



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

June was a month of strong community engagement and advocacy for CSRC. It included the three day Leadership Development Training for Siraha's frontline land rights leaders, a press conference in Dhangadhimai Municipality amplifying the voices of landless Dalits and women, and the celebration of World Environment Day in Lamahi with plantation activities and local government collaboration.

Supported schools in Siraha by installing 140 ceiling fans to protect children from heatwave impacts, while Narainapur Rural Municipality led a large scale Community Flood Mock Drill to strengthen disaster preparedness.

From Living on Land to Owning It: Village Block Land Ownership for 298 Families

With facilitation from the Mahottari District Land Rights Forum and support from CSRC, 298 land-poor families have secured ownership certificates for 4.81 hectares of village block land where they had lived for years without legal tenure. This achievement marks an important step toward ensuring land security, dignity, and social recognition for families who were previously vulnerable to uncertainty despite long-term residence on the land. The process was made possible through continuous



follow-up, coordination meetings with local government representatives, close engagement with ward members, and technical support from the land survey and revenue department. The District Land Rights Forum played a key role in facilitating the process for supporting documentation and maintaining regular communication with concerned authorities. Among the certificate recipients, 193 are men, 104 are women, and one certificate was issued jointly to a couple. Beyond legal ownership, this milestone has strengthened families' confidence to invest in safer housing, access public services more easily, and claim their rights as recognised landholders.

Advocacy Skills Development Training on Land Rights



A two day Advocacy Skills Development Training on Land Rights held in Lamahi Municipality, Dang on 4–5 June 2026 had a strong impact on revitalizing grassroots organizations and strengthening the advocacy capacity of marginalized communities. By bringing together leaders of District and Local Land Rights Forums alongside landless Dalits, sukumbasi and informal settlers, the training reinforced the importance of collective action and organizational resilience in the face of forced eviction and displacement. Participants gained practical skills in community context analysis, legal frameworks, and advocacy strategies, while also reviewing the organizational status of municipal forums and committing to expand and mobilize local structures.

The involvement of national leaders of CSRC representatives renewed solidarity, boosted morale, and sharpened awareness of policy delays and government actions that risk undermining land rights. Overall, the training contributed significantly to empowering communities with

stronger tools, networks, and confidence to advance the land rights movement more effectively.



Leadership Development Training for Land Rights' Frontline Leaders

A three-day Leadership Development Training was held in Kathmandu from 15–17 June 2026 under the Madhesh Good Governance Strengthening Programme, jointly implemented by Nepal Mahila Ekata Samaj, CSRC, and CARE Nepal. Twenty frontline campaign leaders from Siraha (16 women and 4 men) participated, representing Dhangadhimai Municipality and Laxmipur Patari Rural Municipality. The training focused on feminist theory, women's leadership, gender, digital security, organizational and ideological capacity, and current land rights issues, including the amended Land Act and the mandate of the Land Problem Resolution Committee.

Participants engaged in interactive sessions, visited displaced families in Kirtipur to strengthen solidarity, and met with the Land Issues Resolution Committee, submitting a memorandum to Chairperson Balbhadra Baskota and members Padmanidhi Soti, Amir Neupane, and Rehana Shrestha calling for urgent action on land challenges in Siraha. The programme reinforced feminist leadership, campaign capacity, and collective advocacy for land and women's rights.



Press Conference

On 3 June 2026, a press conference was organized in Dhangadhimai Municipality, Siraha, bringing together 50 participants including landless Dalits, Sukumbasi, informal settlers, campaigners, and journalists from national and local media. The press conference highlighted the challenges faced by landless people, Dalits, and women, calling for an end to forced evictions, protection of land and housing rights, and the creation of an enabling environment for land ownership certificates. Participants shared experiences of landlessness, fear of eviction, lack of citizenship documentation, village block settlements, gender-based violence, child marriage, and limited access to education and basic services. Emphasis was placed on the role of media in amplifying these concerns to authorities. The gathering also underscored the need to strengthen the Land Rights Forum and pursue legal and policy advocacy to safeguard affected communities. Journalists were urged to widely report on these realities to ensure government attention and meaningful action.

Coordination Meeting in Dhanauji

A meeting and discussion were held with Mr. Raj Kumar Sah, Chairperson of Dhanauji Rural Municipality, Dhanusha. During the meeting, updates were shared on the activities facilitated by the CSRC, including key achievements and overall progress. The project progress report, along with the proposed plans and budget for the upcoming fiscal year, was formally presented.

