



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

March 2026 marked a month for CSRC, with significant advances in land rights advocacy, leadership development, and community resilience.

Community leaders across multiple districts strengthened their collective action on land rights, while many landless and marginalized families, particularly women and single women, secured long-awaited land ownership certificates.

CSRC also celebrated its 33rd Annual Day, and enhanced disaster preparedness and sustainable livelihoods through targeted trainings, volunteer mobilization, and agricultural support, reinforcing dignity, security, and self-reliance at the community level.

Land Rights Training for Frontline Leaders

The Land Rights Training for Frontline Leaders brought together 211 leaders (113 women, 98 men, 109 Dalit, 67 Janajati, and 84 youth) from seven districts: Rautahat, Sarlahi, Mahottari, Dhanusha, Siraha, Kapilvastu, and Banke.

Participants reflected on past struggles, assessed current organizational efforts, and discussed political commitments



on land rights in today's changing context. They engaged directly with the Land Issues Resolving Commission, analyzing both outcomes and procedures for securing land.

Discussions also highlighted disaster risks faced by marginalized and landless communities, with knowledge shared on preparedness. Concluding that strong leadership and organizations are key to securing rights, participants identified new opportunities and challenges and developed practical strategies for future campaigns.

This initiative is expected to bring new energy to the land rights movement and leadership development. Returning with renewed enthusiasm, the leaders have begun mobilizing themselves to strengthen their organizations.

Ensuring Dignity and Security Through Land Ownership

After months of consistent dialogue, follow-up, and coordination between the District Land Rights Forum in Mahottari and the Napi Goswara Office, seven families from the Bantole Land Rights Forum, Gaushala Municipality, Ward No. 10, received land ownership certificates for the village block land that they and their ancestors have called home for generations.

Sharing her emotions, Lila Maya Kapchhaki, Chairperson of the Bantole Land Rights Forum, said : *"We had almost lost hope. The District Land Rights Forum stood beside us, continuously advocating and guiding us, showing us the office, teaching us how to ask questions, and encouraging us to persist. As a result of this joint effort, we finally received our landownership certificates. Today, we feel truly happy and relieved. The fear that someone might take our land or force us out is finally gone."*

Out of the seven families, one received joint land ownership certificates in the names of both husband and wife, four families received certificates in women's names, and two in men's names.



Land Rights Forum members of Bantole, Gaushala Municipality, Ward No. 10, proudly display their newly received land ownership certificates

This month also brought renewed hope for three families in Indrawati Rural Municipality, Melamchi, Sindhupalchok, who finally received their land ownership certificates after years of waiting. During this quarter, a total of 28 households successfully secured Chhut Darta, gaining legal ownership of 7.82 hectares of land.

Additionally, six single women received land certificates in their own names, marking an important milestone toward independence, dignity, and long-term security. The remaining households also secured land under single ownership, further enhancing tenure security in the community.



DLRF Sindhupalchok is engaging in regular dialogue and coordination meetings to support communities in the Chhut Darta process.

Joint Field Monitoring Visit to Rasuwa District

On 30–31 March 2026, a joint monitoring visit marked the closure of the Pratibaddha III program (2022–2026) in Uttargaya and Naukunda Rural Municipalities, Rasuwa. Representatives from EU Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid, consortium partners PIN, CSRC, SCI, and SWN engaged with local governments and Community Disaster Management Committees (CDMCs) to review disaster preparedness, working modalities, and project impact.

Findings show that key interventions have been largely institutionalized. Uttargaya Rural Municipality demonstrated strong ownership, integrating DRR into annual plans and budgets.



Basic Beekeeping Training for Landless Farmers



Farmers build their capacity in beehive handling

A five-day Basic Beekeeping Training brought new hope to 46 landless farmers from Dang and Rapti. With minimal land and limited livelihood options, participants discovered beekeeping as a sustainable enterprise requiring little space but offering steady income.

Facilitated by Mr. Rudra Mani Poudel and supported by Mr. Ashok Kumar Sharma, the training combined theory and hands-on practice. Farmers learned about bee species, hive management, artificial feed preparation, seasonal flowering patterns, and pest control. An exposure visit to bee farms and a honeycomb plant in Dang further boosted confidence.

Notably, women and youth led the participation, 38 women and 26 youth joined, from Tharu, Dalit, and marginalized groups.



Exposure visit to farmers in Shiva Shakti Industries, Ghorahi, Dang

Participant's voices:

"Even with a small piece of land, we can do something productive." – Pabitra Saha

"I was afraid of bees before, but now I feel confident." – Tara Pun

"Beekeeping doesn't need much land, yet it can bring good income." – Mangal Chaudhary

This training has sparked confidence, motivation, and hope showing that with creativity and resilience, landless farmers can build dignified livelihoods close to home.

FEATURE STORY OF THE MONTH

Empowering Farmers through Sustainable Agriculture

A farmer, Suraj Mani Chaudhary from Manpur Land Rights Farmer Group, is actively engaged in selling fresh vegetables at Gadhawa Bazaar. With technical and input support from the MAFRA-CSA program, she and her husband are cultivating vegetables on approximately 0.33 hectares of land. Previously, due to water scarcity, the family were only practicing subsistence farming. However, with irrigation support from the MAFRA-CSA program, they have successfully started cultivating multiple vegetable crops, ensuring a more sustainable livelihood.



