

## **Nepal GoodWeave Foundation**

## Annual Report 2024

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#### **Nepal GoodWeave Foundation**

# Annual Report 2024

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## **Acknowledgement**

#### Joint Message by the President and the General Secretary

Joint Message from the President and General Secretary We are happy to share Nepal GoodWeave Foundation's Annual Report 2024. This year, we continued our work to end child labor and promote fair and sustainable practices in Nepal's carpet industry.

As GoodWeave International's Nepal affiliate, we remain focused on ensuring no child is forced into labor and every child has the chance to learn and grow. Our work focused on prevention, rehabilitation, awareness, and capacity building, while also improving community ownership, product traceability, and ethical supply chains.

In 2024, we strengthened our engagement and collaboration with carpet producers, weaver groups, and local governments. We increased support to vulnerable children through education, psychosocial help, and skill development. We also worked with member organizations to maintain transparency and follow GoodWeave standards in production.

Looking ahead, NGF is committed to protecting children and promoting ethical practices. We will focus on sustainable solutions so families don't have to send children to work. We also aim to improve how we track and learn from our programs, so that our works create real, measurable impact. Strong partnerships are key to our success, so we will continue building relationships at the local, national, and international levels to support the rights of children and workers.

We thank our hardworking staff, partners, producers, GoodWeave International, governments, donors, and supporters. We are sincerely grateful to our dedicated NGF staff, partner organizations, member producers, GoodWeave International, national and local governments, donors, and all supporters who walk with us on this journey. Your trust and support make our progress possible.

Let us proceed hand in hand towards a Nepal where child labor is a relic of the past, and responsible production is a matter of principle not exception.

With solidarity and hope,

Gausin Vy ()
Ubraj Bhandari
President

Kiran Thapa General Secretary

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

AAFLI: Asian American Free Labor Institute

AGM: Annual General Meeting

CBR: Community-Based Rehabilitation

CEO: Chief Executive Officer

CPC: Child Protection Committee

CWARDS: Children Welfare and Rural Development Services

ECDC: Early Childhood Development Centre

EPHC: Education Protection and Help for Children

GCN: GoodWeave Certification Nepal

GTZ: German Agency for Technical Cooperation

GWI: GoodWeave International

IPP: Immediate Past President

LAB: Laboratory Secondary School

LDC: Least Developed Country

NGF: Nepal GoodWeave Foundation

NGOS: Non-Government Organizations

NPR: Nepalese Rupee

RDN: Rashtriya Dalit Network Nepal

SAN: Swatantrata Abhiyan Nepal

SEP: Sponsored Education Program

SWC: Social Welfare Council

UNICEF: United Nations International Children and Education

Fund

VT: Vocational Training

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#### Introduction

Nepal GoodWeave Foundation (former Nepal Rugmark Foundation) is a nonprofit making, non-government organization established in December 1995 due to collaboration among Carpet Entrepreneurs, Child Rights NGOs, and International Development Organizations, viz. United Nations International Children and Education Fund (UNICEF), the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), and the Asian American Free Labor Institute (AAFLI).

Being a country affiliate of GoodWeave International (GWI), the Nepal GoodWeave Foundation (NGF) has proven to be a viable initiative that effectively addresses child labor issues in the carpet industry of Nepal. In more than 28 years of its operation in Nepal, NGF has brought more than 50% of the carpet industries to GoodWeave's viable standards, including carpet weaving and spinning sectors. Moreover, it is mainly expanding towards covering the entire carpet industry of Nepal and replicating its sustainable model to other industries.

GoodWeave endeavors to create a child-labor-free environment within the Nepali carpet industry and other sectors, aiming to prevent the exploitation of children in labor markets. Conversely, NGF offers constructive alternatives to children involved in the carpet industry through various programs and initiatives to safeguard their rights. These efforts focus on education opportunities, rehabilitation, and skill development to provide children with opportunities beyond labor exploitation.

#### Vision

GoodWeave's vision is a world free of child labor.



#### Mission

GoodWeave ensures ethical production reducing child labor and enhancing socio-environmental aspects of carpet and other industries.

#### ••••

## **Objectives**

- Develop a child-labor-free supply chain for carpet and other industries and nurture the market preference.
- Support the creation of ethical production in social and environmental aspects through expanded standards.
- Provide preventive and alternative opportunities for children in the working community of industries.
- Advocate for the concerned stakeholders for the protection of children and human rights.
- Apply the sustainable model for organizational strengthening.
- To prevent the use of child labor by having carpet producers/ exporters abide by the legal and social responsibilities through licensing of GoodWeave.

## Features

The Nepal GoodWeave Foundation (NGF) is dedicated to eradicating child labor from workplaces and offering comprehensive rehabilitation, including education and vocational training. NGF prioritizes reuniting children with their families and ensuring ongoing educational support. Furthermore, the organization conducts educational programs to prevent child labor and implements welfare initiatives for children and families involved in the carpet industry. NGF actively collaborates with communities and stakeholders to promote a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment.

