

**Integrated Rural Health Development Training Center Nepal**  
**IRHDTC/Nepal**

**'I am a Child, not a Bride- Phase II' Campaign'**  
**Summary Update**

<b>From: September, 2023</b>	<b>To: October, 2023</b>
<p><b>Campaign Progress at a Glance: Phase 2 Initiatives in Parsagadhi Municipality.</b></p> <p>In preparation for Phase 2 of the 'I am a Child, not a Bride' campaign in Parsagadhi Municipality, we held a crucial meeting with municipal authorities, including the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer, along with department heads, where they expressed their willingness to collaborate with IRHDTC. Subsequently, the municipality officially approved our campaign concept, marking a significant milestone. Following this, we approached the Social Welfare Council (SWC) to secure project implementation approval. Our IRHDTC Communication focal person delivered a compelling presentation outlining the campaign's necessity, and after a month of rigorous efforts, we received the much-anticipated approval from the SWC. These approvals underscore the strong foundation for Phase 2, and we are eager to continue our mission to combat child marriage and promote the health, wellbeing's and rights of adolescents girls in Parsagadhi Municipality.</p> <p><b>Sharing Meeting</b></p> <p>It took almost a month to get the approval from Social Welfare Council (SWC). During this time, IRHDTC conducted sharing meeting with school committee and all concerned stakeholders. A team from IRHDTC conducted a field visit to the designated project site within Parsagadhi Municipality, subsequent to the proposal selection by ANMF. This visit included a knowledge-sharing session with the Deputy Mayor and school representatives at the local level. Notably, the Deputy Mayor, in collaboration with the school committee, demonstrated a strong commitment to implementing the 'I am a Child, not a Bride-Phase II' campaign within Parsagadhi Municipality, emphasizing the project's alignment with the local context and objectives.</p> <p><b>Inception Meeting</b></p> <p>IRHDTC organized an inaugural meeting for the "I am a Child, Not a Bride- Phase II" campaign in October 10, 2023. This assembly took place in both a local school and the municipal offices,</p>	

featuring the participation of principals from all 11 schools and distinguished representatives from the municipality, including the Deputy Mayor, delegates from the Women and Children Department, the Education Department, and the Health Department. Despite the absence of the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer, they pledged their support. In the meeting, we were honored to have the President and Joint Secretary from the Parsagadhi Municipality Child's Network, as well as the participation of 5 adolescent girls. Their presence added valuable perspectives and insights to the discussion.

Our principal objective was to make them aware with the campaign's core aims and objectives. We're happy to report that everyone was very supportive and appreciative of our campaign.

**Municipality says “The campaign would run more smoothly if all the concerned stakeholders are included.”**

Ms. Puja Chaudary, *Deputy Mayor* of Parsagadhi Municipality, began by expressing gratitude to IRHDTC Nepal for their efforts in initiating programs that focus on the health of adolescent girls. She emphasized that the campaign designed for adolescent girls will contribute significantly to their personal development and enhance their understanding of both their health and the negative implications of child marriage. Ms. Chaudary also pledged her full support to IRHDTC in all aspects to ensure the campaign's implementation in other schools of Parsagadhi Municipality in the near future.

The *Health Department* recommended a collaboration with local health posts and proposed the provision of a school nurse specifically for the well-being of adolescent girls. The *Women and Children Department* suggested partnering with other stakeholders. Meanwhile, the *Education Department* expressed their appreciation for our idea and assured us of their unwavering support in any way they could.

S.N.	Name	Department
1	Puja Chaudhary	Deputy Mayor
2	Sapana Bastola	Health Department
3	Dev Kumar Giri	Education Department
4	Shova Mallik	Women and Children Department
<b>Representatives from IRHDTC</b>		
1.	Yadu Sudan Kunwar	Manager
2.	Dharma Raj Rimal	Communication Focal Person
3.	Bhumika Nepal	Program Officer

The principals of all the 11 community schools from Parsagadhi actively participated in the meeting. Mr Hiralal Shah *principal* of Shri ‘Nepal Rastriya Lower Secondary School, Tikuliya’ noted that it's the first time in Parsagadhi that only adolescent girls are involved in a campaign and extended his support. Mr. Chetman Das, the principal of Shri Nepal Rastriya Secondary School, expressed gratitude for the previous campaign, noting positive changes he observed in adolescents. He thanked IRHDTC for bringing this campaign again. Mr Binod Prasad Chaudhary *principal* of Shri Bhojiya Devi Lower Secondary School, Godpasara pointed out the need for more continuity in campaigns to achieve the desired effectiveness.

S.N.	Principal Name	School Name
1	Chetman Prasad Das	Shri Nepal Rastriya Secondary School, Baderwa
2	Ram Asish Prasad Yadav	Shri Nepal Rastriya Secondary School, Baharuwa
3	Ram Bahadur Chaudhary	Shri Nepal Rastriya Secondary School, Chotauli
4	Hiralal Shah	Shri Nepal Rastriya Lower Secondary School, Tikuliya
5	Rajendra Prasad Tharu	Shri Nepal Rastriya Lower Secondary School, Jhabaraha
6	Yogendra Prasad Chaudhary	Shri Nepal Rastriya Lower Secondary School, Bagwana
7	Binda Kumar Das	Shri Nepal Rastriya Lower Secondary School,
8	Suraj Narayan Patawary	Koilabhar Lower Secondary School, Manawa
9	Jagat Narayan Prasad Chaudhary	Shri Nepal Rastriya Lower Secondary School, Chotauli
10	Binod Prasad Chaudhary	Shri Bhojiya Devi Lower Secondary School, Godpasara

11	Mohan Prasad Chaudhary	Shri Janata Secondary School, Pakadiya
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Mr Mukesh Dawadi, *president* of the Parsagadhi Municipality Child's Network found the campaign interesting and pledged to collaborate and introduce us to the network. Ms Salima Khatun *Joint Secretary* of the Parsagadhi Municipality Child's Network highlighted the uniqueness of our girls-only campaign and expressed high expectations. Since, this campaign is focused on adolescent girls, we invited several of them to the meeting to help us gain a better understanding of their perspective on the campaign.

S.N.	Student Name
1	Mukesh Dawadi (Parsagadhi Municipality Child's Network)
2	Salima Khatun (Parsagadhi Municipality Child's Network)
3	Jyoti Kumari Sahani
4	Birsana Maya Thing
5	Mausam Pandey
6	Aayushma Kumari
7	Goma Paudel

We prepared a concise presentation that provided a brief overview of our campaign, aiming to enhance the understanding of our campaign among teachers and municipal delegates. Furthermore, we actively engaged them in a discussion, seeking their valuable suggestions and expectations, fostering a collaborative approach. Furthermore, we compiled information about the teachers who will be actively involved in guiding us during the formation of our Vision Child Club.

### **Conclusion**

Hence, our meeting received strong support from various stakeholders, including a municipality representative who appreciated our campaign's focus on adolescent girls' health. Principals from 11 schools praised the impact of previous campaigns and highlighted the need for continuity. We involved adolescent girls to gain their perspectives and collected data on teachers for our Vision Child Club formation, setting the stage for a successful campaign.

### **Plan for next event**

We are in the process of planning our next event, which is the formation of Vision Child Club and Life Skills Training scheduled to run from October last Week.

### **Annexure**

Photos, please follow the next page.



*Collecting Commitments from Elected Leaders and Officials, Parsagadhi Municipality*



*Communication focal person of IRHDTC briefing about the campaign*



*Joint Secretary of Parsagadhi Child's Network sharing her expectations*