





# **ABOUT**CHILDFUND JAPAN

ChildFund Japan is a member of a global network of 11 child-focused development organizations committed to promote rights of children through international development cooperation in the spirit of harmonious coexistence. Though ChildFund Japan Nepal Office was formally established in 2006, it has been operating in Nepal since 1995 working for deprived, excluded and vulnerable children, their families, and communities through meaningful and sustainable solutions.

ChildFund Japan Nepal Office is inspired and driven by each child towards serving them by providing opportunities to develop their full potential to make positive changes in their lives. It works in partnership with local communities and civil society organizations in the area of education, child protection, healthcare, nutrition, and income generation. Sponsorship is at the heart of ChildFund Japan Nepal which is guided by its child sponsorship standards contributing to special assistance and emergency relief and rehabilitation programs with support from various donors, sponsors, ChildFund alliance members and the Government of Japan.

By 2025 ChildFund Japan Nepal Office aims to reach 25,000 children, adolescents and their families living in poverty, and who are at-risk of abuse, exploitation and unsafe migration, with increased focus on vulnerability to disaster, violence and discrimination in Nepal. The interventions align with national plan of action, policies and programs of Nepal Government and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

### FROM VISION TO IMPACT:

#### MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

This year was a transformative year for Nepal. Our renewed ChildFund Japan dialogue and strategic Human Resource and strengthened policy reforms trust reinforced our foundation; reflecting our vision of a global society that ensures every child the opportunity to develop their full potential. Our team's dedication advanced us further toward becoming high-performing, а organization living our values through action.



Ang Pasang Sherpa
Country Director
ChildFund Japan Nepal Office

We accomplished Improving Learning Environment in Gorkha District Project funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan which is a testament to our commitment and dedication to improving learning spaces for Nepal's children. Our ongoing Promoting Gender Equality and Safety in Schools and Securing Aaccess for Education initiatives continued to advocate for gender equality, child protection, and access to quality education, advancing safe and empowering learning environments across Nepal.

These accomplishments are rooted in strong partnerships with local communities and Civil Society Organizations and sustained by the dedication of our team and collaborators truly embodying our value of partnership with local organizations and communities, connecting people to multiply impact.

Looking ahead, we remain focused on reaching more children, adolescents, and families especially those facing poverty, abuse, unsafe migration, or environmental vulnerability, as we align our work with Nepal's national priorities and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

We extend heartfelt thanks to every partner, sponsor, and supporter who are with us in building brighter, more inclusive futures. Together, we move forward stronger, more united, and ever committed to realizing every child's potential.

#### **VISION**

A global society that ensures every child the opportunity to develop their full potential.





#### **MISSION**

To promote the rights of children through international development cooperation in the spirit of harmonious coexistence.