### **Programs of NGF**

The focal point of NGF lies in its impactful social programs coordinated by the dedicated Child Development Department. These programs are strategically divided into three main components: a. Rehabilitation program, b. Preventive social program, and c. Awareness and Advocacy Program, NGF actively engaged in various activities under these components, aiming to address critical issues and make significant impacts in the community. Major initiatives conducted include:

#### **Rehabilitation Program** 1.

Nepal GoodWeave Foundation runs a comprehensive Rehabilitation Program to support children rescued from exploitative labor. The program includes:

Centre-Based Rehabilitation at the Transit Home, where rescued children receive care, counseling, education, and safe shelter until they are reintegrated with their families or receive long-term support.

Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) prioritizes reintegrating children with their families, ensuring they remain in school and are protected from re-entering child labor. The NGF team provides regular monitoring and educational support.

School-Based Rehabilitation offers residential education through a partnership with Laboratory Secondary School (LAB), providing a stable learning environment and holistic development for enrolled children.

#### 2. **Preventive Social Program**

Nepal GoodWeave Foundation's Preventive Social Program focuses on reducing the risk of child labor by supporting children and families  through education and care services. The Sponsored Education Program (SEP) helps children from carpet worker families stay in school, preventing them from entering child labor. The program also operates Early Childhood Development Centers (ECDC), which provide safe daycare for young children aged 2 to 6. This enables parents, especially mothers, to work while their children are looked after in a nurturing environment. Additionally, the program offers counseling services, including individual, group, and family sessions, to help address emotional and social challenges faced by the children and their families.

#### 3. Awareness and Advocacy Program

NGF's Awareness and Advocacy Program aims to inform, engage, and influence key stakeholders and the broader community on child rights, child labor, and ethical practices in the carpet industry. In 2024, NGF organized:

**Consultative Meetings:** Held with government agencies, local authorities, community leaders, and partner organizations to discuss policy implementation, share field realities, and strengthen collaboration for child protection.

Mass Awareness Programs: Conducted in carpet clusters and community settings to educate parents, workers, and the public on the risks of child labor and the importance of education, child rights, and safe working environments.

#### 4. A glance on Program and Achievements

Activity	FY 2079/080	FY 2080/081
New children admitted to the Rehabilitation Center (Transitional Home)	15	4
Total children in the Rehabilitation Center (Transitional Home)	38	34
Children who completed education/training and reintegrated into families	0	1 (selected)
Children reintegrated into families without any support	6	2
Total children receiving support under the Rehabilitation Program	29	12
Children who completed vocational training and were rehabilitated	0	0
Children enrolled in residential education (9th grade) after completing education at the center	3	8
Children who completed residential education (9th grade) and returned to families	4	7
Children studying under the Family Reunification Program	29	33
Total children currently in residential education (9th grade)	23	21
Children who completed SEE (Secondary Education Examination)	12	13
Children benefiting from Daycare & Education Centers	164	174
Early Childhood Development and Education (ECED) Center 1	97	107
Early Childhood Development and Education (ECED) Center 2	67	67
Children receiving educational scholarships	206	201

In addition, last year, a total of 91 individuals (including children and guardians) received psychosocial counseling services from the organization, ensuring emotional and mental well-being as part of a holistic rehabilitation approach. The above table illustrates the Foundation's continued commitment to supporting vulnerable children through a holistic rehabilitation and education approach. While there was a slight decrease in the number of new admissions to the Transitional Home in FY 2080/081, the overall focus shifted towards strengthening reintegration processes and expanding access to residential education. The steady rise in the number of children completing SEE and those enrolled in residential education demonstrates progress in long-term educational support. Similarly, the growth in participation at ECED centers and the consistent delivery of scholarships and psychosocial services underline the Foundation's ongoing efforts to create protective, child-friendly learning environments and support systems.

## Programs and Achievements of the NGF in 2024

1. Collective Birthday & 29th Annual Celebration at "Hamro Ghar"



On January 1, 2024, Nepal GoodWeave Foundation celebrated a collective birthday for children at its "Hamro Ghar" transit home, alongside its 29th Annual Celebration. The event featured cultural performances, a cake-cutting ceremony, and the distribution of gifts and prizes. Chief Guest Mr. Sannani Lama, Deputy Mayor of Gokarneshwor Municipality, joined the celebration along with executive committee members, staff, Daycare Center coordinators, and partner representatives. Speeches by President Mr. Ubaraj Bhandari and General Secretary Mr. Kiran Thapa highlighted the foundation's 29 years of commitment to child protection. The program was facilitated by Program Officer Mr. Hem Bahadur Moktan.

