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| Danish organisation | DIB |
| Title of the intervention | Increasing the participation of women and marginalised groups in sustainable livelihood activities |
| Partner name(s) | CHILDREN-Nepal |
| Amount applied for | 499.929 DKK |
| Country(ies) | Nepal |
| Period (# of months) | 01.11.2021 - 31.08.2022 (10 months) |

1. Objective and relevance (the world around us)

The long-term objective of the partnership between DIB and CN is to reduce poverty among poor and marginalised families in rural areas by enhancing their capacity and capability to create more sustainable livelihood and local sustainable development.

The objectives of this proposed intervention are:

1. By the end of the project, women and marginalised groups are responsible for marketing, branding and promotion of the cooperatives’ organic products
2. By the end of the project, CN has strengthened its capacity to work with women and marginalised groups

Through the *Enhancing rural livelihoods in Nepal* project (ERL project, 17-2112-UI-sep), which ends in October 2021, CN has demonstrated that they are capable of working within the area of organic farming and local sustainable development. The three project communities have successfully converted their conventional way of farming into organic farming, established organic agriculture groups (which are in the process of being registered as cooperatives) and installed different environmental-friendly solutions such as wastewater systems, rainwater collection tanks/ponds, irrigation systems, plastic tunellas and improved cookstoves with technical support from CN. These solutions and the use of organic farming methods have for many farmers resulted in better produce, increase of yield, higher self-sufficiency and increase in income due to sale of surplus vegetables.

The external evaluation of the intervention, which was carried out in the beginning of 2021, showed that CN has a great cooperation with the local authorities, and this has led to support from the Rural Municipalities (RM) to the communities. CN has also started cooperating with other organisations working in the sector of sustainable development and organic farming. Together they have been advocating for government authorities to take action when it comes to climate change and environmental protection in Nepal. At local level, CN and the local agents of change have developed community plans and shared the needs of the local communities, which have resulted in allocation of funds from RM to increase the access to water as well as small grant support for vegetable pocket programs.

However, the external evaluation of the ERL project also showed that the partners faced difficulties in involving the most marginalised people from the target group. The deeply rooted inequalities between social groups in the communities and the power relations and imbalances between CN and the target group make it a huge challenge to engage and motivate the most marginalised people. Furthermore, a poverty assessment carried out by CN in June 2021 showed that 62.2% of people in the communities still live below the poverty line. The baseline study of the ERL project, which was carried out in 2018 showed that 77.4% of people at that time lived below the poverty line, which means that the ERL project has only made a small difference, and a high number of people still find it difficult to meet their basic needs.

Our work in the three communities has taught us that it takes a long time to change the mindset of people when it comes to changing traditional practices, but it is starting to pay off. As mentioned, many farmers have succeeded in using organic farming methods and thereby increased their income, but not all have been able to sell their products or even sell their products for a fair price. From this, we have learned that we need to focus more on market access and strategy for farmers to be able to increase their income. Therefore, we will establish a marketing group in each community consisting of women and marginalised groups and let them take a leading role in promoting the products and establishing contact to possible business partners. The involvement of women and marginalised groups in these activities will bring them closer to the work of the cooperatives, inspire them to start their own kitchen garden and add value to the work of the cooperatives by being essential actors for the income generation options of the cooperatives. The marketing groups and the cooperatives will benefit from each other’s work, creating a more sustainable livelihood. At the same time, there is a need for consolidating the certification system of the cooperatives to raise the prices of their organic products. Another important aspect for the cooperatives to be successful in selling their products is the awareness raising on the benefits of organic farming, which is low in the area and in Nepal in general. These are some of the gaps we want to address with this intervention.

The focus on involving women and marginalised groups goes hand in hand with the current initiative of the local governments to establish a system that addresses poverty-related issues and the involvement of marginalised groups. New provisions set out to have female and female Dalit representation in ward, local governments and community institutions. This also makes it a great opportunity for the project and the partners to contribute with knowledge and learnings to the process of establishing a well-functioning system at local government level that gives marginalised groups a voice in a social inequal setting.