#### **VALUES**



Inclusion and non-discrimination at all levels



Commitment and dedication



Good governance, transparency, and accountability

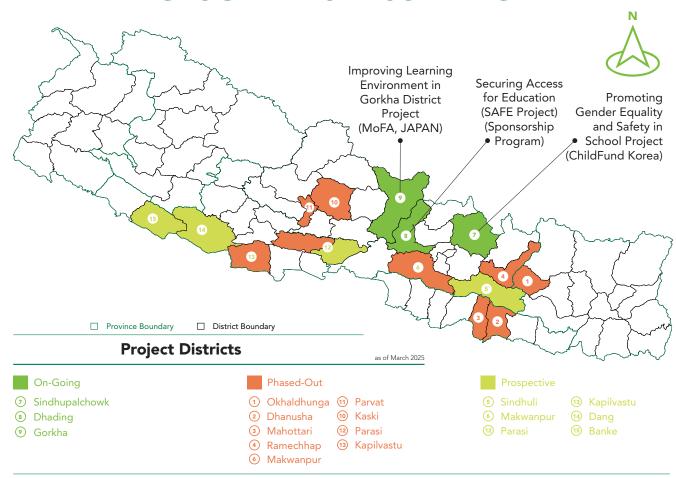


Harmony and co-existence

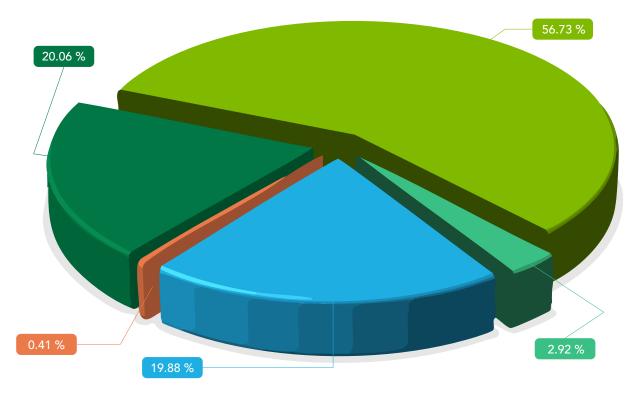


Partnership with local organizations and communities

#### **GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE**



#### **BUDGET OVERVIEW FY 2024**





	Approved Budget for FY 2024		Actual Expenditure for FY 2024		Expected Expenditure for FY 2025	
Improving the Learning Environment in Gorkha District	NPR	75,748,756.97	NPR	67,066,653.25		-
Promoting Gender Equality and Safety in Schools	NPR	42,105,266.97	NPR	3,451,983.36	NPR	32,640,051.14
Securing Access for Education	NPR	24,487,769.68	NPR	23,507,104.37	NPR	21,776,506.00
Safer Migration	NPR	4,000,000.00	NPR	486,485.00	NPR	805,560.00
Nepal Office Overhead Cost	NPR	21,310,027.54	NPR	23,712,316.56	NPR	25,947,460.00
	NPR	146,341,793.62	NPR	118,224,542.54	NPR	55,222,117.14

#### MAKING AN IMPACT SNAPSHOT OF 2024



ChildFund Japan reached 8942 number of individuals through its interventions in Nepal, benefiting 4451 children (including 2317 girls).



1 school, 1 community learning center, 5 toilet blocks, 10 handwashing and water station, 12 fully equipped counseling rooms and 8 classrooms were managed with child-friendly furnitures enhancing access to education.



1105 sets educational and assistance materials were distributed improving regularity in school attendance and retention.



78% attendance across 42 schools of Dhading, Sindhupalchok and Gorkha districts acheived as a result of enhanced teaching methods and child-friendly school environment.



23% knowledge increase among Complaint Response Committee members trained in enhancing complaint identification and response systems in schools.



Revitalization of 35 child clubs, along with capacity-building of 3598 parents and 238 teachers, and the active engagement of stakeholders at all levels, strengthening child leadership, increased participation, and advanced child rights advocacy within the community.



674 girls and women educators trained on menstrual health management aimed at reducing stigma, and 676 dignity kits distributed, encouraging school attendance.

#### SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

The Sponsorship Program is a core initiative of ChildFund Japan Nepal Office, implemented in Dhading District in partnership with Prayatnashil Community Development Society (PRAYAS Nepal). The program fosters meaningful connections between sponsors and children, ensuring their holistic well-being and improving access to quality education for sponsored children (SC).

- Managed 536 communications between sponsored children and their sponsors through creative card exchanges, encouraging self-expression, Individual Progress Reports and deepening personal connections.
- Ensured Sponsor's engagement and increased intimacy in between children and sponsors through exchange of 374 correspondences.
- Managed event for sponsor's visit in working area which enlightened sponsors on the impact brought by the Sponsorship Program.
- The Sponsorship Program provided the educational supplies to 600 sponsored children.
- 7 vulnerable families in Ward 6 received goat farming and business plan workshops, including 44 goats to boast income generation.
- Successfully welcomed 115 new children into the sponsorship program through a structured child intake process, providing vital support to more vulnerable children in the community.
- Carried out intensive follow-up activities, including home visits, counseling for children and parents, and close coordination with schools, to prevent dropout, promote retention, and encourage consistent school attendance.
- 399 girls (149 Sponsored Children and 250 non-Sponsored Children) were provided with hygiene kits (including bags, uniforms, and solar torches) alongside menstrual health training addressing knowledge, skill and health needs.
- 5 sponsored children were provided with financial assistance to better access essential medical treatment, reflecting a holistic approach to child welfare and survival.