## 2. Participation in Child Labor Reduction Campaign Meeting

On January 28, 2024, Mr. Hem Bahadur Moktan, Program Officer of Nepal GoodWeave Foundation, participated in a meeting on Child Labor Reduction Campaign organized by Kageshwori Manohara Municipality. The meeting was attended by Mayor Mr. Upendra Karki, ward chairs, branch heads, and representatives from social organizations. This engagement highlights GoodWeave's commitment **to** multi-stakeholder partnerships in combating child exploitation at the local level.

#### 3. Visit by UK Government Representative



On February 2, 2024, Ms. Emily Potts, Policy & Program Officer from the UK Government, visited Nepal GoodWeave Foundation to gain insight into its programs. During her visit, Ms. Potts toured the transit home, interacting with staff and children, and praised the foundation's approach to child protection and supply chain accountability. She also visited carpet factories to evaluate child labor monitoring systems and ethical production practices.

#### 4. Successful Completion of "Global Panel on Ending Child Labor" at World Social Forum 2024



On February 18, 2024, Nepal GoodWeave Foundation, as an active member of the Global March Against Child Labour (GMACL), successfully organized and moderated a pivotal panel discussion titled "Global Panel to End Child Labor" at the World Social Forum 2024. The panel featured former Executive Director of the National Child Rights Council (NCRC) Mr. Milan Dharel and trade union leader Ms. Smriti Lama as speakers. The panel discussed global strategies for eradicating child labor, aligning with the forum's theme, "Another World is Possible."

#### 5. Measles-Rubella Vaccination Campaign 2080

Under the National Health Service Program, the children of "Hamro Ghar" (Nepal GoodWeave Foundation's residential care home) received the Rubella-Measles (MR) vaccine on Falgun 15, 2080 (February 26, 2024). The Urban Health Center Tejbinayak (Kageshwari Manohara Municipality Ward No. 8) facilitated this service. A total of 28 children from Hamro Ghar, including 14 girls and 14 boys, received the vaccination.

## 6. Visit of International & Netherlands Government Delegation



On February 28, 2024, Mrs. Silvia Mera (GoodWeave International) and Mr. Marloes Philippo (Netherlands Government) visited Nepal GoodWeave Foundation to observe programs and engage with stakeholders. They visited the Transit Home and Lab School, interacting with children and meeting with the school principal. A dinner was hosted in their honor which was attended by the senior legal advisor and executive committee members.

#### 7. Educational Picnic for "Hamar Ghar" Children



On March 10, 2024, Hamar Ghar organized its annual educational and recreational picnic at Ghyampe Danda, Bhaktapur. There were altogether 38 participants including 29 children, 7 staff, and board

members (Treasurer Kalpana Timalsina and Srijana G.C) joined the event. Meals were prepared at the shelter, As per their regular practice, all meals were prepared and packed at the shelter itself before the outing and the children enjoyed games and exploration in a joyful, refreshing environment.

#### 8. Karate Belt Grading Ceremony



10th Falgun 2024, the belt grading ceremony for the ongoing karate training program was successfully held at the Transit Home hall. This program, organized by Nepal GoodWeave Foundation for children under the care to enhance self-defense capabilities, instill discipline, and promote physical exercise. A total of 29 children participated in the grading session, which was observed and evaluated by seven karate instructors including international referee and senior trainer Ram Lama. Concluding the ceremony, senior trainer Ram Lama congratulated all participating children on their progress, encouraged them to continue improving their skills, and expressed appreciation for their active participation in the program.

## 9. Holi Celebration at Transit Home

This year, the festival of Holi—a vibrant celebration of love, harmony, and the



triumph of truth was joyously observed by the children and staff of Transit Home. Participants enthusiastically played with colors, sharing laughter and happiness. To mark the occasion, the organization distributed special Holi-themed T-shirts to all the children.

## 10. International Women's Day Observed in Kageshwori-Manohara

On Falgun 25, 2080 (March 8, 2024), the 114th International Women's Day was celebrated under the theme "Investing in Women: The Foundation of a Civilized and Progressive Society" at Norling Resort in Ward No. 5 of Kageshwori-Manohara Municipality. Nepal GoodWeave Foundation's Transit Home Warden Ms. Sumi Ghimire and cook Ms. Laxmi Badhathoki participated in the event. Attendees included representatives from women's entrepreneurial groups, child care institutions, single women's groups, and local ward officials. The chief guest was Honorable Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba.

#### 11. Collaboration on Local Issues

On March 17, 2024, Nepal GoodWeave Foundation and Brigham Young University (BYU) held a meeting to explore potential collaboration on addressing local challenges, particularly in child/adult education, air pollution, and infrastructure gaps in brick kiln communities. The meeting was attended by Mr. Ubaraj Bhandari, Chairperson of Nepal GoodWeave Foundation, and Mr. Andrew J. South, Assistant Professor of Brigham Young University (BYU).

## 12. Participation in Advocacy and Communication Training

On March 18-19, 2024, Program Officer Mr. Hem B. Moktan participated in an advocacy and communication training organized by the Swatantrata Abhiyan Nepal(SAN) in collaboration with the Global March Against Child Labor. The event, held at Entrance Cafe

in Lalitpur, was facilitated by former Dutch Parliament member Mr. Roelof van Laar. The training aimed to strengthen strategic advocacy efforts to eliminate child labor through effective action plans.