The learnings we have collected throughout the ERL project together with the positive feedback and support from local authorities and the willingness from CN to improve and take an active and self-reflective part in the process are encouraging us to continue our work in the communities. Caste and gender are sensitive topics to work with, but the social inequalities in the communities and the different power relations need to be addressed to reach our long-term goal. After the challenges faced regarding this in the ERL project, we see the need to use a more innovative and creative approach to deal with these issues. In this proposed intervention we will use social forum theatre and Alternative to Violence Project (AVP) methods as tools to create a safe space where different social inequalities between groups can be addressed. This will be done in an informal way encouraging laughs, fun and creative ideas on how to tackle daily issues through a forum theatre set-up.

By focusing on the involvement of women and marginalised groups and strengthening the capacity of CN, we expect that CN will be equipped to work with these groups in the future, so we can spread and replicate the activities to other areas. Our ambition is to apply for a bigger project next year, where the strengthened capacity of CN and the target group as well as findings from this intervention will make it possible to involve new communities in organic farming and advocate for more local sustainable development in Nepal.

**Context of the intervention**

The intervention will take place in the Western Development Region of Nepal in the three communities of Phallapani and Lewade of Annapurna Rural Municipality in Kaski district and Gunjara of Myagde Rural Municipality in Tanahun district. Phallapani and Lewade are situated about 30 km west of Pokhara while Gunjara is situated about 50 km east of Pokhara. In general, these areas are rural, poor and affected by changing weather conditions and climate change. During the last years farmers have experienced droughts, heavy rainfalls, mudslides, increasing temperatures and effects on agricultural produce. These conditions affect communities, and they have less resources and capacities to adjust to the changes. The chosen project sites for this intervention are the same as where the ERL project was implemented. CN and DIB want to continue working in these communities since the partners did not fully succeed in involving the most marginalised people during the ERL project. Participant lists which were thoroughly checked at the evaluation showed that it was not always listed members of the cooperatives who participated in activities, but sometimes other household members. The participant lists will be monitored closely during this intervention to ensure the participation of women and marginalised groups.

Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world and 62.2% of people in Phallapani, Lewade and Gunjara live below the poverty line. During the ERL project some farmers have experienced an increase in income, but the majority of people in the communities still find it difficult to meet their basic needs. Lack of education, health issues and migration are some of the poverty-derived issues, that are affecting people in the communities. One of the major issues is the practice of social and structural disadvantage over Dalits and women which is very much present in Nepalese society despite being illegal as early as 1963 (revised Civil Code). It is more prevalent in the communities than we realised when we started the ERL project. One of the strategies of the ERL project was to promote collaboration between different community groups and pay special attention to the inclusion of the most marginalised. However, we did not fully succeed in this, and we have realised that it will take even more time to change the mindset of people. The success of empowering marginalised groups depends on their social reach and stand in the community, why the focus of this intervention is to deal with the social issues, and through innovative outlets create awareness and start a dialogue in the communities. We are aware of the challenges when working within this area and we have become even more aware of the complexity of caste and class. Not only Dalits are exposed to discrimination, but also high caste people who are extreme poor are victims of discrimination.

The political situation has been unstable for a long time with a restructuring of the political setup. The local governments are in the process of establishing a new system and practices to address poverty-related issues and the inclusion of marginalised groups. There is a provision of having at least one Dalit female representative in the ward committee of the local governments. Similarly, there is a legal provision that there should be female representation in the chief or vice chief position in the local governments. Moreover, there should be at least 33% female representation in any community institution as well. This focus on marginalised groups and female representation gives the intervention an opportunity to contribute to the development of a new strategy reaching the marginalised groups at local level.

Nepal is, as many other countries, still badly affected by Covid-19 and the Social Welfare Council (SWC) now demands that all new projects address Covid-19 in some way. Therefore, we will include orientation on safety measures to the target group as well as distribution of masks and sanitizer during activities.

