

**Interaction program on the effects of Covid-19 and the role of local stakeholders in
addressing it (Gorkha)**

Forum for Nation Building Nepal

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Prepared by

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Designation – Intern

Summary of the Project

Project Title	Mainstreaming the Effects, Actions and Needs (MEAN)
Duration in months	18 months
Start and end date as per contract	August 2021- January 2023
Budget	USD 49,805
Location	Sahidlakhan, Rural Municipality, Gorkha
Donor	Open Society Foundation
Stakeholders	Local Government, Civil Society Organizations,
Project Aim/Overall Objective	The project aims to leverage government resources and policies for adaptation to current COVID 19 crisis by means of edification, policy debate interaction, research and review of government initiatives, and ensuring the agenda of COVID response as a major political discourse in upcoming local government election.
Specific Objectives	<p>To critically analyze the existing plans and policy of government and identify the policy gap.</p> <p>To rise awareness augment understanding of community people about COVID-19 also ensuring the access to services and access to right.</p> <p>To sensitize requirement of multidimensional strategy and planning to increase resilience against COVID-19 multifaceted impacts.</p>

Introduction to the program:

Forum for Nation Building (FNB) Nepal organized an interaction program on the topic of **“Interaction program on the effects of Covid-19 and the role of local stakeholders in addressing it”** on 30th August, 2022 **Sahidlakhan Rural Municipality- Hall, Gorkha**. The program was local government level and Advocate Ramesh Adhikari facilitated it.

The objective of the program was to leverage government resources and policies for adaptation to current COVID 19 crisis by means of edification, policy debate interaction, research and review of government initiatives, and ensuring the agenda of COVID response as a major political discourse.

Proceeding of program:

In the first session Mr. Suman Neupane gave information about including all impacts of Covid-19 with PowerPoint presentation and second session opened the floor for the interaction for participants. In the program, policy making and the role of stakeholders to address the situation of COVID-19 was discussed. COVID-19 is a pandemic which affected many countries including Nepal. The participants gave their opinion about different types of disasters. As Sindhupalchowk district is affected by many disasters such as, earthquake, land slide, flood the program held a great importance.

However, government authority lack to do any work for affected peoples as they need. So in this situation NGO's and INGO's must play the role for betterment of the peoples with coordination of government and local government.

Methodology

The program was an outcome of the collaboration with the municipality and FNB. The program was chaired by advocate Suman Neupane of FNB, Nepal and the chief guest of the program was Rural Municipality Chairperson Rameshwavu Thapa Magar. Deputy Chairperson Indira Tiwari, Chief Administrative Officer Jeevan Bahadur Ale Magar, Ward chairs from all the wards i.e. from No.1 to 9, Khun Prasad Regmi of the education committee, Ramesh Kumar Shrestha, head of the political party were the guests in the program.

The main methods we had followed on an orientation program was:

- i) Introduction
- ii) Formal Session

- iii) PowerPoint Presentation
- iv) Question Answer and Discussion.

Outcome of Interaction and Recommendation:

- Even though people are more aware about COVID -19 now, it would be viable for the municipality to take precautions in a planned way for future endeavors.
- What might be the ways of possible precaution with minimum budget.
- Because of Covid-19 many people lost their jobs. If possible some working and earning packages for livelihood should be prepared.
- Government must make practical policies to make easy or obtain facilities which provided after any disastrously.
- Good governance is important for betterment of all people's rights.
- There must proper implement of fundamental rights.
- There must keep record of the affected peoples by Covid-19.
- There should keep record of suicide case and find out the reason why they commits suicide.
- Keep close relationship always with the local government.
- Suggest the government to amendment of laws which is not easy to access justice.
- Prevention is more important than rescue. So prepare for that all.
- What has the rural municipality done regarding the matter of COVID- 19? If the organizers had elaborated on how other municipalities should work it would help to formulate policies, plan and manage in this area.

Annex