The discussion also reviewed the current status of the data collection process for landless Dalits, Sukumbasi, and informal settlers, which has been stalled. It was noted that the process has been delayed because Ward Secretaries have not signed the completed registration forms. The Chairperson explained that, in the absence of clear directives from the Land Problem Resolution Committee, the concerned officials have been unable to proceed. He expressed his commitment to coordinating with the relevant authorities after Asar 25 (early July) to expedite the process.

Following the meeting, the team met with the Chief District Officer and submitted a memorandum highlighting the concerns regarding the stalled land registration process. The Chief District Officer informed the team that the necessary circular had already been issued and provided an official letter from the Survey Office regarding the coordination meeting. The letter was subsequently forwarded through community leaders for submission to Dhanauji Rural Municipality to facilitate further action.



Similarly, a meeting in Bharariya Paswan Tol, Dhanauji brought together newly elected Forum members and community leaders. They discussed strengthening the Land Rights Forum, coordinating with local authorities and committees, holding regular meetings, mobilizing funds, and supporting data collection on landless households.



Memorandum on Forced Evictions

A discussion was held with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), during which a memorandum was submitted requesting an investigation into cases of forced eviction affecting landless communities.

The meeting was attended by NHRC commissioners, the Commission's spokesperson, joint secretaries and deputy secretaries, as well as representatives from Amnesty International, Nepal Mahila Ekata Samaj, the National Land Rights Forum, CSRC, and Senior Advocate Raju Prasad Chapagain.



Submission of a Memorandum to the Land Issues Resolution Committee

To advocate for the resolution of issues faced by landless and informal settlers and to ensure their tenure security, the District Land Rights Forums from 10 districts, Bara, Parsa, Rautahat, Sarlahi, Mahottari, Dhanusha, Sindhupalchok, Rasuwa, Gorkha, and Chitwan, submitted a memorandum to the Land Issues Resolution Committee through their respective Chief District Officers.

The memorandum called for the following actions-

- Ensure timely data collection and entry of landless Dalits, sukumbasi and informal settlers.
- Implement constitutional provision to provide adequate land for Dalits' housing and farming.
- Guarantee representation of the District Land Rights Forum in local facilitation committees and district meetings.
- Expedite land ownership certificate distribution with proper coordination and monitoring.
- Reaffirm the commitment of the District Land Rights Forum, Dhanusha, to support transparent and timely land issues resolution.



Community Meetings and Reflect Classes

Community meetings were conducted with the Land Rights Forum in Mathiyahi Tol (Bajrangbali Village) of Dhangadhimai Municipality, Siraha, to monitor Reflect class activities and discuss key issues affecting the community. During the discussion, participants shared that the Reflect classes have been serving as a regular platform to discuss social issues such as the dowry system, child marriage, superstitions, and citizenship-related concerns. They highlighted that these sessions have played a significant role in raising awareness and fostering positive social change within the community.

The community comprises 25 households, all of whom are engaged in agricultural activities on their privately owned land. Participants identified the dowry system as one of the major social challenges in the community. They explained that the practice has forced many families into debt, compelled them to sell their limited landholdings, and had adverse effects on their mental well-being.



Similarly, another community meeting was held with the Land Rights Forum in Musaharniya Tol (Harawa-Charawa Village), Ward No. 9 of Dhangadhimai Municipality. The settlement is home to 43 landless Musahar households. Although they received land entitlement certificates (Nissa) in 2020, they have yet to receive their land ownership certificates.

As part of the visit, a discussion was also held with Ward Chairperson Mr. Prakash Yonjan regarding the recommendations required for electricity meter installation. He informed the team that the necessary recommendation had already been issued and reaffirmed his commitment to providing all possible support from the ward office.

Closing Meeting with Local Governments

An achievement-sharing, review, and project closure coordination meeting was organized in Khalte, Uttargaya Rural Municipality. During the meeting, the overall facilitation process by CSRC was presented, major achievements, key challenges encountered during implementation, and the concerns of hydropower project-affected communities that still require attention. Discussions emphasized the need for continued collaboration to ensure that unresolved issues are addressed beyond the project period.

The elected representatives of Uttargaya Rural Municipality acknowledged CSRC's facilitation role in strengthening community participation, provided support for the implementation of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), and supported affected communities in accessing their rights and benefits from the Upper Trishuli-1 Hydropower Project. The meeting was attended by 29 participants, including elected representatives of Uttargaya Rural Municipality, leaders from project-affected communities, representatives of the Land Rights Forum, and journalists from the media.