# SANDESH FOUND HIS WAY BACK TO SCHOOL



Sandesh Chepang, a 12-year-old boy from Bomrang, Dhading, is the eldest of three siblings. At home, he often struggled to balance household responsibilities with his education. Despite living near a school, peer influence and family circumstances led him to skip classes and wander by the fields and river instead.

Because of the family's financial struggles, his parents placed him at a landlord's house, а common practice community, where children support families with chores while receiving guidance from relatively better-educated households. Yet, this arrangement brought its own burden, mornings and evenings were filled with work that left Sandesh exhausted and unable to focus on school. His attendance and performance dropped, and for two years he repeated Grade 4.

During ChildFund Japan's annual sponsorship intake, Sandesh's school principal recommended his name, and he was enrolled as a sponsored child. ChildFund Japan's sponsorship program works closely with schools and community leaders to identify children who are most in need of support. Through this process, he began receiving educational materials along with regular follow-up support.

Sandesh had the opportunity to exchange letters with his sponsor friend in Japan. Although writing was difficult at first, it sparked his interest in expressing himself and deepened his curiosity for learning. The encouragement and consistent engagement he received gradually started to change his outlook on education.

Today, Sandesh attends school regularly, participates actively in class, and has shown notable improvement in his studies. His teacher proudly acknowledges his progress, while Sandesh himself expresses joy in writing letters, sharing stories, making cards, and taking photographs for his sponsor.

Sandesh now dreams of completing Grade 10, securing a job, and buying his own motorbike. More importantly, he has realized the value of education in becoming "a good and wise person." Sandesh has found not only the motivation to stay in school but also the confidence to dream beyond his circumstances.



# **PROJECTS**

# STRENGTHENED COMMUNITY AND PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

**Securing Access for Education (SAFE)** in Dhading (April 2024 – March 2025), implemented by PRAYAS Nepal in partnership with ChildFund Japan, aims to improve learning environments, strengthen community and parental engagement, enhance school governance, and support the education and well-being of disadvantaged children, including sponsored children and the Chepang community in Benighat Rorang Rural Municipality.



## EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & PRIMARY EDUCATION

- 17 ECD classrooms were fully furnished, creating safe and conducive learning environments for young children.
- 21 ECD facilitators completed a five-day workshop to develop practical teaching tools and improve parental education.



#### LEARNING ACHIEVEMENTS

- Over 100 students (including 42 sponsored children) attended two-month extra classes in Math, English, and Science, boosting average scores from below 35% to over 60% and improving attendance.
- Rastriya Secondary School received essential science and math lab equipment, complemented by a targeted workshop for math teachers and principals to enhance practical learning.
- Extra classes and stakeholder collaboration significantly improved SEE results of leader schools of 3 project areas:



15.78% in 2080 to 41.67% in 2081 Shree Kalika Secondary School



4

Student retention improved, with reduced dropout rates and grade repetition; sponsored children's learning achievement rose from 58.1% to 59% in a year's intervention.



## HEALTH, HYGIENE & MENSTRUAL HEALTH MANAGEMENT

- 399 girls received menstrual health training and educational materials, supporting school attendance and learning.
- 500 students across 19 schools benefited from health camps offering general screenings and hygiene promotion.



# PARENTS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- 241 parents attended positive parenting sessions on health, hygiene, and child-friendly homes, leading to increased engagement and communication.
- 8 schools organized parent extracurricular activities and competitions, marking the first such initiatives in project schools.
- 10 School Management Committee and Parents Teachers Association members received orientation on roles/responsibilities and developed school codes of conduct and citizen charters, fostering transparency and accountability.
- 18 SMC/PTA groups reviewed and revised their plans to support inclusive learning environments.



## CHILD PARTICIPATION, LEADERSHIP & INFRASTRUCTURE & RESOURCES

- 19 child clubs were reformed, with children actively participating in 32 capacity-building orientations, 39 monthly meetings, and 57 extracurricular activities to foster creativity, teamwork, and leadership.
- A Community Learning Center with a capacity to accommodate 36 people was completed at Rastriya Secondary School, serving as a hub for training and community engagement.
- More than 1,000 children received educational materials, reducing family financial burdens and motivating regular attendance.



# INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING & ACCOUNTABILITY

- 23 head teachers enhanced skills in school administration, documentation, and record-keeping through Leadership and Management training.
- 2 schools conducted self-assessments using a community scorecard with 66 indicators to guide data-driven improvement plans.
- 15 episodes of the bi-weekly radio program "Hamro Thau Hamra Kura" aired on Radio Rajmarga 92.1 MHz and Radio Dhading 106 MHz, featuring child-led events, educational talk shows, and discussions on child rights with stakeholders.

# **ZERO TO NINETY-TWO:**A REMARKABLE TURNAROUND

Panchakanya Secondary School, established in 2018 in the former Dhusa VDC, faced a heartbreaking moment in 2080 BS, when every single student failed the Secondary Education Examination (SEE). It was a shock for the whole community, parents, teachers, and local leaders. The result showed that the school was struggling with weak teaching, low motivation, and lack of resources.

Instead of giving up, everyone came together. Parents, teachers, and municipal officials sat down for honest discussions. They set a bold target that at least half the students must pass next year. The Securing Access for Education (SAFE) project in coordination with implementing partner and municipality supported for meals of students and teachers for extra classes. Parents became more involved at home, encouraging their children and building a positive study environment.

The hard work paid off. Just one year later, 13 out of 14 students passed and the school's pass rate jumped from 0% to 92%, the highest in the municipality. The school was rewarded with Rs. 3,00,000 for further improvements, and leaders personally visited to celebrate their remarkable turnaround.

This is more than just success in exam results. It is committment of a community that refused to give up, of teachers who worked with passion, and of parents who stood by their children. Panchakanya Secondary School has proved that when everyone works together, even the toughest challenges can be turned into hope and success.







# STRENGTHENED CHILD-CENTERED PEDAGOGY IN SCHOOLS

ChildFund Japan in Nepal, in partnership with Unification Nepal Gorkha (UN Nepal) and with funding from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) Japan, is implementing three-year Improving Learning Environment in Gorkha District project (ILE). The initiative works closely with provincial and local governments to improve educational infrastructure and teaching practices in 12 schools (Mandali Basic School, Thalibari Basic School, Bageshwari Basic School, Shailaputri Secondary School, Rameshwary Secondary School, Ramche Basic School, Chandika Basic School, Saheed Smriti Secondary School, Prabhat Kiran Secondary School, Kalaratri Secondary School, Manjushree Secondary School, Janajagriti Secondary School) in 3 municipalities (Barpak Sulikot, Sahid Lakhan, and Dharche Rural Municipalities) of Gorkha District in Gandaki Province in collaboration with provincial and local government.



## INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT & HANDOVER

- Constructed a two-storey, earthquake-resilient school building with 8 classrooms at Prabhat Kiran Secondary School, equipped with child-friendly furniture.
- Officially handed over the Prabhat Kiran Secondary School building to the community on 18 March 2025, in a ceremony attended by the Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy of Japan.
- Built a 6 room GEDSI integrated toilet and a four-tapped child-friendly drinking water station at Manjushree Secondary School.
- Installed 10 classrooms with furniture to create more engaging and resource-rich learning spaces.



# EDUCATION AND TEACHER CAPACITY BUILDING

- 55 curriculum-aligned teaching tools were developed by teachers using low-cost materials after Child Centered Active Teaching and Learning (CCATL) and Child-Friendly Schooling (CFS) training. Participants demonstrated a 41.5% increase in CFS knowledge.
- 2 Dharche Rural Municipality committed NPR 100,000 for parent awareness sessions, demonstrating strong local ownership and sustainability.



# CHILD PROTECTION, CHILD RIGHTS & ADVOCACY

- Revitalized 4 child clubs to promote leadership, participation, and child rights advocacy. These clubs led National and International Children's Day celebrations, engaging hundreds through art, speeches, poetry, and street dramas addressing issues like child marriage and unhealthy food consumption.
- 416 parents received orientation on child protection, child rights, Menstrual Health Management (MHM), and the importance of education.
- Conducted a social audit with 200 stakeholders, ensuring transparency and incorporating community feedback.



