary and other key stakeholders (240), District level interactive meetings with political parties, HR organisations, Government line agencies, and (30) National level (10)
Result 2	2.1 Conduct project orientation, implementation and monitoring workshops to SAMANATA staff, DNF district chapters and local Dalit NGOs.	1 Project orientation workshop at national level, 3 three district level, 1 at project office, 13 DIP orientation workshops at different level and for local partner NGOs, 6 monitoring workshop for SAMANATA staff and board held.
	2.2 Capacity building of DNF on overall governance and development of follow-up action plan (capacity assessment - initial in the first year and reviews in consecutive years to assess the progress)	Capacity assessment and follow-up action plan of DNF was developed and implemented. 6 events were organised in different theme on different time where altogether 137 participated.
	2.3 Training on RBA, advocacy, network and alliance building for DNF district chapters and Dalit NGOs.	Two training events on RBA, Advocacy, network and alliance building were held where 105 representatives of DNF district chapters and local partner NGOs participated.
	2.4 Conduct capacity building training and/or coaching focusing on organizational development, leadership, advocacy, governance and social inclusion for 21 Dalit NGOs.	257 from 22 Dalit organisations attended 7 training sessions on organisational development, leadership, advocacy, good governance and social inclusion.
	2.5 Conduct training on Dalit rights, social inclusion and advocacy for 60 VDC level pressure groups.	120 training sessions organised for 1020 members of 60 VDC level pressure groups
	2.6 Issue based interaction of stakeholders (Dalit leaders; political parties; government officials; human rights activists; journalists)	67 interaction sessions held in 60 VDCs and 3 district headquarters on different issues where 779 participants attended.
Result 3	3.1 Support for strengthening the monitoring systems of 3 DDCs to collect information/data with regard to status, needs, concerns and rights of Terai Dalits, including orientation on social audit.	5 events were organised in project districts where 152 members of DDCs and local Dalit organisations attended in these initiatives.
	3.2 Organize field visits of policy makers (both from national level and district level) to the Terai Dalit communities to sensitize them about the rights and concerns of Terai Dalits	Altogether 179 representatives of DDCC, local Dalit organisations and project staff trained in M&E.

	3.3 Support local Dalit NGOs and DNF chapters for analysis of policies, plans and budget of local elected bodies (3 DDC, 60 VDCs) and other district agencies in order to enhance their capacity to understand and influence these plans and policies	National and local bodies budgets were analysed which was used as the tools of advocacy. This helped to the Terai Dalit leaders, activists and rights activists to speak up with fact and figures and influence local bodies to allocate budget for Dalits.
	3.4 Support DNF District chapters and Dalit NGOs to implement a yearly social audit at VDC level, including local government, government line agencies and other existing programs and projects in the project area	Altogether 64 (one in national level, three district level and 60 VDC level) Social Audits were held during the project period. As the outcome of such initiative, other organisations working in these districts are compelled to do Social Audit of their projects. Furthermore, it has promoted good governance principles and practices in the government and non-government programmes.
Result 4	4.1 Issue based interaction with other Dalit organizations and existing initiatives to coordinate efforts at the national level.	A number of issue based interactions with Dalit organisations and government line agencies held. This has been successful in pushing two bills in legislative parliament and build common agenda of Dalit to be addressed by the new constitution of Nepal.
	4.2 Critical engagement with relevant non-Dalit stakeholders such as Constituent Assembly, National Human Rights Commission, National Dalit Commission, National Planning Commission and bilateral and multilateral institutions	Number of interactive sessions were held with the representatives of CA members, NHRC representatives, NDC, NPC and bilateral and multilateral agencies and institutions. Such interactions have been successful for making recognition of the agenda of Dalits.
	4.3 Support DNF and Dalit Commission to develop a participatory monitoring and evaluation system in order to monitor the implementation of government policies and programs (analysis of government policies, plans and budget) and provide feedback to the government on annual basis	A series of interactive sessions held which has significantly contributed in united Dalit movement and pushing the agenda of Dalits in policies and plans of the government.
	4.4 Conduct training for DNF district chapters, Dalit NGOs and Dalit leaders for participatory monitoring and evaluations	2 participatory M&E training were held for DNF district chapters and SAMANATA staff. The results of SAMANATA were also updated in Project Information Management System (PIMS).
	4.5 Support Dalit NGOs and DNF district chapters in monitoring and documenting on human rights violations for their input in the DNF annual report and HRTMCC reports.	Regular meetings and fact finding were done with collaboration with HRTMCC and district chapters. Shadow Report on ICERD was developed and presented in UN Session 2009.
	4.6 Support DNF and Dalit Commission to implement a social audit at national level	One national level public hearing held in Kathmandu