**Strengthening civil society organising**

The intervention will promote active citizenship through capacity building activities and involvement of women and marginalised groups in marketing activities of the organic products of the cooperatives. The capacity building activities will take a starting point in breaking down social barriers through the use of social forum theatre and AVP to create awareness on the inequalities that prevail in the communities and the possible solutions. This participatory approach will contribute to social justice and bring the marginalised to the centre of the stage to become a part of the solution. At the same time, it will enable CN staff to reflect on their role in relation to the target group aiming at improving the communication and finding a way to motivate the most marginalised to take active part in project activities.

Furthermore, the intervention will support the cooperatives in the consolidation of the certification of their organic vegetables and in that way continue to promote the benefits of working together in a group. The cooperatives and CN will continue to promote organic farming to improve livelihood in the communities and collaborate with the Rural Municipalities to support their work on having more women and Dalits represented in local level institutions. The strengthening of civil society will also take place within CN’s network by sharing experiences and learnings along the way.

**Climate- and environmental conditions the partnership/intervention responds to**

The partnership has since 2017 worked towards raising awareness on climate- and environmental conditions as well as addressing local issues in the project areas through organic farming and the installation of environmental-friendly solutions. During this intervention the partners will keep motivating the target group to use the solutions and remind them of the benefits of organic farming. The focus on women and marginalised groups will involve more people in farming activities and in the cooperatives. Working with the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) will also guarantee a higher price for the products and in that way motivate the target group to keep doing organic farming and thereby protect the environment.

The partners have not been able to meet for almost two years due to the Covid-19 situation and we foresee a need to travel to Nepal twice: in the beginning and in the end of the project. For one of the visits one person from the project group will visit CN together with Lykke Valentin, who will already be in Nepal for another partner visit. Meeting face-to-face will be valuable for the partners to ensure a fruitful start of the project, follow up on the ERL project evaluation, monitor, build the capacity of CN and discuss future activities. We are aware that the Covid-19 can make travelling difficult and if it will not be possible to travel in the beginning of the project, we will have an online start-up meeting and postpone the first visit.

The partnership/collaborators (our starting point)

**DIB** is working to support the development of a strong civil society in the Global South and democratic planning processes, with the aim of supporting poor and marginalised people in achieving sustainable livelihoods and resilience. Focus has especially been on those who are affected by natural hazards, climate change and environmental degradation. DIB's approach is, through partnerships with local civil society organisations, to provide necessary tools, knowledge, and knowhow to the local population so they can improve their living conditions while respecting social, economic, and environmental aspects of life. Human settlement, local planning and sustainable development are among DIB’s core competences together with appropriate technology transfer adapted to local conditions. DIB's core activity is capacity building of the local partner (technical, organizational, and administratively), project implementation and monitoring.

The DIB Nepal project group is a diversified group of people with different backgrounds having extensive knowledge and experience from Nepal, experience within project implementation and monitoring as well as sustainable development and livelihood. Anthropologist Sonja Salminen has lived in Nepal and has solid experience working with caste and gender in a South Asian context. Camilla Sternberg holds a master’s degree in Global Gender Studies and has worked with gender in South Asia and Southeast Asia. Architect Nikita Gyawali is Nepalese speaking and has enormous insight and understanding of Nepalese culture. Manju Nielsen works in HR, where she arranges events on diversity and inclusion. The professional experiences of the project group give DIB a strong foundation for supporting CN in project activities such as forum theatre, AVP and gender training. All members of the group have visited Nepal.

**CHILDREN-Nepal (CN)** was founded in 1995 and the overall objective of the organisation has been to help children and their families through a holistic approach by improving their situation and livelihood as well as their school and community. CN has been working to empower children and parents living under difficult circumstances through organizing regular interactions, dialogues, training, counselling, and self-help group initiatives. CN has been practicing a right-based working approach in their social work, and that transparent and neutral role has proven to be beneficial and successful in their social work initiatives in the local communities, even during political conflicts in the country during the last decade.