Suraj Mani Chaudhary, a farmer from Manpur selling her own produce at Gadhawa Bazar

Earlier, her children used to migrate for labor work, but now her son is actively engaged in vegetable farming, making it the family's primary source of income. The family earns around NPR 3,000 per day from selling fresh vegetables. Her husband works full-time in the field, while she spends the day selling vegetables at Gadhawa market.

The family expresses great happiness, stating that vegetable farming has brought them together and strengthened their livelihood. With the initial support from the program, they are now fully committed to vegetable farming as their main occupation. She expresses great satisfaction with her work, sharing with a smile, "It feels great to earn like this by selling my own produce."

Chickpeas cultivated by her husband



Volunteer Management Training

CSRC, through the RAIN program, organized a seven-day Volunteer Management Training for the community members of Narainapur Rural Municipality, Banke. Twenty-four volunteers were registered in the NDRRMA portal as a volunteer.

The training-built skills in first aid, search and rescue, emergency response, and equipment use, with practical sessions and mock drills. Volunteers are now better prepared to act as first responders during floods, landslides, earthquakes, fires, and road accidents. The initiative strengthened Community Disaster Management Committees, improved coordination with local government and security agencies, and promoted inclusive approaches ensuring the participation of women, persons with disabilities, and vulnerable groups. This training enhanced community preparedness and better coordination.



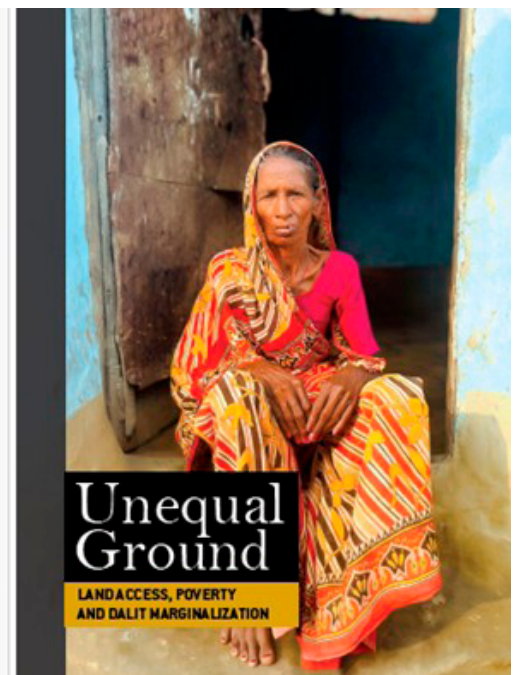
Mock drill on fire control and firefighting during the training

Unequal Ground: Final Report on Land Access and Dalit Marginalization

The study report titled 'Unequal Ground: Land Access, Poverty, and Dalit Marginalization' has been finalized. The research was carried out across eight local government areas - Karjanha, Arnam, Sahidnagar, Janaknandani, Bhimdatta, Beldandi, Shikhar, and Bogatan Fudsil Municipalities spanning four districts: Siraha, Dhanusha, Kanchanpur, and Doti.

This work was conducted in collaboration with the Lutheran World Federation Nepal (LWF), the Lutheran Community Welfare Society (LCWS), and the Rastriya Mukta Haliya Samaj Federation (RMHSF).

- This study examines the socio-economic conditions, land tenure patterns, and policy
- landscape affecting landless Dalit communities in eight municipalities across Madhesh and Far-West Provinces in Nepal. The major findings include:
- Socio-economic profile: Young population (43% <19) with poor health (life expectancy 61 yrs; under-5 mortality 90/1,000), low literacy (32%) and negligible higher education (1% bachelor's); 70% live in temporary houses; 29% lack toilets.



- In terms of land ownership and tenure, only 34% own their residence land; 69% have no agricultural access; contract plots average 0.06 ha; 59% produce no food and 96% buy all food.
- 71% send at least one member abroad for work (India 47%, Gulf 18%), despite fallow/absentee land remaining unused.
- When it comes to policy, Constitutional rights - Article. 40(5) exist but lack enforceable definitions and consistent implementation; only 37% applied for land allocation; municipal action and information are uneven.
- Gender and intersectionality: Dalit women face compounded caste-and-gender exclusion from inheritance and land ownership; legal frameworks are not gender-sensitive.

The full report:

<https://csrcnepal.org/unequal-ground-land-access-poverty-and-dalit-marginalization/>

CSRC's 33rd Annual Day Celebration

CSRC marked its 33rd Annual Day on 15th March, at Bhumi Ghar with a renewed sense of motivation and commitment to its mission. The celebration brought together the CSRC Executive Board, staff, members of the National Land Rights Forum (NLRF), and representatives from funding partners.



During the program, Board Members extended their best wishes for continued success in the year ahead. A highlight of the event was the formal launch of CSRC's Annual Report, Reflections 2025, by the respected Board Members. Additionally, the draft strategy prepared for 2026–2030 has been shared.

The gathering served not only as a moment of reflection but also as an inspiration to carry forward CSRC's vision with greater energy and collaboration.