2.3 What has been the outcome on both the final beneficiaries &/or target group (if different) and the situation in the target country or target region which the Action addressed?

- Total of 5358 women have been associated/organised under 60 Saving and Credit Groups. These groups have saved NRs. 318,323 (EUR 3003 approx.) 500 kg. rice in Rupandehi, NRs. 265,500 (EUR 2505 approx.) 300 kg. rice in Nawalparasi, and NRs. 708,913 (EUR 6688 approx.) 700 kg. rice in Kapilvastu. Furthermore, these groups have been crucial in promoting gender equality and changing gender role in the society and have also promoted saving habit in Dalit community.
- Altogether five cooperatives have been registered during the reporting period.
- Altogether 1792 children (988 boys and 749 girls) have been associated under 83 Child Clubs (23 in Nawalparasi, 20 in Rupandehi and 40 in Kapilvastu). These clubs have been playing vital role in discouraging/stopping child marriage, domestic child labour, dowry system, fostering the importance of education, health and sanitation, and promoting child rights in the community. All these clubs are associated with District Child Welfare Council of the government.
- Altogether 941 (507 male and 428 female) potential Dalit leaders have been organised and trained under 60 VDC-Level Pressure Groups who now are practising leadership role for taking decisive positions in the next local bodies' election.
- A total of 60 CAs (34 male (57%) and 26 female (43%) were trained and mobilised (all Terai Dalits).
- A total of 182 ALCs, 200 S&C Groups, 83 Child Clubs, 97 POs, 64 Non-Dalit Solidarity Groups and 60 VDC-Level Pressure Groups were formed and mobilised. These groups have been advocating on different issues including unequal and unfair wage system.
- In total, 975 women have received loan through the revolving fund and have initiated income generating activities from the loan. The interest rate of the S&C Groups is 1%, compared to 10% asked by local money lenders.
- As a result of consistent and coordinated advocacy effort of SAMANATA and other national Dalit organisations, a Bill on Untouchability and Caste Based Discrimination (Crime and Punishment) 2066 has been brought in the legislative parliament. This is a great achievement of Dalit movement in Nepal.
- As the result of community and national level advocacy initiatives, national planning commission and other agencies have started to consult with Dalit organisations while making periodic plans and annual budget.
- A total of 281 (137 men and 144 women) have received vocational training that helped increase household income and diversify income opportunities through the trainings – masonry, house wiring, bicycle/motorbike/rickshaw repair, sewing/tailoring and hand embroidery.
- Altogether 1816 (878 girls and 938 boys) students of above primary level received scholarship. Furthermore, 2100 (all girls) primary level students received dress, stationery and tuition fee support. The project also lobbied to ensure government scholarship for them.