## 13. Academic Results Announcement for Session 2080/81



The annual examination results for Transit Home's children were published on April 11, 2024. Classroom teachers individually shared the results with each student, providing detailed feedback on their performance and suggestions for improvement. An award ceremony recognized top achievers (1st, 2nd, and 3rd positions) and children who excelled in extracurricular activities throughout the academic year. Administration and Accounts Officer Mr. Ujjwal Pokharel and Transit Home teachers distributed the awards.

## 14. Summer Clothing Distribution for Resident Children

The Transit Home distributed new summer clothing to all 32 resident children (17 boys and 15 girls). The annual initiative brought visible joy to the children as they received and wore their new outfits.



#### 15. Educational Support and Family Reunification

In FY 2080/81, Nepal GoodWeave Foundation supported children completing advanced education or seeking vocational training. In coordination with Ward No. 8 Child Rights Committee, the foundation facilitated family reunification based on each child's needs and background. Eight children were enrolled in Lab School with full support, and one boy pursuing vocational training was assisted with citizenship documentation and family reintegration. Additionally, twelve children were reintegrated with families through the CBR program, with follow-up support to ensure smooth transitions.

#### 16. Parental Engagement and Academic Review

On April 10, 2024, Program Officer Mr. Hem B. Moktan actively participated in the academic results distribution ceremony and parent-teacher meeting for the 2080/81 session. During these engagements, Mr. Moktan conducted meaningful awareness sessions and interactive discussions with guardians, focusing on the critical role that parents play in their children's development. He emphasized how parental behavior, language use, and overall conduct significantly influence children's growth and future prospects.

Mr. Moktan provided specific guidance to parents about creating positive home environments, using appropriate disciplinary methods, and serving as constructive role models. The session also served as a platform to discuss individual children's academic progress and address any concerns raised by either parents or teachers, fostering a collaborative approach to the children's education and wellbeing.

#### 17. Mother's Day Celebration

On May 8. 2024. residential the care home organized special Mother's Day celebration to honor traditional Nepali values of filial love and respect. A11 children participated in creating heartfelt, handmade greeting



cards using colored papers and art supplies. Teachers facilitated the activity, helping children express their emotions creatively through personalized messages and designs. While physical reunions with mothers weren't possible for all children, the foundation arranged phone calls allowing them to convey their love and good wishes directly. The event proved emotionally significant, with children displaying visible happiness and satisfaction both during the card-making process and while communicating with their mothers. This celebration not only maintained important family bonds but also provided children with a valuable emotional outlet and sense of connection to their families, despite being in institutional care. The activity successfully blended cultural traditions with modern therapeutic approaches to child emotional development.

## 18. Interactive Program on Child Labor Reduction in Carpet Industry



On May 20, 2024, Kageshwori Manohara Municipality in collaboration with GoodWeave organized an interactive awareness and commitment program with carpet producers to reduce child labor in the sector. The event was chaired by Mayor Mr. Upendra Karki of Kageshwori Manohara Municipality, while Mr. Sujan Jojiju, Chief of the Labor and Employment Office, presented on current legal provisions regarding child labor and their implementation status.

The program, facilitated by Ms. Sabina Shrestha, Chief of Women, Children and Social Welfare Section of the municipality, saw participation from 52 individuals including 37 carpet entrepreneurs. This initiative marked an important step in engaging local businesses to combat child labor through cooperative efforts between municipal authorities and civil society organizations.

## 19. Singing Competition Showcases Children's Talents



As part of providing diverse extracurricular activities for the children residing in the residential childcare home, a singing competition was organized on May 26, 2024, to allow the children to showcase their talents. Out of 12 children in the care home, 9 children participated and performed songs in the competition. The event was judged by Transit Home teachers Ms. Kalpana Shrestha and Ms. Anjana Thing, who played a fair and unbiased role as judges.

The event was hosted by Warden Ms. Sumi Ghimire, and the competition was graced by Program Officer Mr. Hem B. Moktan and Administration and Finance Officer Mr. Ujwal Pokhrel, who encouraged the children. Appreciating the talents of the children, Program Officer Mr. Moktan extended his best wishes to all participants and advised them to continue sharpening their abilities and studies as they move forward.

#### 20. Field Visit and Strategic Workshop

From May 28 to 30, 2024, Program Officer Mr. Hem Moktan B. and Seniro Director of Programs, GWI, Ms. Gweneth Langdon conducted extensive field visit to assess the Youth Labor Improvement Project in Bara. Rautahat. and



Makwanpur districts. The delegation engaged with key stakeholders, including Honorable Kumari Moktan, Social Development Minister of Bagmati Province; local government officials from Kailash Rural Municipality; and members of the Bagmati Province Child Rights Committee. The team also met with school principals, teachers, and families to evaluate the on-ground impact of GoodWeave's social programs. This visit provided critical insights into community needs and strengthened collaborative efforts to address youth labor challenges.