CN has developed its organisation throughout the partnership with DIB and has gained knowledge and experience on global and local environmental issues and has increased awareness on possible solutions. CN has a common understanding on environmental and climate issues, the SDGs, sustainable livelihood, and possible solutions for sustainable community development. During the partnership, CN has strengthened its capacity to carry out advocacy activities and has together with the local communities succeeded in receiving financial support from local authorities. CN has a big network, which now also counts different organisations working within sustainable development and organic farming. DIB introduced CN to its other Nepalese partner CRT/N, and CN visited CRT/N’s EVD project site in Kavre District to learn about different environmental-friendly solutions and farming techniques. CISU carried out a monitoring visit in November 2019, where they introduced CN to the Nepalese organisation ASK Nepal. This introduction has been very valuable to CN and the two organisations are sharing experiences regularly.

By the end of the ERL project, CN staff has received training in social mobilization and strengthened their capacity to work with the target group. At the same time, CN has great knowledge and experience on AVP methods, which will come into play during this intervention. The project coordinator is responsible for the coordination, planning and monitoring of activities and the project assistant supports the project coordinator within documentation of activities and monitoring of field staff. The field staff are based in Gunjara and Lewade/Phallapani and they both have a background in agriculture. They are responsible for the implementation of activities and support the target group with technical assistance in farming activities.

**Previous acquaintance/cooperation between the partners**

DIB and CN have collaborated since 2017 on two interventions; first a partnership intervention (​​16-1848-PA-apr) and then the ERL project (17-2112-UI-sep), which started in 2018. The partners have since the beginning been sharing experiences, knowledge and resources to facilitate and support rural communities in developing a more sustainable livelihood. An external evaluation was carried out in the beginning of 2021, and this has added on to the lessons learned making clear where the partners can improve.

The partnership will continue working effectively in the area towards raising awareness on climate- and environmental conditions as well as addressing poverty through organic farming, PGS certification and the work of the cooperatives. In addition to this, the project will also be focusing on empowering marginalised groups and ensuring their participation by the means of social interaction and dialogue across the caste-class divide. Social forum theatre and AVP have been shown to be successful ways to address social inequalities and will be used in the intervention as tools to create dialogue and awareness.

**Contributions, roles, and responsibilities of the partners and other actors**

DIB is responsible for the project coordination and monitoring, following up and giving feedback on different lines of work, capacity building of the partner and for making sure that experienced resource persons are selected for the capacity building of CN. DIB will specifically arrange a training for CN staff in collegial supervision to strengthen the self-reflection of staff members in their work with marginalised groups.

CN is responsible for the implementation of activities in the communities, the contact to Rural Municipalities to make sure that our work is in line with theirs and sharing project progress monthly with DIB.

**Developing the relationship and collaboration between the partners**

The intervention will further strengthen the relationship between DIB and CN and increase knowledge addressing social inequalities in the communities with a more innovative approach. It will provide an opportunity to reflect upon CN’s role in relation to the target group, learn how to use new tools and strategies and share the gained knowledge with other actors such as the local authorities for their work with marginalised groups. Finding a way to involve the most marginalised groups will also create a stronger ownership towards the intervention in the local communities, and for CN and DIB it will provide experience on how to replicate the activities of the ERL project and this intervention to other areas. The project visits will provide the partners with an important platform to monitor and share the experiences along the way.

