

January 2026

www.csrcnepal.org



Photo: CSRC

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

A nationwide monitoring campaign across districts reinforced accountability, ensuring the Commission remains responsive and people centered in a leadership of National Land Rights Forum (NLRF).

The annual Review and Reflection Program brought together CSRC campaigners from all seven provinces to collectively assess the progress of campaigns and programs throughout 2025.

The event, like always provided a platform to reflect on achievements, challenges, and lessons learned, strengthening shared commitment and strategic direction for the future.

Meeting with the land minister

A meeting was held with Hon. Minister Prof. Dr. Kumar Innam, Ministry of Land Management, Cooperative and Poverty Alleviation to present and discuss a memorandum on land governance and the Land Commission's work. The Minister reaffirmed his commitment to reform, announcing measures to reduce delays and corruption in land offices, including shifting services to ward offices and launching a zero-corruption campaign. He called for stronger monitoring by the Land Rights Forum.



The Chairperson of NLRF, Mr. Lyam Bahadur Darjee, emphasized key demands: amendment of Birta regulations, expedited distribution of land ownership certificates, timely completion of tenancy partition, and proactive resolution of people-centered land governance.

The ministry expressed readiness to take initiatives toward addressing these demands. During the meeting, strong advocacy was made for addressing the situation of landless Dalit squatters and other squatters through all three tiers of government within a defined timeframe and with firm commitment. It was emphasized that land administration offices such as the Revenue and Survey office must uphold good governance by eliminating the unnecessary burdens and penalties currently imposed on citizens. The Minister has pledged to eliminate corruption, publish matters related to birta in the official gazette, and take action against arbitrary plotting. Efforts will be made to carry out these mandates within a short-term timeframe.

Meeting with the Land Issues Resolving Commission

A meeting was held at the Land Issues Resolution Commission's central office in Tahachal with representatives from the National Land Rights Forum, CSRC, and National Land Coalition. Discussions centered on campaigns and monitoring for landless and informal settlers. Leaders from several districts shared challenges and expectations, while NLRF representatives pledged constructive cooperation and emphasized the importance of timely progress, noting they would continue to follow developments closely. Commission officials highlighted ongoing initiatives, acknowledged legal and practical hurdles, and committed to quick results in simple cases and collaborative solutions for complex ones, stressing the vital role of forums, leaders, and communities in the process.



Photo: CSRC

Similarly, the National Land Rights Forum, along with district forums from Jhapa, Morang, Sunsari, Udaypur, Bara, Parsa, Rautahat, Sarlahi, Mahottari, Dhanusha, Siraha, Makwanpur, Nawalpur, Kaski, Parbat, Rupandehi, Nawalparasi, and Bardiya (18 districts in total), visited the Land Commission's district committees. The Forum also announced that it will continue regular monitoring and vigilance, provide necessary support and facilitation while the Commission is working, but will launch strong movements against any tendency to evade responsibility under various pretexts.

Sanitation Campaign Initiated by the Land Rights Youth Forum

With the participation of 213 individuals, a sanitation campaign was carried out in Gujara Municipality Ward No. 4 (Kanakpur Bazaar) and Ward No. 1 (Manharwa) under the coordination of the Land Rights Youth Forum, in collaboration with the rural municipality.

The campaign saw participation from the District Land Rights Forum, youth leaders, ward chairpersons, other social activists, and representatives of the CSRC. Alongside the struggle for land rights, the Land rights forums are actively taking initiatives to address other community issues such as supporting citizenship-related efforts. After this campaign, the ward Chairpersons stated that the work carried out by the forum has sent a positive message to other wards and other land rights forums.



Photo: CSRC

Report on Landless Dalits, Landless Squatters, and Informal Settlers prepared in Dang

A ward-level analytical report has been prepared on the records and land survey maps of landless Dalits, landless squatters, and informal settlers. The report verifies their records and compiles detailed information on the plots and areas of land they have occupied. It organizes all necessary documents required for obtaining landownership certificates, provides essential information to the Commission, and documents the tasks completed by the local governments.

Covering five wards, Rajpur Rural Municipality (Wards 2 and 6), Lamahi Municipality (Ward 3), Rapti Rural Municipality (Ward 1), and Gadhawa Rural Municipality (Ward 2) the report includes details of the Ward Facilitation Committees, survey methods and processes, verification and authentication records, and plot details as per Schedule 9 along with claims submitted by the survey team under Section 12.