On May 31, a strategic workshop was held at Nepal GoodWeave Foundation's office to review the social program's direction. Facilitated by Seniro Director of Programs, GWI, Ms. Gweneth Langdon, he session was attended by General Secretary Mr. Kiran Thapa, Executive Committee Member Mr. Amir Bhattarai, and staff from GoodWeave Certification Nepal and GoodWeave India. The workshop culminated in a dinner hosted by the foundation, where Chairperson, board members, and staff honored the international delegate and reaffirmed their commitment to the project goals.

#### 21. World Environment Day Celebration



Transit Home marked World Environment Day under the theme "Our Land, Our Future" with a hands-on gardening initiative. Children and staff collaborated to clean the garden, remove weeds, and plant flowers, fostering teamwork and environmental awareness. Program Officer Mr. Hem B. Moktan concluded the event by applauding the participants' efforts and emphasizing the importance of sustainable practices. The activity not only beautified the home's surroundings but also instilled a sense of responsibility toward nature among the children.

## 22. Participation in Global Compact Finland's Virtual Panel Discussion

Program Officer Mr. Hem B. Moktan participated as a panelist in a virtual event organized by Global Compact Finland, focusing on preventing child and forced labor in supply chains. During the discussion, Mr. Moktan shared insights and personal experiences, highlighting GoodWeave's initiatives in child labor prevention and protection. His contributions emphasized the organization's ongoing efforts to address these critical issues through systemic interventions and advocacy.

#### 23. Alumni Meeting and Task Force Formation

On June 8, a meeting was organized with former students and children who had been under the care of the Nepal GoodWeave Foundation, in the presence of General Secretary Mr. Kiran Thapa. The discussion reflected on past experiences, support, and current situations, while also exploring future collaboration opportunities. The meeting led to the formation of a 7-member task force under the leadership of Mr. Hem B. Moktan. This task force has been developing a Google Form to reconnect with former students, and currently, around 100 students are in contact, both physically and virtually.

#### 24. World Day Against Child Labor Observance



Nepal GoodWeave Foundation, in partnership with Global Compact Nepal, commemorated the World Day Against Child Labor at Laboratory School in Kirtipur. The event aimed to raise awareness about child labor and advocate for children's rights. Attendees included representatives from the U.S. Embassy, ILO, UNICEF, businesses, and civil society organizations. Children enriched the program with cultural performances, including poetry, dance, and music, showcasing their talents. Additionally, on June 9, 2024, the foundation partnered with Lalitpur Metropolitan City and other organizations for a collaborative event reinforcing the same mission.

## 25. Staff Orientation on HIV/AIDS and Child Labor Case Management

Nepal GoodWeave Foundation staff attended virtual. orientation program iointly organized bv Shakti Samuha Shakti Milan and The session Samaj. covered HIV/AIDS



transmission, symptoms, and treatment methods, while also addressing case management strategies for child labor victims. This knowledge-sharing initiative aligns with the foundation's broader efforts to combat child labor and child marriage. In a related event, the foundation co-hosted a workshop at the Women's Network Nepal hall, focusing on prevention measures for these issues.

## 26. Nepali Poetry Recitation Competition Held at Transit Home



A Nepali poetry recitation competition was successfully organized at the Transit Home on July 12, 2024, featuring eight participating children. The contestants composed and recited original poems on various themes, which were evaluated based on language, rhythm, delivery, and emotional expression. The event was facilitated by

caretaker Ms. Rajkumari Tamang, with judging conducted by Ms. Sumi Ghimire and Ms. Kalpana Shrestha. The competition provided a creative platform for children to showcase their literary talents and build confidence in public speaking.

#### 27. Guru Purnima Celebration

Children at the Transit Home celebrated Guru Purnima on July 21, 2024, to express gratitude toward their teachers and staff. The event featured handmade paper gifts, tika (vermilion), flowers, sweets, and chocolates presented by the children as tokens of respect. The celebration included traditional blessings from teachers and honored guests, reinforcing cultural values of reverence for educators. This heartfelt gesture highlighted the strong mentor-student bonds within the home.

#### 28. Dance Competition Held at Hamro Ghar

On August 2, 2024, a Dance Competition was held for the children at the Transit Home. The children selected their own songs and participated in the



dance performances. Eight children took part, and the performances were judged based on song choice, costumes, dance steps, emotions, and overall presentation. The program was conducted by Ms. Sumi Ghimire, and the judging was done by Mr. Pravin Napit and Ms. Anjana Thing.

#### 29. Japanese Delegate Visits Transit Home

GoodWeave Importer, Mr. Yoji Hirota visited the Transit Home on August 3, 2024. Children welcomed guests with handmade paper

flower bouquets and traditional khada (scarves), followed by talent performances. Visitor Mr. Yoji gifted cartoon film CDs and DVD players, demonstrating their use while spending quality time with the children. This intercultural exchange promoted global solidarity and left the children inspired.