Celebration of World Environment Day, 2026

World Environment Day 2026 was celebrated on 5 June in Lamahi Municipality, Dang, in collaboration with the Divisional Forest Office, Deukhuri, and Lamahi Municipality. The event brought together representatives from CSRC, government agencies, community forest user groups, and local communities, with the presence of Mayor Jograj Chaudhary, Deputy Mayor Laxmi Yogi, and Senior Divisional Forest Officer Ganesh Bahadur Khadka.

Following the orientation, participants carried out a plantation activity in Nawashanti Community Forest, planting 60 saplings of indigenous species including Mahuwa, Sisoo, and Dalchini. The initiative aimed to restore degraded land, enhance green cover, and strengthen community ownership in environmental protection, showcasing a

strong collaborative commitment to sustainability.



Training on Home Garden for Landless Farmers

A series of farmer level training on “Home Garden for Landless Farmers” were conducted in the four local level governments of Deukhuri valley, Dang. The training program successfully raised farmers’ awareness regarding use of the Trichoderma, management of the home garden for maintaining household food security, nursery raising of the vegetable crops.

A total of 978 individuals participated, comprising 209 males, 769 females, 419 youth, 346 Tharu, 172 Brahmin/Chhetri, 189 Dalit, 48 Madhesi, and 223 from other communities. Furthermore, participants were educated on seasonal vegetable production planning and crop calendar preparation.



FEATURE STORY

From Migrant Labour to Model Vegetable Farmer

At 57, Bhogindra Mahato of Laxminiya Community in Gaushala Municipality, Mahottari District stands as an inspiring example of vegetable farming. Once dependent on seasonal migration to India to support his family, he has now become one of the progressive commercial vegetable farmers in his community. His journey shows how the right knowledge, technical support, and confidence can turn farming into a dignified and sustainable livelihood.

Before establishing himself as a farmer, Mr. Mahato travelled to India for seasonal labour. Like many rural households, his family depended on this income for daily needs. After returning to Nepal, he began cultivating vegetables on leased land. Over time, his interest and commitment to farming grew, and he gradually expanded his enterprise to around 2 hectares of leased land, producing different seasonal vegetables according to market demand and climatic suitability.



CSRC's support became an important turning point in Mr. Mahato's farming journey. Through the intervention, he received support to cultivate vegetables on 0.102 ha of land: 0.034 ha each of long-yard bean, cucumber, and bitter gourd.

More importantly, the project strengthened his knowledge and confidence. He learned improved vegetable production practices, vine crop management, pruning techniques, compost preparation, disease management, Integrated Pest Management, Integrated Nutrient Management, safe pesticide handling, and farm record keeping. These learnings helped him understand that successful farming is not only about working hard, but also about making the right decisions at the right time.

From the supported 0.102 ha, Mr. Mahato harvested 1,180.5 kg of long-yard bean, 2,056.5 kg of cucumber, and 1,395 kg of bitter gourd, with bitter gourd harvesting still ongoing. He was able to sell a

large share of the produce in the market, including 1,057 kg of long-yard bean, 1,862 kg of cucumber, and 1,232 kg of bitter gourd.

Beyond the numbers, the intervention brought meaningful changes in his farming behaviour. He reduced unnecessary use of pesticides and fungicides, started applying recommended dosages, improved the timing of pesticide application by spraying in the morning or evening, and began observing waiting periods before harvesting vegetables. He also started keeping farm records to track production, costs, income, and profit.

For Mr. Mahato, the greatest change has been his confidence. Farming is now the primary source of income for his household. Through vegetable farming, he has been able to support his children's education, finance his daughter's marriage, and even purchase land from his savings. His success has given him not only economic stability, but also pride in his work and renewed hope for the future.



Bhogindra reflects, *"Earlier I used to go to India for labour work to support my family. After returning to Nepal, I started vegetable farming on leased land. With the income from farming, I have been able to support my children's education, manage my daughter's marriage, and buy some land. Earlier, we farmed mostly from experience and used more pesticides when pests and diseases appeared. Now, I have learned to use fertiliser and pesticides only when needed, in recommended doses, wait before harvesting, and keep farm records. This year, production has improved, and unnecessary expenses have reduced. Most importantly, I can now manage my farming more systematically and share what I have learned with other farmers."*