- SAMANATA advocated for just distribution of VDC budget and became successful. As a result SAMANATA working VDCs allocated from NRs. 30,000 (EUR 333) to 45000 (EUR 500) additional budget for Dalit empowerment. Likewise, District Development Committees of SAMANATA districts allocated a significant amount of their budget (Rupandehi NRs. 11 lakh (EUR 10,377 approx.), Nawalparasi NRs. 9 lakh (EUR 8,490 approx.), and Kapilvastu NRs. 48 lakh (EUR 45,283 approx.) for Dalit empowerment.
- As the result of SAMANATA intervention, significant changes have been observed in the inclusion of Dalit men and women in CBOs, political parties, and in other forms of networks and forums in the districts. Altogether 18 Terai Dalit (7 men and 11 women) have been nominated as the chairperson of School Management Committees (SMC) in the 60 programme VDCs. Similarly, due to the frequent and intensive lobbying and interaction with political parties, a Terai three Dalit women were elected as the member of Constituent Assembly (CA) in the CA election of April 10, 2008. One of them elected through first-past-the-post and two were elected through proportional representation (PR) system.
- Altogether 64 (one in national level, three district level and 60 VDC level) Social Audits were held during the project period. As the outcome of such initiative, other organisations working in these districts were compelled to do Social Audit of their projects. Furthermore, it has promoted good governance principles and practices in the government and non-government programmes.
- Altogether 60 VDC level non-Dalit Solidarity Groups and three District level Dalit Support Groups were formed and mobilised. This is one of the major success of the project: mobilising and engaging non-Dalit communities in promoting human rights and social inclusion.
- Altogether 21 reports from Dalit community were developed as reporter (journalist) in the project district. As a result revealing 450 articles/news were published in print media and 25 reports broadcast by local and national television.

Likewise, altogether 30 local non-Dalit journalists were provided training which sensitised them about the situation and status of Dalits. As a result, the coverage of Dalit related news increased in media.

- 12 fact finding missions were held on the issues of inter-caste marriage, Dalit woman charged of practising witchcraft thrashed and fed human excreta, a Dalit woman in childbirth being severely beaten for touching water, the rape of a young Dalit girl, and a Dalit man beaten for wanting to enter a temple. The Human Rights Treaty Monitoring Coordination Committee (HRTMCC) was mobilised for this purpose.
- A Shadow Report on International Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD, 1965) was developed which was presented in UN session 2009 in Geneva.

2.4 Please list all publications (and no. of copies) produced during the Action on whatever format, amongst others containing new approaches, innovative ways of communicating... (please enclose a copy of each item, except if you have already done so in the past).

- 3000 copies of SAMANATA bulletins (6 issues) were published and distributed to the government line agencies, local NGOs, women groups, VDC level pressure groups, people's organisations, advocacy literacy centres, saving and credit groups and other stakeholders.
- 1000 copies of Dalits in Budget 2065/66 published and distributed to all stakeholders which was used by national and local Dalit NGOs as a tool of advocacy.
- 500 copies of REFLECT book, as a manual, by compiling local advocacy issues, policies and practices, tools and tips for effective advocacy and running ALC classes. This book was distributed to Change Agents, Women's Groups, People's Organisations, ALC, and local partners NGOs.
- 500 copies of SAMANATA in Media was published by compiling the initiatives of SAMANATA and cases published in local and national level print media. This publication was distributed to local NGOs, DNF's MOs, and other stakeholders.
- 500 copies of An Experience with SAMANATA was published by compiling views and opinions of journalists specially editors and leaders of Federation of Nepalese Journalists (FNJ) on the initiatives and achievements of SAMANATA. This publication was recognised as a crucial task done by the project in media mobilisation. Thus, this publication was distributed to local NGOs, Partners of CARE and DNF, government authorities and other stakeholders.
- 500 copies of Stories Untold - SAMANATA giving voice to Terai Dalits, this is a compilation of case stories dealt or raised by the project. This also includes some cases untouched by any intervention of development initiatives. This was distributed to INGOs working in Nepal, SAMANATA partners, government line agencies and national level Dalit organisations.
- 500 copies Advocating Equality: The Intervention Model of SAMANATA, is an illustration of intervention process and procedure of the project for asserting the rights of Terai Dalits in the community. This was distributed to NGOs and development practitioners.
- 2500 copies of Posters on five prioritised issues of SAMANATA was published and widely distributed in the communities of the project VDCs. These posters were published in both Bhojpuri (local language) and Nepali. These posters were posted on the street walls at headquarter of the project districts. These posters were also used by ALC centres, Saving and Credit Groups, Peoples organisation and other local organisations.
- 500 copies of DVD of Achhut, (meaning in Nepali Untouchable), a documentary presenting the situation of Terai Dalits was developed. This was distributed to partner NGOs.