#### 30. National Workshop on Child Protection

Two staff members and one girl from the foundation participated in a two-day national workshop (August 16–17, 2024) organized by NACG, addressing child labor, child marriage, and online safety. Separate sessions were held for children and adults, culminating in a symbolic handover of policy recommendations to Honorable Minister of Education, Science, and Technology Bidhya Bhattarai. Chaired by General Secretary Mr. Kiran Thapa (also President of NACG Nepal), the event brought together government bodies, development partners, and civil society representatives from all seven provinces, strengthening collective efforts to protect children's rights.

## 31. Participation in National Child Advisory Committee Meeting and CZOP's 22<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary

The Child Advisory Coordinator, Ms. Srijana Blon, and staff member Ms. Sumi Ghimire participated in a two-day program organized by Children as Zone of Peace (CZOP)-National Campaign, marking its 22nd anniversary and 8th general assembly. Representatives from all seven provinces, including child advisory members and institutions, attended. Key presentations covered child-related findings from the National Census 2078, delivered by the National Human Rights Commission and the Ministry of Women, Children, and Senior Citizens. The event also included CZOP's annual general meeting, attended by Executive Committee Member Ms. Srijana G.C and General Secretary Mr. Kiran Thapa, who delivered a keynote address.

#### 32. Cybersecurity and Child Protection Training

On August 23, 2024, One-Day Workshop on Cyber Safety, Online Risks, and Child Sexual Abuse was organized by the Kageshwori Manohara Municipality's Women, Children, and Social Welfare Branch. The workshop was attended by five children and caregiver Ms. Rajkumari Tamang from the foundation. A total of 39 children from eight organizations participated. The discussion topics included the pros and cons of internet use, cybercrime, punishments, online sexual exploitation, and more.

#### 33. Psychosocial Support Services



Children at the residential home and those under community support receive bi-monthly counseling from Executive Committee Member Mr. Amir Bhattarai, who volunteers as a psychosocial counselor. Sessions are tailored to individual and group needs, addressing emotional well-being and trauma recovery.

#### 34. Grievance Redress Mechanism

A complaint box is opened monthly in the presence of the Child Protection Committee and staff to address concerns promptly, ensuring transparency and accountability in safeguarding children's rights.

#### 35. Staff and Executive Committee Coordination

Regular meetings between staff and the Executive Committee review ongoing activities, develop periodic plans, and strategize future interventions to enhance program impact. These collaborative efforts aimed to strengthen program effectiveness and ensure alignment with organizational goals.

#### 36. Child Participation and Feedback

The organization maintains active engagement with its Child Advisory Committee, sharing updates on programs and soliciting children's input. Child Club meetings and activities are held routinely to foster participation.

#### 37. Collaborative Advocacy for Child Rights



The foundation continued its active collaborate with various stakeholders, including networks, local governments such as Kageshwori Manohara Municipality, Gokarneshwor Municipality, their respective wards, and other districts' municipalities, as well as the National Child Rights Council and the Social Welfare Council, to address issues related to child labor, policy concerns, and child rights.

## Regular Meetings and Institutional Governance

#### 1. Executive Committee Meetings

To enhance the effectiveness and achievements of Nepal GoodWeave Foundation's programs, the Executive Committee holds regular meetings as needed. These meetings, attended by committee officials and advisors, provide strategic guidance and recommendations. Since the last general assembly, 12 meetings have been conducted to review progress and plan future initiatives.

#### 2. Recruitment Committee Meetings

To ensure transparent and merit-based staff recruitment, the Recruitment Committee has held 6 meetings since the last general assembly, focusing on filling vacancies with qualified personnel.



#### 3. Procurement Committee Meetings

The Procurement Committee has convened 10 meetings to oversee the purchase of goods and services, ensuring compliance with transparency and procedural standards. These meetings guarantee cost-effective and accountable procurement practices.

#### 4. Child Protection Committee Meetings

Under the foundation's Child Protection Policy, the Child Protection Committee has held 4 meetings to safeguard children's rights, identify risks, and implement mitigation measures.

#### 5. Monthly Staff Meetings

Staff meetings are held monthly to discuss programmatic, administrative, and financial matters. These sessions include progress reviews, planning, and knowledge-sharing, with occasional participation from Executive Committee members.

## 6. Monthly Children's Meetings at Transit Home ("Hamar Ghar")

Monthly meetings are held on the first Friday with the children residing there. These meetings aim to understand and resolve children's current problems, gather feedback on the foundation's ongoing programs, and discuss regular studies, daily activities, and ways to improve them collectively.

## 7. Coordination Meeting with GoodWeave Certification Nepal

On May 7, 2024, A coordination meeting, chaired by the Chairperson and General Secretary was held. The meeting included staff and the Executive Director of GoodWeave Certification Nepal. The

discussion focused on strengthening collaboration between the two entities, enhancing overall program effectiveness, and identifying opportunities for future joint initiatives.