Annual PRRP Held

CSRC organized its annual Participatory Review and Reflection Program (PRRP) on 11–12 January 2026 at Kathmandu, with 36 participants including board members and campaigners. The two-day event reaffirmed CSRC's community-centered mission and values while reviewing achievements from January–December 2025. Achievements of the year 2025 across Land Access and Ownership, Women's Land Rights, Agro-ecology Promotion, and Building Resilient Communities, were shared and discussed the way forward for the land and agrarian rights.

This year, one of the major outcomes was that 3140 land ownership certificates were received, covering 687.73 ha. Similarly, 36875 Nissas were distributed. 14358 HHs were verified at the local level. Data collection 12550 HHs was completed.



Participation during the PRRP | Photo: CSRC, Saurabhi Niraula

At the policy level, the Council of Ministers amended the Birta Abolition Regulations. This amendment ends a feudal land system from the Rana era and establishes a legal process for tenant farmers to claim ownership of Birta lands they have cultivated for generations. The government signed an agreement to revise the Guthi Act, ensuring clearer rights for Mohi farmers. While implementation requires continued advocacy, this marks a significant step toward accountability and justice for tenant farmers.

The Annual Review and Reflection decided on the key priorities and innovations for 2026 which include focus on amplifying land rights through social media reels, cooperative engagement of landless women, and multi-level land dialogues. Community monitoring committees and CDMCs will be strengthened and linked to forums and national networks. Technology will support leaders' orientation. Initiatives such as expanding the existing Land Study House in Thimura and fundraising through a dedicated land rights publication will be advanced.

Livelihood programs will prioritize landless tenants and small farmers, reconnecting them to agriculture through market analysis, record-keeping, and collective storytelling. Traditional knowledge will be applied in disaster management, land measurement and awareness emphasized, lead farmers mobilized, and local governments engaged in monitoring to ensure resilience and continuity.



Photo: CSRC

Revitalizing Fallow Land for Livelihood Opportunities

Three Self-Help Groups, Shiva Mandir Samudayik Farmer Group, Basantapur Land Right Farmer Group, and Baghkholi Land Rights Farmer Group of Rajpur Rural Municipality are engaged in watermelon farming with support from the Climate Smart Agricultural program. This initiative aims to ensure the optimal utilization of fallow land while improving the livelihoods of landless farmers. Thirty-seven farmers, including twenty-five from Shiva Mandir Samudayik Farmer Group, five farmers from Basantapur Land Right Farmer Group and eleven farmers from Baghkholi Land Rights Farmer Group have been utilizing the fallow land through watermelon cultivation in about 4.33 hectares of the land.

Anita Chaudhary, Member, Shiva Mandir Samudayik Farmer Group shared ***“The area had been dominated by the Kans grass from a long time. We never imagined that we would cultivate the watermelon here, but with the support of the program we are now engaged in the watermelon with the hope that it will improve our livelihoods”.***



Land preparation for watermelon farming, Rajpur-3, Basantapur
Photo: CSRC, Sagar Sharma

Training in Climate Smart Vegetable Farming

A series of farmer level training sessions on Vegetable Farming including the practical demonstration, were conducted for landless and small holder farmers in the four local governments of Deukhuri valley, Dang district: Gadhawa, Rapti, Rajpur Rural Municipality and Lamahi Municipality. The training primarily focused on orienting the farmers on training and pruning practices in the main vegetable crops, tomato and cucurbits crops, seed treatment with the use of Trichoderma, nursery bed preparation and top dressing of the fertilizers.

Eighteen events of one day training were organized in which altogether 394 farmers (344 women and 50 men) participated and enhanced their skills and knowledge on the climate smart practices in the vegetable farming. The training featured content on how to enhance vegetable productivity, profitability, and sustainability by building farmer's capacity on integrated crop management practices.



Farmers learning to fill polybag for nursery establishment

Kalkamini Chaudhary, Member, Bhanpur Bhumi Adhikar Krishak Samuha shared ***“I practically know about the methods of pruning along with its benefits through this training, I will apply this knowledge in my vegetable farm.”***

Soil Testing Initiatives Strengthen Communities in Sindhupalchok and Mahottari

In the Panchpokhari Thangpal Rural Municipality (Wards 1 and 2) of Sindhupalchok, which includes the communities of Banskharka (Newar Tole, Pujaritole, Barjetole) and Baruwa (Salme, Dale, Bolgaun), a total of 43 farmers participated in soil testing. Additionally, in Gaushala Municipality (Wards 10 and 12) of Mahottari district, 16 farmers joined the initiative. This brings the combined total to 59 soil samples tested across both municipalities.

