**INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION**

**CO - Kathmandu - Mission Report**

**Observation of livelihood support to ex-bonded labours**

**Author(s)**

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**Mission Members(s)**

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**Overall Objective**

The objective of this mission is to monitor the progress made by the three training partners and chalk out future road map for completing a cost-effective, sustainable and target group-oriented livelihood programs in Nepal.

**Country / Regional Programme Outcome**

NPL 828

The Bridge Project has been providing livelihood support for 600 freed-Haliyas in Kanchanpur and Bajura district who are ex-bonded labours. The support includes training on vocational skills and after-training support for them to seek employment or initiate self-employment options. The skill/employability training are being implemented by the three partners (UCEP-Nepal, HRC-Bajura and RMHSF-Kanchanpur). Ministry of Agriculture Land Management and Cooperatives (MoALMC) and the Rastriya Haliya Mukta Samaj Federation - Nepal (RHMSF-N) are key partners supporting the livelihood intervention. The MoALMC takes overall responsibility for rehabilitating the freed-Haliyas and RHMSF-N takes the responsibility of supporting government in this process particularly through identification of real haliyas and linking them into this process. The Bridge Project is funded by the United States Department of Labor at global level that includes country initiatives in Nepal, Malaysia, Mauritania, Paru and Nizer. A joint monitoring visit by the USDOL representative and ILO Monitoring and Database Manager of the Bridge Project (Geneva) is a key to ensure implementation of the project interventions that eventually contribute to protection of forced labour victims which is linked with the ILO Nepal country outcome - NPL 828.

**ILO Office**

CO - Kathmandu

**Period Covered**

* Start Date:

May 30, 2018

* End Date:

Jun 05, 2018

**Mission Type**

Domestic

**City**

Kanchanpur and Bajura

**Mission Location(s)**

Nepal

**Theme(s)**

Child Labour, Employment Security, Forced Labour, Programming, M&E, Youth Employment

**Summary of Main Achievements**

The following are the key achievements of the mission:

1. Oversight of on-going training programs for quality delivery of training following theoretical and practical aspects;

2. Understanding of overall perception of beneficiaries (on quality of training and its relevance into their lives) who have completed their skill/employablity training courses and identification of further needs for full utilization of their skills;

3. Idea of planning for future course of actions and chalk out further after-training support including sustainability measures;

**Mission Findings**

**1. Observation of on-going skill/employability training**: The team members observed 3 on-going training programs (1 each in Kanchanpur and Bajura organized by the RMHS-Kanchanpur and 1 in Bajura organized by the HRC) in the two districts. The mission provided the team members an opportunity to take a stock of physical facilities, trainer's capacity and beneficiaries' views about the training programs. Motorcycle repairing training program in Kanchanpur showed an **example of collaboration with the Ministry of Labour and Employment (National Skill Development Centre)** that supported RMHS-Kanchanpur to continue training for additional four months to the same beneficiaries who have completed two month's course with the support of the Bridge Project. The additional four months' course will equip these trainees with up-graded skills to get better jobs in the market. In Bajura, the members observed another on-going training on off-season vegetable farming organized by the HRC. The participants seemed to be confident and expressed their satisfaction on the quality of the training with practical work. Another on-going training in Bajura on mobile phone repairing was observed to be a choice for young workers including 5 girls. The **views and expression made by girls gave an example of their courage in breaking traditional gender role in the world of work.**

**2. Interaction with the beneficiaries who have completed the skill/employability training**: The team organized a focused group interaction with the beneficiaries who have completed skill/employability training on different occupations in Kanchanpur. In general the beneficiaries were very happy withe course, some of them shared the knowledge and skills they have gained from the training. An interesting example was shared by a participant from house painting course that provided her a skill and courage in getting direct contract with the house owner which has **doubled their income (from Rs. 400/day to Rs. 800/day)** of a group of 5 women working together in a group. In Bajura the team had interacted with a few beneficiaries from off-season vegetable farming and goat keeping. The participants of off-season vegetable showed their practical work-sites already prepared and produced some vegetables. Despite their satisfaction of on getting such an intensive training (the training some of them have taken before were just for a few days which provided them will very little knowledge without options of practical sessions), some of the participants were **keen to become trainers (A TOT course is needed)** and upgrade their skills to next level. The participants also raised concerns on **getting additional support particularly for higher level training to compete in the market**.