#### 8. Joint Meeting with Laboratory Secondary School

On June 13, 2024, a joint meeting was held to address a serious incident involving the physical punishment of a girl student by a teacher. The foundation's Child Protection Committee carried out an investigation and recommended necessary action. Following this, the school's management committee took disciplinary measures against the teacher, demonstrating a shared commitment to ensuring a safe and protective learning environment for all students.

#### 9. Annual General Meeting

The 29th Annual General Meeting of the Nepal GoodWeave Foundation was successfully held on Bhadra 28, 2081, at the Hotel Cristal Pashupati hall in Kathmandu. A key highlight of the event was to lead the organization forward with renewed commitment and vision.



#### 10. Social Audit

Nepal GoodWeave Foundation (NGF) successfully organized its Social Audit Program on September 13, 2024, at Hotel Cristal Pashupati Hall, Kathmandu. Following registration, Mr. Kiran Thapa, General Secretary of NGF, commenced the program as the Master of Ceremonies. The event was chaired by Mr. Ubaraj Bhandari, President of NGF.

The program's Chief Guest was Mr. Bam Bahadur Baniya, Vice President of the National Child Rights Council. Among the Special Guests were Ms. Shanta Thapa, Deputy Mayor of Kageshwari Manahara Municipality; Mr. Dipak Dhakal, Under Secretary at the Ministry of Women, Children, and Senior Citizens; and Mr. Ananda Thapa, Assistant Director at the Social Welfare Council (SWC).

Participants expressed their strong appreciation for the initiative and encouraged NGF to continue hosting such programs in the future. They highlighted that these efforts not only promote transparency but also reflect NGF's accountability to its rights holders. Overall, the event strengthened partnerships and reaffirmed NGF's commitment to meaningful engagement with its community.



# **Key Challenges**

- 1. Rising Incidence of Child Labor in the Carpet Industry:
  Recent trends indicate a disturbing increase in the number of children engaged in labor within carpet factories. This surge poses a significant challenge to the foundation's ongoing efforts in child protection, monitoring, and rescue operations.
- 2. Limited Resources vs. Growing Beneficiary Needs: The foundation is facing increasing pressure as the number of children requiring care, rehabilitation, and education continues to rise. However, available funding, staff capacity, and infrastructure remain insufficient to meet these growing demands effectively.
- 3. Lack of Reliable Data on Child Labor: Despite interest from key stakeholders such as government agencies, NGOs, and academic researchers, the foundation has not been able to provide verified and up-to-date data on child labor prevalence—particularly within carpet factories. This data gap weakens advocacy efforts and hinders evidence-based policy making and interventions.

# **Proposed Programs for the** Fiscal Year 2025/26

#### 1) Child Labor Rehabilitation, Education and **Training Program**

- Provide education and health services at the rehabilitation center and actively work towards reintegrating children into society.
- In addition to the current 33 children (from the carpet industry) receiving educational support and family reunification services, around 20 more children will be included in the upcoming academic session.
- Continue the formal, school-based education program for 21 children and enroll an additional 6 children in the next academic session.
- Provide vocational training to rescued child laborers as needed.

#### 2) **Child Labor Prevention Program**

- Continue educational support (scholarships) for children of carpet workers who are deprived of schooling. Currently, 201 children are supported, with the goal to reach 205.
- Continue operating two day-care and education centers (ECCD) in partnership, gradually increasing the number of industries and children involved.
- Organize awareness programs in partnership governmental and non-governmental organizations working in the carpet industry.
- Conduct carpet weaving training as needed.
- Organize various awareness programs and health camps in local communities for the benefit of workers and children.
- Organize interactive programs with carpet industry owners and workers as required. 31

## 3) GoodWeave Promotion and Awareness Programs

- Publish and distribute brochures, calendars, social audit reports, and annual reports to promote GoodWeave.
- Promote organizational activities through social media, radio, and television programs as necessary.
- Conduct various community-based awareness programs.
- Organize workshops/seminars on child labor reduction and child rights promotion with government bodies, stakeholders, and individuals.
- Coordinate with national and international organizations to strengthen the GoodWeave campaign and promote related programs.

### 4) Operation of the Transit Home "Hamro Ghar"

- Provide food, shelter, and education at the "Hamro Ghar" child home for rescued child laborers found during monitoring of licensed carpet industries until they can be reunited with their families.
- Organize timely training through child clubs and child advisory committees to ensure holistic development of children.

### a. Proposed New Programs

- Coordinate with the National Child Rights Council and municipalities to complete additional legal procedures related to operating the "Hamro Ghar" periodic home.
- Continue identifying and coordinating with new donor agencies for program implementation and expansion.
- Collaborate with GoodWeave International and other development partners to initiate new projects aligned with the organization's mission.
- Conduct training and programs for children, by children, on child labor and child rights to enhance their capacity.