## HYGIENE & DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

- 265 girls and 10 female teachers received Menstrual Health Management (MHM) orientation, and 277 dignity kits were distributed to reduce stigma and encourage school attendance.
- Conducted 4 evacuation drills and developed vulnerability maps & hazard calendars, equipping hundreds with preparedness.



# SHOBHA'S JOURNEY TO CHILD-FRIENDLY TEACHING

Shobha, who has been teaching at Shree Kalaratri Secondary School in Lapu Gaun, Dharche Rural Municipality, Gorkha, faced significant challenges common in remote communities. Despite her passion for teaching, Shobha had never received formal training to enhance her skills, relying mostly on traditional methods that limited student engagement and effective learning. The school struggled with scarce resources and lacked a child-friendly learning environment, making it difficult for students to stay motivated and participate actively.

This situation changed after ChildFund Japan, in partnership with Unification Nepal Gorkha (UN Nepal), launched Improving Learning Environment in Gorkha District project (ILE) in her school. Shobha took part in a three-day training focused on child-centered participatory teaching methods. The training emphasized practical, creative approaches, encouraging student involvement, using locally available materials to make teaching aids, and fostering respect and cooperation within the classroom. Inspired by the training, Shobha began transforming her classroom. She guided students to practice respect, empathy, and teamwork, which improved relationships between teachers and students. She introduced engaging activities like storytelling, poetry, songs, games, and student-led presentations that made learning enjoyable and memorable. Even with limited resources, Shobha innovatively crafted educational resources from local materials, creating an inviting and interactive classrooms.

As a result, student participation and enthusiasm increased noticeably, leading to better learning outcomes. Shobha's commitment to child-friendly teaching has not only changed her own classroom but is also inspiring her peers. She looks forward to further training opportunities to deepen her skills and continue improving opportunities for children through education in remote underserved area.





# PREVENTING SCHOOL-RELATED GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Supported by ChildFund Korea, the **Promoting Gender Equality and Safety in Schools Project (PGESS)** is a multi-year initiative (August 2023 – March 2026) operating in Sindhupalchok District, Bagmati Province. Implemented in collaboration with Tuki Association Sunkoshi, the project f ocuses on creating safer, more gender-equitable, and child-friendly learning environments in schools and surrounding communities. Its core objectives include preventing school-related gender-based violence (SRGBV) and discrimination through holistic approaches that combine capacity building, infrastructure development, and policy advocacy.



## COMMUNITY & PARENT ENGAGEMENT

- Reached 1,086 parents through parenting education, leading to the adoption of positive disciplinary techniques, increased school visits, and healthier family communication.
- Trained 58 School Management Committee (SMC) and Parent Teacher Association (PTA) members on SRGBV prevention and legal frameworks, resulting in the development and display of codes of conduct.



# CAPACITY BUILDING OF EDUCATORS

- Trained 27 teachers in Positive Discipline, Psychosocial Counselling, and Non-Violent Behaviors, equipping them to foster respectful relationships in schools.
- 2 12 Complaint Response Committee (CRC) focal teachers trained in psychosocial counselling, shifting from reactive advice to systematic, empathetic support for students.
- 39 CRC members received capacity building, achieving a 23% increase in knowledge on complaint response systems, strengthening SRGBV case handling.



## STUDENT EMPOWERMENT & SAFE I FARNING ENVIRONMENTS

- Trained 1,800 students on non-violent behavior, School related Gender Based Violence (SRGBV) prevention, internet safety, and reporting mechanisms, leading to reduced bullying and increased use of suggestion boxes.
- 2 37 child club members trained in peer-support and psychosocial skills, achieving a 24.3% increase in knowledge to help survivors.
- Established 12 counselling rooms and installed 18 suggestion boxes across schools, providing safe reporting channels alongside awareness murals and conduct codes.