**3. Meeting with other stakeholders:** The team members also met with the key partners for freed-Haliya resettlement program of Nepal government. In Kanchanpur, a meeting was organized in the office of the **Chief District Officer (chair of the Haliya Rehabilitation Committee in Kanchanpur)** in which different government agencies within the district - like Land Reform Office, Skill Development Office of the MoLESS, Small and Cottage Industry Office, Agriculture Office, Education Office participated. The land reform officer provided a brief progress of haliya rehabilitation in Kanchanpur where 1594 ex-haliyas have received ID cards (our of identified 2516). He also shared the lack of human and financial resource to complete the ID card distribution and verification for providing necessary support to the freed Haliyas. The team members also made a courtesy visit with the **Mayor of Shuklaphata Municipality Mr. Dil Bahadur Air**, who expressed his commitment to work together with Freed Haliyas association for supporting their initiatives in the municapility. In Bajura, a joint meeting of the freed-Haliya Rehabilitation Committee was organized which was chaired by the **Assistant Chief District Officer**. Two mayors (**Mayor of Budhiganga Municipality Mr. Deepak Bikram Shah and Mayor of Badimalika Municipality Mr. Padam Bahadur Baduwal**) from the district also participated in the meeting and expressed their commitment to support freed-Haliyas for their settlement within a year. The Mayor from Badimalika municipality expressed his opinion in providing **goats to 25 beneficiaries** from his municipality budget; for which the respective training partner should provide a detailed proposal, ensuring proper utilization of these goats to support income generation activities. Similarly the Mayor of Budhiganga municapility showed his interest in providing support to vegetable farmers, particularly for providing materials to prepare **tunnel for off-season vegetable farming**. The team members also meet with the respective staff of the four partners (RMHSF-N, RMHS-Kanchanpur, UCEP-Nepal, HRC-Bajura) visiting to their offices. The three partners have shown their strengths in different areas (**UCEP-Nepal for linking the trainees with employers, RMHS-Kanchanpur seeking collaboration and additional resources from local government and HRC-Bajura linking the trainees with other development partner's programs**) which can be useful for drafting a way forward strategy for sustaining and replicating the activities in other districts in the future.

**4. Participation in a capacity building training of RMHSF-N**: The team members also participated in an inaugural function of a 2-day capacity building training for the leaders of Haliya organizations from 12 districts for which the Bridge Project has provided financial support. The mayor of Amargadhi Municapility was the chief guest of the program in which the ILO Nepal Director, Mr. Richard Howard and International Relations Officer of the ILAB - USDOL expressed their opening remarks. A presentation on forced labour and **ILO Forced Labour Protocol, 2014** was made by the NPC of the Bridge Project in a technical session. Presentation is attached in the annex.

**Follow-up actions/next steps**

1. Organization of a learning/sharing workshop among the four partners of the Bridge Project on involved in livelihood training and employment

2. Capacity building training to be provided to local government representatives (on child/forced/bonded labour and overall labour rights) in Kanchanpur and Bajura districts

3. Drafting an exit plan

**List of Contacts**

1. Mr. Kumar Bahadur Thapa - Chief District Officer, Kanchanpur

2. Mr. Dil Bahadur Ayer - Mayor of Suklaphanta Municipality, Kanchanpur

3. Mr. Padam Bahadur Baduwal, Mayor of Badimalika Municipality, Kanchanpur

4. Mr. Deepak Bikram Shah, Mayor of Budhiganga Municipaligy, Bajura

5. Mr. Khagendra Bahadur Malla, Assistant Chief District Officer, Bajura

6. Mr. Dharmanand Bhatta - Land Reform Officer (Member Secretary of District freed Haliya Rehabilitation Committee, Kanchanpur)

7. Mr. Karan Bahadur Shahi - Land Revenue Officer (Member Secretary of District freed Haliya Rehabilitation Committee, Bajura)

8. Mr. Raju Ram Bhul - Chairperson, RMHSF-Nepal

9. Mr. Shibi Luhar - President of RMHS-Kanchanpur

10. Mr. Lal Bir Sarki, President of RMHS-Bajura

11. Mr. Bhim Kaini - UCEP Field Coordinator

12. Mr. Surendra Orha - HRC Coordinator

13. Mr. Nir Bahadur Shahi, - Chairperson of HRC Bajura

14. Mr. Anand Mani Bhatt - ILO Program Monitor

15. Ms. Laxmi Luhar - ILO Database Assistant

**Distribution List**

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**File attachments**

* [Mission of Karrie 30 May - 05 June 2018.docx](https://ksp.bkk.ilo.org/reports/mission-reports/reports/observation-of-livelihood-support-to-ex-bonded-labours/at_download/attachment1) — Office Word 2007 XML document, 31 kB (32,414 bytes)
* [Protocol to Forced Labour Convention No.29 and laws on FL-updated on 1st June 2018.pptx](https://ksp.bkk.ilo.org/reports/mission-reports/reports/observation-of-livelihood-support-to-ex-bonded-labours/at_download/attachment2) — Office Powerpoint 2007 XML presentation, 423 kB (433,161 bytes)