Final Review and Reflection Workshop of Pratibaddha III Concluded

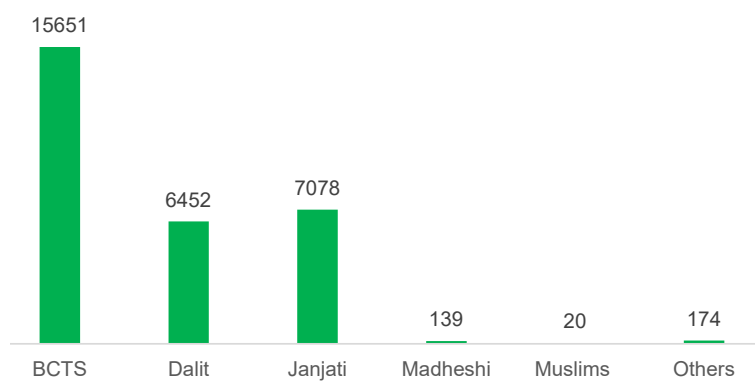


The Final Review and Reflection Workshop of Pratibaddha III was organized from 22–24 June at, Surkhet. The event brought together consortium partners, senior management teams, and project staff members to collectively reflect on the project's achievements, challenges, and key learnings over its implementation period.

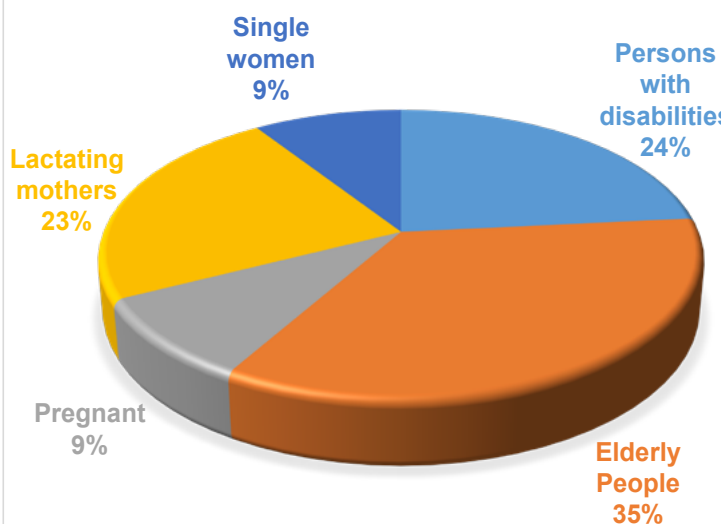
A total of 56 participants attended the workshop, which served as a shared learning platform where participants exchanged experiences and reflected on their journeys throughout the project. *"I feel very proud of what you all have achieved throughout the project, both at the community and government levels,"* shared Simone Di Vicenz, Country Director of PIN,

appreciating the collective efforts and impacts created through the project.

BENEFICIARIES REACH BY ETHNICITY



BENEFICIAIRES REACH BY VULNERABILITY



Reflecting on the team's collective efforts, Mr. Gopal Krishna Basnet, Program Coordinator from CSRC, shared in his closing remarks, *"Having such a dynamic team has been one of our greatest achievements for our program. What we have accomplished today would not have been possible without the dedication and commitment of the entire team."*

Over the course of its implementation, Pratibaddha III successfully reached a total of 29,922 beneficiaries, including 14,986 males and 14,936 females, contributing significantly to community-level empowerment and resilience building.

Fan installation Improve the Learning Environment

In response to rising heatwave impacts in Nepal's Terai, the RAIN Project, in coordination with Siraha Municipality, implemented a Heat Early Action initiative to improve classroom conditions in primary schools. A total of 140 ceiling fans were installed across 101 tin roof classrooms in 19 schools, directly benefiting 4,632 students, including girls, boys, and children with disabilities. The intervention reduced heat stress, improved comfort, and enhanced learning outcomes, with teachers reporting fewer disruptions and students remaining more attentive. Testimonials from head teachers and students highlighted the meaningful difference this simple yet impactful support has made. The initiative reflects strong collaboration between the municipality, education authorities, DRR focal persons, school leadership, and local communities, strengthening resilience and ownership in addressing climate related risks.

Community Flood Mock Drill Strengthens Local Disaster Preparedness i

Narainapur Rural Municipality, with support from the RAIN , conducted a large scale Community Flood Mock Drill in Ward No. 6, Gangapur, engaging 274 participants including local authorities, CDMCs, task forces, security forces, Red Cross, volunteers, and humanitarian partners. The simulation tested early warning dissemination, evacuation, search and rescue, first aid, shelter management, and coordination among multiple stakeholders, significantly strengthening local flood preparedness.

The exercise enhanced community confidence, prioritized protection of vulnerable groups, and provided hands on experience in emergency response. Overall, the drill demonstrated the value of practical, community led simulations in building resilience and strengthening municipal disaster response capacity.