Target groups, objectives, and expected results (our intervention)

**Primary target group**

Marginalised groups: The primary target group consists of poor and marginalised people from Phallapani, Lewade and Gunjara. People in this group live below the poverty line and they are disadvantaged in terms of their caste, class, gender and ethnicity. In total there are 102 households (632 people) consisting of 51 Dalit, 14 ethnic and 37 high caste households. 64 of the households are categorized as poor and 38 extremely poor. A poor household has a mud house with thatched roof, own food production to cover needs for up to 6 months, the area of land owned by the household is 5-10 ropani land (1 hectare = 19,65 ropani) and the income rate is less than 1.90 USD per day. Additionally, a poor household is serving skilled or semi-skilled labour. An extremely poor household has a thatched hut house and food sufficiency below 3 months. The area of land owned by the household is below 5 ropani or it has no land at all. The income is less than 1 USD per day and the household only consists of unskilled labour. See the social specifications here:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Village** | **Number of HH** | **Number of**  **Male/Female** | **Dalit HH** | **Ethnic HH** | **High Caste HH** | **Poor HH** | **Extreme poor HH** |
| Phallapani | 43 | 130/136 | 26 | 0 | 17 | 25 | 18 |
| Lewade | 19 | 57/60 | 2 | 0 | 17 | 14 | 5 |
| Gunjara | 40 | 122/127 | 23 | 14 | 3 | 25 | 15 |
| **Total** | 102 | 309/323 (=632) | 51 | 14 | 37 | 64 | 38 |

There will be a special focus on involving women from these households to support and promote female participation and women’s empowerment, which is in line with the initiative of local governments. Furthermore, the focus on involving women is essential since husbands are travelling abroad to work. However, the partners still see the importance of involving men from these groups to make them aware of the benefits of women’s participation as well as being able to support women in activities and in the household when needed. Gender issues will be addressed through forum theatre, AVP and a gender sensitivity training. Men from the primary target group will through participation in these activities be able to reflect over the relationship between men and women and the benefits of improving women’s participation in activities as well as in decision making processes at community and local government level.

Cooperatives: The three cooperatives were established during the ERL project and consist of representatives from all households. In Lewade there are 40 members, in Phallapani 63 members and in Gunjara 61 members. They are well-functioning groups who meet once a month. The main functions of the cooperatives are: 1) save and loan system, which collects savings from each household and makes it possible for people in need to take a loan, 2) production plan development and implementation by members, and 3) sale of vegetables.

CN: The primary target group also includes CN, who will receive training to strengthen its capacity to work with women and marginalised groups. This will be done through training, workshops, forum theatre and experience sharing with other organisations and authorities.

**Secondary target group**

The secondary target group consists of people with better living conditions and with an income above 1.90 USD per day. This group does not experience discrimination in the same way as people in the primary target group. In total there are 62 households (384 people) consisting of Dalit, ethnic and high caste households. This group lives in houses made of stone and zinc sheets or concrete. They own 10 to above 15 ropani land and have food sufficiency for 9 months to above one year. People from these households are jobholders with skills and may also be deployed in a private or government job. See the specifications here:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Village** | **Number of HH** | **Number of people** | **Dalit HH** | **Ethnic HH** | **High caste HH** |
| Phallapani | 20 | 124 | 0 | 0 | 20 |
| Lewade | 21 | 130 | 0 | 0 | 21 |
| Gunjara | 21 | 130 | 7 | 13 | 1 |
| **Total** | 62 | 384 | 7 | 13 | 42 |

Both the primary and the secondary target group will participate in social forum theatre and AVP activities during the project to raise awareness on inequalities and discrimination in the communities and by self-reflection, dialogue and the use of humour create solutions on how to handle daily issues and challenges. Professional and ‘neutral’ facilitators will be carrying out these activities to avoid bias and to make the participants feel safe and on the same level during the activities. CN will carry out some of the AVP activities and gender training later in the project after having received training themselves.

Women and marginalised groups will especially be involved in marketing activities and there will be established a marketing group with democratically elected members. They will receive training in topics such as marketing, business plan development, food processing and packaging, and they will be responsible for arranging a food fair establishing contact to possible business partners. Furthermore, the marginalised groups will also be involved in the certification process and participate in training with the cooperatives to inspire them and give them the tools to start their own small livelihood initiatives at household level.