- 500 copies of DVD of Whip-Up, a documentary presenting the social mobilisation process and success of SAMANATA intervention. This was also distributed to partner NGOs.
- 192 episodes of Radio programmes entitled “Voice of SAMANATA” via 4 local FM Radios broadcast in local languages – Bhojpuri and Awadhi.
- More than 300 case stories were published and broadcast through different publications i.e. bulletins, FM radios and other publications and print media.

2.5 Please list all contracts (works, supplies, services) above 5000€ awarded for the implementation of the action since the last interim report if any or during the reporting period, giving for each contract the amount, the award procedure followed and the name of the contractor.

Name	Date	Contract amount
Consultancy contract between Dalit Studies and Development Centre and CARE-Nepal for the Baseline Survey	14 September 2007	€ 5133,50 NRs 459345
Service contracts between Training Centre Nepal, Kathmandu and SAMANATA/CARE-Nepal	December 2007	€ 4694,00 NRs 446400
	28 April 2008	€ 4749,40 NRs 479904
	29 July 2008	€ 7262,78 NRs 779950
	1 August 2008	€ 7299,28 NRs 783870
	Total	€ 24005,46
Service contracts between Jeev Career Institute, Kathmandu and SAMANATA/CARE-Nepal	6 June 2008	€ 4256,15 NRs 457920
	6 September 2008	€ 7210,78 NRs 746280
	6 September 2008	€ 7254,07 NRs 750760
	Total	€ 18721,00
Service contract between Darpan Production Pvt. Limited, Kathmandu and SAMANATA/CARE-Nepal for the production of documentary on Madhesi Dalit issues	23 December 2007	€ 3263,55 NRs 310365

Service contract between Darpan Production Pvt. Limited, Kathmandu and SAMANATA/CARE-Nepal for the production of documentary on success cases of SAMANATA (People's Power)	25 August 2008	€ 4891,42 NRs 521450
	Total	€ 8154,97
Service contract between We & Associates Development Consultancy, Lalitpur and SAMANATA for carrying out an anthropological study and study on SAMANATA's intervention model	15 August 2008	€ 4910,08 NRs 523440

2.6 Describe if the Action will continue after the support from the European Community has ended. Are there any follow up activities envisaged? What will ensure the sustainability of the Action?

- 60 VDC level pressure groups have been actively advocating for enhancing the access of Dalit community to the government resources and basic services. And, Saving and Credit Groups have been affiliated with District Agriculture Development Office and Women's Development Offices of the government. Furthermore, these groups have been registered and/or are in the process of registering as cooperatives. These initiatives ultimately institutionalise the outcome of the project.
- There are 86 Child Clubs functional in the project area. These Clubs have been affiliated with District Child Welfare Council (DCWC) of the government. Therefore, DCWC will continuously support to promote child rights through these Clubs.
- Three District Chapters of DNF and other six Terai Dalit NGOs, the partner of SAMANATA have been empowered in organisational development, fund raising and project management as well as advocacy. Now they are tapping the resources from government and non-government agencies. This will help sustain the advocacy initiatives of SAMANATA.
- Training Centre Nepal (TCN), the partner organisation for vocational training of SAMANATA, and Cottage and Small Industry (CSI) of government, are supporting to local NGOs for vocational training.
- DNF with the support of UNDP has now implemented support for participatory constitution building in Nepal in SAMANATA project districts. This project is also using the same groups formed by SAMANATA.
- Women and Youth Pillar of Sustainable Peace, another project of CARE Nepal has been implemented in Rupandehi overlapping four VDCs of SAMANATA project. This will support and facilitate community groups of SAMANATA. Similarly, Chunauti, another project of CARE Nepal, has been implemented in Rupandehi through SAMANATA's local partner NGO – Terai Dalit Concern Centre (TDCC). This will coordinate and facilitate groups of SAMANATA. SANEENO and Shakti, other project of CARE Nepal in Nawalparasi which are working in 20 VDCs of Nawalparasi.

2.7 Has the Action promoted gender equality, disabilities? If yes, please explain⁵

SAMANATA has significantly promoted social inclusion. It has mainly promoted gender equality in Dalit communities. During the project period, 11 women have been nominated as the chairperson of SMC. It has significantly in changing gender role in the community and family.