- Conduct training and workshops to boost personality and selfconfidence of children living in the "Hamro Ghar"
- Provide capacity-building and contextual training to programrelated committees and staff members.
- Organize annual refresher training for board members and staff.
- Organize a picnic program on the occasion of the organization's annual day.
- Provide training on child rights and child protection to staff of member and partner organizations and child club officials.
- Provide training on project proposal and report writing to staff as needed.
- Conduct surveys to identify and verify child laborers within and beyond the organization's existing carpet industry network.
- Organize training on child rights and protection for teachers of Lab Schools.
- Form child clubs at Lab Schools and conduct orientation and capacity-building programs.
- Regularly monitor the programs being implemented.
- Advocate as necessary for child labor elimination and related policies and laws.

# Future Strategic Direction of Nepal GoodWeave Foundation

Nepal GoodWeave Foundation has consistently been working toward the timely expansion, strengthening, and refinement of its scope, programs, and direction. Over the past years, the Foundation has advanced its institutional development, broadened its area of work, and improved its working methodology. It has successfully established GoodWeave as an integral part of the carpet industry. While preserving the achievements gained during this period, the Foundation has also focused on improving areas identified as needing change and fully utilizing the opportunities and strengths it has acquired.

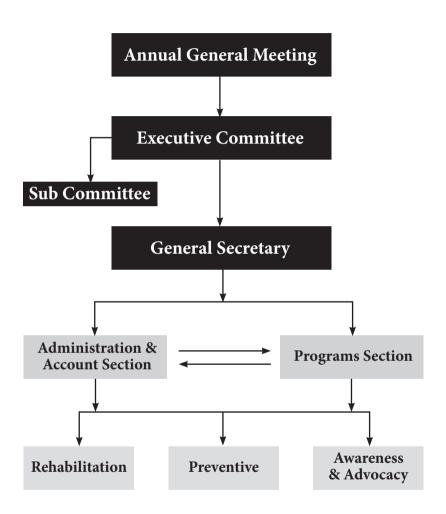
Accordingly, we have adopted a working approach aligned with these goals. Based on past achievements, experiences, and the current context, the Foundation deems it essential to now focus on the following strategies:

- Continue efforts to expand and strengthen the organization's scope and programs.
- Develop and implement a roadmap to make GoodWeave more comprehensive and credible by incorporating other dimensions such as sanitation, environment, labor management, and social responsibility.
- Continue to enhance collaboration with government agencies, non-governmental organizations, networks, federations, and stakeholders.

- Conduct additional awareness programs to inform affiliated industries about the supportive roles and expanding areas of GoodWeave
- Organize phase-wise workshops and meetings, including member institutions, to develop the organization's future direction and strategic plans.
- Coordinate and cooperate with member institutions and other stakeholders to reduce child labor.
- Organize interactive programs among member institutions and stakeholders to formulate strategies and future directions for reducing child labor.

In conclusion, we would like to express heartfelt thanks to all children, staff, member organizations, executive committee members, office bearers, advisors, other organizations and networks, government bodies, GoodWeave International, stakeholders, and well-wishers who have directly or indirectly contributed to implementing the planned activities and achieving results this fiscal year.

## **Our Organizational Structure**



# Subcommittees, Child Advisory Committee and Staffs

## **Recruitment Committee**

Convener Mr. Ubaraj Bhandari Member Mr. Balram Gurung Member Mr. Kiran Thapa

Member Ms. Kalpana Timilsina

Member Mr. Bishnu Bahadur Khatri (Advocate)

## **Procurement Committee**

Convener Ms. Kalpana Timilsina Member Mr. Prem Kumar Dangol

Member Mr. Amir Bhattarai

## **Child Protection Committee**

Convener Ms. Shirjana G.C.

Member Mr. Amir Bhattarai

Member Ms. Manita Pokharel

Member Mr. Lava Tamang

Focal Person Mr. Hem Bdr. Moktan

## **Child Advisory Committee**

Coordinator Ms. Srijana Blon

Member Mr. Bikash Ghalan

Member Mr.SanuKanchha Moktan

Member Ms. Binuka Ghalan Member Ms. Samjhana Thing Member Mr. Ramesh Jimba

Member Mr. Ajay Syangtan

## **Existing Staff**

Mr. Ujjabal Pokhrel	Admin & Finance Manager
Mr. Hem Bahadur Moktan	Program Manager
Ms. Sumi Ghimire	Warden
Ms. Kalpana Shrestha	Teacher
Ms. Raj Kumari Tamang	Care Taker
Ms. Anjana Thing	Counselor cum Tutor
Mr. Astha Lal Shrestha	Karate Trainer
Mr. Keshar Bahadur Khadka	Office Helper
Ms. Harka Kumari Budhathoki	Cook
Mr. Prabin Napit	Guard















## **Nepal Goodweave Foundation**

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