The cooperatives will be engaged in activities related to the certification system and they will receive training in PGS practices and management. They will also get the opportunity to visit ASK Nepal’s project site and the local cooperatives to share experiences on organic farming and PGS. Members from the marketing group will also participate in the visit to gain knowledge on sale and marketing strategies.

CN will arrange and participate in social forum theatre and receive training in gender, caste and communication with the target group. CN will be able to reflect on their own role in relation to the target group and promote equality and non-discrimination in the communities. CN already has some experience working with AVP, but this training will make sure to go in depth and create self-reflection among staff members, their role and communication with the target group.

Objectives and expected results

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| Objectives | Outputs | Activities |
| 1. By the end of the project, women and marginalised groups are responsible for marketing, branding and promotion of the cooperatives’ organic products | 1.1. Consolidation of PGS by cooperatives  1.2 Marketing groups consisting of women and marginalised groups have been established  1.3 Food fair has been held in each community with participation of possible business partners  1.4 Business plans have been developed and possible business partners identified | 1.1.1 Support cooperatives and arrange training for members incl. women and marginalised groups in PGS practices and management  1.1.2 Training and support to PGS management committee  1.1.3 Exposure visit to ASK Nepal’s project site and meeting with cooperatives. CN follows up, collects learnings and arranges dialogue in communities  1.2.1 Workshop and training for women and marginalised groups in marketing, branding, promotion, business plan development, food processing, packaging  1.2.2 Democratic election of members for marketing group and division of roles and responsibilities  1.2.3 Support women and marginalised groups to materialize their business plan at household level  1.2.4 Visit and experience sharing between marketing groups in the three communities  1.3.1 Support marketing groups to arrange food fair with RM  1.3.2 Develop promotion materials, logo and invitations to possible business partners  1.4.1 Marketing groups develop business plan  1.4.2 Arrange awareness campaign on benefits of organic farming with RM  1.4.3 Establish contact to possible business partners |
| 2. By the end of the project, CN has strengthened its capacity to work with women and marginalised groups | 2.1 Relationship building with the communities and local stakeholders  2.2 CN has increased understanding and knowledge on power relations and inequalities in the communities | 2.1.1 Project approval from SWC  2.1.2 Sharing of project information and agreeing on expectations to each other with communities  2.1.3 Prepare project agreements with RM and cooperatives  2.1.4 COVID-19 support: orientation on COVID-19 to communities and distribution of safety measures  2.1.5 Experience sharing with ASK Nepal, Trianglen and RMs on the inclusion of women and marginalised groups in project activities and collect learnings  2.2.1 Capacity building of CN in gender, caste, inclusion of marginalised groups and communication with the target group |

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|  | 2.3 CN has developed a process document on inclusion and submitted input to RM on how to include women and marginalised groups in local activities  2.4 CN has collected 10 most significant case stories from each community | 2.2.2 CN arranges and participates in social forum theatre and AVP in each community with external facilitators  2.2.3 CN arranges gender sensitivity training in each community  2.2.4 CN arranges interactive games and critical dialogues in communities on learnings from gender sensitivity training, forum theatre and AVP activities  2.2.5 CN participates in collegial supervision training and arranges collegial supervision every second month  2.3.1 CN creates a follow-up system in cooperation with DIB and systematizes and collects learnings throughout the intervention  2.3.2 Meeting with RM sharing learnings  2.4.1 Collection of baseline and endline data  2.4.2 Collection of MSC stories |

The indicators of success and the means of verification are as follows:

For objective 1:

* 10 persons from each community express experiences of change in the perception of caste and gender (means of verification: baseline and MSC stories)
* The marketing group is meeting at least once a month and has divided roles and responsibilities between group members (means of verification: formalised roles and responsibilities)
* Five certified products with logo have been introduced to five business partners (means of verification: meeting minutes from marketing meeting, photos from food fair and meetings with business partners)