2.8 How and by whom have the activities been monitored/evaluated? Please summarise the results of the feedback received, including from the beneficiaries.

The external monitoring of activities and the external evaluation support the achievements mentioned in this report. Some major conclusions from the final report:

”From the review of project achievements in relation to the project objectives, SAMANATA project has been a success in many respects. The following are the main conclusions, recommendations and lessons learned

Relevance

SAMANATA came into existence by focusing only the Terai Dalits whose issues and concerns had just begun to be heard at the national level and mainstreamed within Dalit movement. Therefore, it can be said the project SAMANATA was highly relevant and timely with the broader objectives of promoting human rights and social inclusion of Terai Dalits.

Efficiency

The four actors were involved in the implementation of the project, CARE Netherland, CARE Nepal, DNF and its member organizations. The role of CARE Netherland seem to be more of monitoring and supporting and being link with EU, the CARE Nepal in many ways had implementation and monitoring role both at the national level and grass root level. At the national level it was working closely with DNF and at the grass root level it was facilitating the implementation of the activities. The decision of taking the Dalit organization at the local level for the implementation of the activities at the grassroots level was one of the effective procedures for the achievement of project objectives.

Use of resources

All the actors related directly as well as indirectly to the project have been effectively mobilized. The mobilization of grassroots level resource persons, change agents up to national level decision making actors attributes the fact that human as well as financial resources were utilized efficiently and effectively

Best practices

SAMANATA has been successful to shape the best ways of empowerment to the most exploited people like Terai Dalits. Some of the strategies followed like use of empowerment and social mobilization model, working with pro-Dalit institutions and groups, working with non-Dalit journalist and formation of pro-Dalit committees at the

⁵ To refer to EC Guidelines on gender equality, disabilities...

grass root level can be considered as best practices and replicated by others if they want to work in the similar field.

Monitoring and evaluation

The monitoring of the project was done by various actors through out the project. They are project team, DNF district chapters, DNF,Care Nepal, Care Netherland, EC, DDCC, NGOs and community groups themselves.

The project was implemented base don the action plan, Project documents and Detail Implementation plan prepared. In caption review, review and reflection, meeting, sharing, government DDC and line agencies event wise monitoring and internal and external audit are some of the effective tools used for monitoring, the final evaluation through external consultant in close consultation with beneficiaries at the field level was effective to get the concrete achievement of the project.

However all the partners including DNF feel that the project period has been very short and when the success of the project intervention was gaining momentum it came to end and they feel very strongly the continuation of SAMANATA philosophy and approach in the same area for at least seven years so that all the process and outcome could be sustained

2.9 What has your organisation/partner learned from the Action and how has this learning been utilised and disseminated?

Major Lessons learnt from the project are as follows:

- Self mobilisation of the target communities plays a vital role for the ownership and mobilisation in the project which also empowers them and motivates claim their rights and achieve greater social inclusion.
- Capacity building of representative organizations by fostering collective action ensures the sustainability of project initiatives. Furthermore the interventions done by the target communities themselves create greater impact in the community rather than by others.
- Women are the most vulnerable and marginalized in the society. The project focusing on women not only changes their lives but also the lives of their family members and challenge established negative norms and benefits entire community.
- Committed and motivated natural leaders from within the communities are essential for successful advocacy and the sustainability of achievements
- Working with Dalit organization has enhances their activism capacity and they feel inspired to continue their activism beyond the project
- Adaption of Identification of problem...> Framing of the issues...> Collective action, and ...> Reflection and then...> Higher level action...> Formation of the CBO and networking of the CBOs approach has been found to be instrumental for asserting the rights of the excluded community.

- UCP analysis tools are very important in providing evidence of the marginalization of Dalits in the society. By this, the authorities at VDC and DDC level have been convinced that more intervention on their part in favor of Dalits is necessary
- The formation of community intervention model in which all community groups are interlinked and have the ability to share experiences and learning creates a forum for discourse on Dalit rights and ensures that community level issues are taken forward to the relevant authorities. Such a comprehensive approach has proven to be very effective in addressing the diverse needs of the Terai Dalit community and can be seen as an example for other initiatives.
- We have learned that a three year period for a project with such scope of work is too short and will in the future ensure sufficient time when designing new projects.