# MULTI-SECTORAL COLLABORATION & INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

- 54 officials (municipal representatives, police, legal experts, and CBOs) trained on GEDSI, SRGBV, and survivor-centered approaches, improving multi-sectoral GBV responses.
- 36 local journalists trained on ethical reporting of child issues and SRGBV, reducing re-victimization and promoting responsible media coverage.
- Sustained oversight through Municipality Project Advisory Council (MPAC) visits and public hearings/social audits, ensuring transparency and community feedback integration.



# GENDER-SENSITIVE FACILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE

- 6 roomed GEDSI-friendly toilet blocks was constructed in 4 schools (Thokarpa, Ratankot, Jalpa and Janajagriti), installing 3 communal sinks and 7 handwashing stations to benefit 849 students and teachers.
- Developed and displayed 50 gender-sensitive teaching materials in classrooms to promote equity and non-violence.

# BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: HOW AARUHI FOUND HER VOICE

Aaruhi, a bright and lively 13-year-old student in grade 7 at Shree Jalpa Secondary School, Kothe, joined the school after transferring from another institution. Before coming to this school, Aaruhi had limited exposure beyond academics and had never participated in workshops or trainings about important social issues like violence or gender-based violence. Terms such as "zero tolerance" were unfamiliar to her, and she lacked awareness about the experiences of marginalized groups in her community.

After joining Shree Jalpa Secondary School, Aaruhi took part in various trainings and activities conducted under the project Promoting Gender Equality and Safety in Schools Project (PGESS) supported by ChildFund Korea and implemented by ChildFund Japan in partnership with Tuki Association Sunkoshi. These experiences transformed her outlook and gave her opportunities to grow beyond academics. She realized that knowledge is a powerful tool that brings positive change and inner strength. For example, her perception of persons with disabilities and sexual and gender minorities shifted from misunderstanding and distance to empathy and goodwill.

Aaruhi also shared how she used to be extremely shy and scared to participate in school events or even speak up during assemblies. However, receiving stationery prizes in extracurricular activities motivated her to engage more. Through quizzes, debates, public speaking, and sports, she gained confidence and developed her skills. Now, she confidently speaks in public, prepares for school events, expresses her thoughts clearly, and has improved her speaking skills.



The positive changes in Aaruhi's behaviour and attitude have been significant. She has fewer conflicts with practices peers, tolerance towards violence and discrimination, and interacts cooperatively with her friends. She has secured first place in multiple school programs, which has further encouraged growth. Aaruhi credits the project, ChildFund Japan and Association Sunkoshi for inspiring and empowering her, marking a remarkable transformation in her student life and personal development.

# SAFER MIGRATION PROJECT

**Safer Migration Project** from April 2024 to March 2025, conducted in Baglung district focused on in-depth research, strategic planning, and the development of essential informational and advocacy tools to promote safer migration for Nepali migrants, students, and their dependents traveling to Japan. The project addresses the effects of migration on left-behind children and returnees, working closely with government and development partners to develop relevant resources and establish protective safety nets.



# STRATEGIC RESEARCH & ADVOCACY FOR MIGRANT'S CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

- Conducted field research in Galkot Municipality, Baglung, to generate critical evidence on the impact of migration on children of migrant workers in Japan, returnee children, and students preparing to study abroad. This research directly informs targeted interventions and policy recommendations.
- Produced and disseminated a comprehensive baseline report on migration patterns and risks to children to the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security (MoLESS) and its key agencies. This foundational evidence is crucial for shaping national-level policies and programs that protect the children of migrant workers.
- Facilitated high-level consultations with researchers, consultancies, and the Japan Resource Center at the Embassy of Japan in Nepal, fostering multi-stakeholder collaboration and ensuring our advocacy is grounded in expert insight.



# EMPOWERING MIGRANTS & FAMILIES WITH CRITICAL INFORMATION

- Developed and distributed a suite of gender-responsive IEC materials (brochures, posters, booklets) to demystify the migration process. These resources equip aspiring migrants with accurate information on benefits, the Specified Skilled Worker (SSW) program, and their rights, enabling safer and more informed decision-making.
- Elevating the critical issue of online safety and protection for vulnerable Nepali migrant and returnee children in Japan, contributing to a broader regional dialogue on child safeguarding through "Safer Internet Day".