For objective 2:

* CN has ensured 90% participation of women and marginalised groups in marketing group activities (means of verification: participant lists, endline and MSC stories)
* The endline shows significant increase in improved communication between CN and the target group as experienced by the target group (means of verification: endline and MSC stories)
* CN project staff has spent 3 hours on collegial supervision every second month (means of verification: supervision report)

The strategy of the intervention

The ERL project used a collaborative approach promoting working together across caste and gender by establishing agriculture steering groups that involved all layers of people in the communities. The groups were established with great success and are today well-functioning entities, where farmers can share experiences on organic farming and learn from each other. However, the most marginalised people were not fully involved, and the partners have learned that the applied strategies were not enough. Caste, class and gender are intertwined and deeply embedded in everyday life in the communities creating discrimination and challenges for some people, and the complexity of it is higher than the partners knew in the beginning of the partnership. Based on these learnings, we see the need for taking a step back to work more in depth with the inequalities through reflection and dialogue with involvement of all community members.

Therefore, the partners have chosen to use forum theatre and elements from AVP to address inequalities and power relations in the communities. Forum theatre is also called ‘theatre of the oppressed’ and is a participatory theatre practice created to empower audience individuals to determine social change. The forum theatre establishes a dialog between audience and stage with the aim of exploring the real needs and issues of the community. AVP draws from the shared experience of participants, using interactive exercises, discussions, games and role plays to examine the ways we respond to situations where injustice, prejudice, frustration and anger can lead to aggressive behavior and violence. Addressing issues and inequalities with these methods will be the underlying strategy of the intervention to succeed in involving the most marginalised groups. The purpose is to create greater understanding of the inequalities and less discrimination among different groups in the communities. The establishment of marketing groups consisting of women and marginalised people, will also give the target group a leading role and responsibilities in the income generation of the cooperatives and build their confidence. The capacity building of CN staff will strengthen their skills and give them tools so they will be able to motivate and increase the participation of women and marginalised groups in project activities.

An important element in the strategy is that the learnings from forum theatre, AVP, gender training and exposure visits are systematized and applied in the communities. CN and DIB will together create a follow-up system, where learnings will be collected, shared in the communities, and revisited from time to time. CN will be responsible for collecting the learnings and arranging critical dialogues in the communities, so there will be a common understanding of how to work with social challenges, discrimination and work together for the benefit of all. At the first project visit, DIB will arrange a training for CN on collegial supervision to ensure that CN staff will reflect on their own role when facilitating in the communities and follow up on how they in practice can improve when working with women and marginalised groups. Collegial supervision is based on dialogue and reflection between colleagues, and it will for CN be a great way to share experiences and give feedback on how to use new methods and knowledge when they implement activities in the communities.

The outputs and objectives will be met through the following steps:

Objective 1:

* **1.1 Consolidation of PGS by cooperatives**

CN will be responsible for arranging training for the cooperatives and the PGS management committee in PGS practices and management with an external facilitator from the Gyan Kendra (Agriculture Knowledge Centre, government office). Representatives from the cooperatives and the marketing group will visit ASK Nepal’s project site and meet with the cooperatives to exchange knowledge and learnings on organic farming challenges and marketing strategies. CN will collect learnings from the visit and make sure they are shared in the communities.

* **1.2 Marketing groups** **consisting of women and marginalised groups have been established**

CN will arrange training for women and marginalised groups in marketing-related topics. CN staff will participate in the training themselves to expand their knowledge on the topic and thereby be able to support the target group in materialising their business plan. Afterwards there will be held a democratic election in each community to establish a marketing group and divide roles and responsibilities. CN will support this process and make sure that it is done in a participatory way ensuring the participation of women and marginalised groups in the activities. Furthermore, the marketing groups will meet during the intervention to share experiences on marketing, organic farming and community challenges.