The analysis assessed pH levels, organic matter (OM), nitrogen, phosphorus, and potash in the soil. The results showed an excess of nitrogen, medium levels of phosphorus, and low levels of potash and organic matter. The pH ranged from 5.0 to 6.5, indicating moderately acidic soil conditions in Panchpokhari Thangpal Rural Municipality. To further investigate, a combined soil sample from Salme and Bolgaun was submitted to the Soil Department at Harihar Bhawan for a detailed micronutrient analysis.

In Gaushala Municipality, Mahottari, most farmers reported low soil pH and low organic matter, with nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium (NPK) levels varying from field to field. Bishnu Kumar Mahato from Ward No. 10 (Thapatole) stated, “After testing the soil, we gained a better understanding of its condition. We learned which crops are suitable for our land and why it is important to apply agricultural lime periodically for soil improvement.”

Following the identification of nutrient deficiencies, farmers began implementing corrective measures using organic approaches such as compost manure, vermicompost, balanced NPK fertilizers, and agricultural lime. Surendra Kushuwa from Mahottari reflected, **“Without understanding the condition of our soil, we were using chemical fertilizers that actually harmed the land.”**

The initiative helped farmers identify nutrient imbalances, deepening their understanding of the challenges affecting soil fertility.

Communities began to view soil health not just to increase short-term yields, but as the foundation for sustainable farming and long-term resilience.



JTA, Nirjala Shrestha, facilitated the soil test in Barjetole for farmers Manish Tamang and Damai Tamang | Photo: CSRC.



JTA Anju Kushwaha is facilitating the soil testing, Gaushala 10, Mahottari | Photo: CSRC



Safe Site Identification and Evacuation map installation in Barekot

In Barekot Rural Municipality, Jajarkot a geologist, along with the DRM facilitator, visited the nine disaster risk communities. They held a participatory discussion with the community members regarding the major disaster risk and safe side near their community for evacuation, focusing on the landslide and flood. Additionally, the community members were also made aware of gathering the weather forecast information through the toll-free number 1155 of the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology, and the relevance of the “GO” bag.



In Ward 1, Bayala, an evacuation map was installed. Based on the map, an interaction session was conducted with the CDMC and community members to explain the identified risk areas, covering risk zones, evacuation routes, safe sites, and available institutional facilities within the community.



Pratibaddha Review and Reflection

On 5–6 January 2026, Pratibaddha III organized a two-day review and reflection workshop that brought together all the members from consortium partners for collective dialogue and strategic alignment. The review provided a valuable platform to exchange achievements which included that across six local levels of western provinces, the FALS&R trained human resources have provided and shared knowledge with 128 people during the emergency period. A total of 175 HHS were temporarily relocated to the safe side during the monsoon period and Community landslide monitoring activity, such as setting up the moving peck in Rangband, Sarumarani Rural Municipality, Bhailokhan, and Pathuda, Kedarsyu Rural Municipality.

The program led to critical discussions, enabling deeper analysis and the co-creation of improved implementation strategies. This participatory approach raised constructive reflection and ensured that diverse perspectives were incorporated into decision-making. As a direct outcome of the workshop, partners formulated a clear strategy to guide activities during the remaining period.

Automated community sirens & setting up EOCs



Photo: CSRC

Under the RAIN Program, multi-hazard automated sirens have been installed in Maharajgunj and Yasodhara, boosting local disaster preparedness. In Maharajgunj, a siren at Hardauna's health post now covers five villages (over 1,000 households), while in Yasodhara, sirens in Khoriya Village cover Wards 7 and 8 (1,300 households). Trained Siren Focal Persons ensure effective operation and community ownership.

Orientation sessions and demonstrations strengthened understanding among officials, CDMCs, and residents on siren use, early warning messaging, and maintenance. Inauguration events involving government leaders and community members reinforced collaboration and promoted sustainable use of the system.

Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC)
Bhumi Ghar, Tokha-7, Kathmandu, Nepal
Tel: +977-4960468; 4957005
Email: landright@csrcnepal.org