4. Partners and other Co-operation

3.1 How do you assess the relationship between the formal partners of this Action (i.e. those partners which have signed a partnership statement)? Please specify for each partner organisation

Between CARE and DNF, there is very good relationship in terms of communication, information sharing, consultation and participation in the project related decision making processes and other management issues. In the beginning there was some confusion in the jurisdiction of DNF and CARE. Now mostly the issues such as role of CARE and DNF to implement the programme, the role of the PM, administrative and programmatic line management of SAMANATA etc. have been settled. We continue to commit ourselves to create a positive environment by communicating between all levels of implementation: CARE, the PT, DNF, DNF local chapters and the DNGOs.

3.2 Is the partnership to continue? If so, how? If not, why?

There is issue based partnership between DNF and CARE Nepal. Furthermore, the partnership between CARE Nepal and Local Terai Dalit Organisations i.e. LARC, TDCC in the project district and there are 4 other projects of CARE Nepal which is directly working with CBOs and functional groups created/activated by this project.

3.3 How would you assess the relationship between your organisation and State authorities in the Action countries? How has this relationship affected the Action?

CARE Nepal has been working on a number of issues in ... districts in Nepal. Similarly, DNF, has been advocating for the rights, inclusion and overall development of Nepal. From the very beginning of the project implementation, there was a smooth relationship with the state authorities. State mechanism seems very positive towards the project and its activities in the programme area as well as at the national level. Apart from this, the government with its periodic plan has also made commitment to allocate a special budget for the Dalit empowerment and inclusion. This clearly shows a positive intension to support Terai Dalit.

Furthermore, there are political parties, human rights institutions, DDCC and other service providing agencies to which this project highly engaged with and mobilised. Thus, they have also expressed their willingness to cooperate for the inclusion of Terai Dalits in the political mainstream.

3.4 Where applicable, describe your relationship with any other organisations involved in implementing the Action:

- **Associate(s) (if any)**

There are so many issues raised from the advocacy literacy centres and SAMANATA is linking those issues with thematic networks such as district level networks established to raise land rights issues of marginalized communities, HROs such as INSEC, NBA, NHRC, etc. Similarly, NFJ, Press Chautari have clearly shown their commitment to cooperate SAMANATA.

- **Sub-contractor(s) (if any)**

DNF is the prime executor of SAMANATA at all levels. Based on which, DNF itself will implement capacity building activities for the local DNGOs, CBOs and all advocacy and social mobilization related activities. There are some other activities for which CARE has strengthened partnership with local DNGOs and some other institutions. The local DNGOs were selected for the community level programme implementation, media related works and capacity building initiatives based on criteria set by DNF Central Office members, DNF District Chapter members and SAMANTA staff on 18th of November 2007.

1. Nawalparasi

2. Ramgram Dalit Utthan Sewa Samaj (RDUSS), DNF MO that leads 10 VDCs.
3. Legal Aid and Research Centre (LAARC), DNF MO that leads 10 VDCs.

4. Rupandehi

1. Terai Dalit Concern Centre (TDCC), DNF MO that leads 10 VDCs.
2. Dalit Social Development Centre (DSDC), DNF MO that leads 10 VDCs.

5. Kapilvastu

1. Dalit Social Development Centre (DSDC), DNF MO that leads 15 VDCs.
2. Dalit Community Development Centre (DCDC), DNF MO that leads 5 VDCs.

6. Other

1. Vision Nepal composed by non-Dalit professional media people and has good coordination with all types of media in all three programme Districts. It has been further recommended by the Federation of Nepalese Journalist/District Chapter Rupandehi, Press Chautari and Kantipur reporters. It will lead to all media related activities in the three programme districts with the greater cooperation of media people at all levels.
2. TCN/Kathmandu is involved to provide vocational training to the Dalit youths. TCN has hands in practical experience in providing job oriented vocational training to the vulnerable communities.
3. Jeev Career is involved to provide vocational training to the Dalit youths. TCN has hands in practical experience in providing job oriented vocational training to the vulnerable communities.