* **1.3 Food fair** **has been held in each community with participation of possible business partners**

CN will support the marketing groups in arranging a local food fair in each community in cooperation with RM. CN will make sure that the marketing groups are active in the process by letting them share their ideas and give input on promotion materials and invitations to possible business partners. The marketing groups will also be responsible for the creation of a logo for the products.

* **1.4 Business** **plans have been developed and possible business partners identified**

The marketing groups will develop a business plan with support from CN and they will in cooperation with RM arrange local awareness campaigns on benefits of organic farming. The participation of possible business partners at the food fair will give access to possible future collaborations. The marketing groups will establish contact to possible business partners to share their business plan with them.

Objective 2:

* **2.1 Relationship building with the communities and local stakeholders**

In the beginning of the intervention CN will get approval and make agreements with SWC, RM and the cooperatives. They will share experiences with ASK Nepal and RM along the way on the inclusion of women and marginalised groups and collect learnings. CN will make sure that project information is shared with the communities and that there is an open dialogue on the expectations of each other. DIB will also share information during project visits. Since COVID-19 is still spreading in Nepal, CN will support and inform the communities on safety measures as well as distribute masks and sanitizers.

* **2.2 CN has increased knowledge on power relations and inequalities in the communities**

CN will receive training in gender, caste, inclusion of marginalised groups and communication with the target group carried out by an experienced resource person. CN will arrange and participate in social forum theatre and AVP activities with the communities facilitated by experienced external resource persons (possibly from the Gurukul School of Drama, which the partners have already been in contact with). There will be arranged a refresher training for the resource persons to strengthen their techniques and make them aware of some of the challenges in the communities. CN will arrange a gender sensitivity training in each community with participation of both men and women to raise awareness on gender roles and the benefits of women’s participation. To make sure that learnings from these activities are applied in the communities, CN will arrange interactive games and critical dialogues to discuss the learnings. Moreover, CN will also participate in collegial supervision training arranged by DIB and arrange collegial supervision every second month. This will give CN staff the opportunity to reflect on their own role in relation to the target group and create a space for feedback and supervision among staff members to improve their facilitation skills in practice.

* **2.3 CN has developed a process document on inclusion and submitted input to RM**

CN and DIB will systematize and collect learnings throughout the intervention. This will be done through a follow-up system that CN will create in cooperation with DIB in the beginning of the project. CN will develop a process document on the lessons learned regarding the inclusion of women and marginalised groups in local activities and arrange a meeting with RM to share the learnings.

* **2.4 CN has collected 10 most significant case stories from each community**

CN will collect base and endline data digitally with Kobo Toolbox or a similar data collection system as well as MSC stories. The data will be a mix of surveys in the areas, community consultations and meetings with stakeholders. DIB will support CN in these activities giving input to the surveys and participate in the collection of stories during a project visit if possible.

Systematising experiences along the way and at the end of the intervention

DIB and CN will systematise the experiences and learnings from the intervention through reports and regular online meetings. DIB is responsible for the overall monitoring of the intervention and will follow the activities closely to ensure that the intervention is on track. DIB will arrange two project visits to Nepal: one in the beginning of the project (if possible due to the Covid-19 situation) and one at the final stage of the project. During these visits DIB will monitor the objectives and look into how the inclusion of women and marginalised groups is taking place. DIB will check participant lists from all activities to make sure that the primary target group is included and take part in the collection of MSC stories to make sure that the voice of different people will be heard. CN and DIB will follow up regularly getting monthly input from field staff who are the ones working closest to the primary target group. At the final visit, DIB and CN will discuss the most significant learnings and the future perspectives of the cooperation.

Intervention-related information work in Denmark

DIB will arrange experience sharing with Trianglen and other organisations working within organic farming and with cooperatives as well as seek further knowledge on how other organisations are involving women and marginalised groups in project activities. DIB will also continue informing and attracting young professionals from relevant university programs into development work by giving lectures about the project or engaging in network activities for students. Information materials for web and social media will also be developed to share project progress with DIB’s members.