4. Dalit Study and Development Centre has already done Baseline Survey and in the process of finalizing the report.
5. DARPAN Production Pvt. Limited/Kathmandu has been selected for the production of a documentary on Terai Dalit Issues. DARPAN is also renowned in Nepal as a senior documentary producer. It has several years of working experience in documentary and film production. DARPAN has produced a number of socio-documentary on behalf of Action Aid and several other organisations.
6. We & Associates Development Consultancy has been selected to conduct a study on SAMANATA's intervention model
7. Independent professional consultant/Institutions are mobilized to provide training for CAs.
 - **Final Beneficiaries and Target groups**
 - **Other third parties involved.**

3.5 Where applicable, outline any links you have developed with other actions

There are so many issues raised from the advocacy literacy centres and SAMANATA that has linked those issues with thematic networks such as district level networks established to raise land rights issues of marginalized communities, HROs such as INSEC, NBA, NHRC, etc. Similarly, NFJ, Press Chautari have clearly shown their commitment to cooperate SAMANATA.

3.6 If your organisation has received previous EC grants in view of strengthening the same target group, in how far has this Action been able to build upon/complement the previous one(s)? (List all previous relevant EC grants).

CARE has been implementing two other projects with the support from EC namely, the Poverty Reduction Programme (PRP) in Doti and the Janajatis Social and Economic Empowerment Project. Both PRP Doti and the Janajatis project focus on the rights and issues of Dalits. These projects frequently exchange information among each other. SAMANATA have been working closely with other EC funded project such that "Women and Youth as Pillar of Sustainable Peace" (WYPSP) at Kapilvastu and Rupandehi at VDC to district level. This is really added extra values in the community level. There are regular sharing meetings at partner level. Similarly "Empower Women in the Churiya to improve their Livelihood" (SHAKTI) is another EC funded project SAMANATA has good relations and close coordination with at field level. SHAKTI is working in 5 SAMANATA working VDCs in Nawalparasi. This project is supporting the livelihoods of Terai Dalit women who are identified by SAMANATA's UCP analysis. Areas of cooperation initiatives between SAMANATA and SHAKTI include among others local resource person training, collaborative campaigning at district and community level and regular coordination meetings at partner level.

Similarly, SAMANATA has close relations and coordinates between other EC funded projects and organizations in Kapilvastu: FEDO, a local partner of Save the Children, SAHAJ Nepal, Kalika Self-Reliant Social Centre, Siddharth Social Development Centre Kapilvastu and INDRENI Social Development Forum. In Rupandehi there is close relationship between the DWO, a local partner of Practical Action on a project funded by EC. Regular meetings are held with UNFPA in Kapilvastu, MS Nepal, World Vision, Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Caritas Nepal with them for supporting each other and sharing information of program and security.

3.7 How do you evaluate co-operation with the services of the Contracting Authority?

5. Visibility

We have clearly mentioned the EC's funding of this project as well as the reason for funding in all project communications and publications (including media appearances). For example, SAMANATA has placed stickers on all office equipment purchased under this project. SAMANATA has also placed the EC logo at the community level fish pond information board and community level SAMANATA supported bicycle and motor bike repairing centre. Bulletins, news and banners used/produced by the project also display the logo. This has ensured the European Union's interest in protecting human rights and institutionalizing a rights-based democracy in Nepal.

Since July 2007, the project has been able to bring in notice that the European Union is the main contributor to promote human rights and social inclusion in Nepal and greater contributor for peace, democracy and sustainable development. Media involvement in SAMANATA is the key to this success.

The printing of T-shirts has greatly increased the visibility of the EC.

The European Commission may wish to publicise the results of Actions. Do you have any objection to this report being published on EuropeAid Co-operation Office website? If so, please state your objections here.

We are happy to publicise results and all other relevant stories in any purposes through EC publications including website.

Name of the contact person for the Action:

Signature: Location:

Date report due: Date report sent: