

Annual Progress Report 2017



Read information & resource Center (READ Nepal)

**Read Information &
Resource Center
(READ Nepal)**

Baluwatar Kathmandu

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Read Information and Resource Center (READ Nepal); An Overview

Read Information and Resource Center (READ Nepal) is a national, non-profit and non-governmental organization established in 2006 in Nepal. Since its establishment, it has been assisting in community library development field. The mission of READ Nepal is to collaborate with rural villagers to build Community Library and Resource Centers paired with sustaining enterprise as a vehicle for social and economic transformation of community.

The primary focus of READ Nepal is promoting community libraries and contributing in overall educational and social development of the country through implementing the programs for the upliftment of the people who are economically and socially disadvantage, people living under poverty, deprived community, women, youth, children and people with disability. It inspires and empowers communities to create prosperity through providing access to relevant information, knowledge and resources, increasing economic opportunity for community, empowering women & youth and providing lifelong learning opportunity to the community people.

Project Site 2017



A. RIRC Implementing Projects for 2017

Total Implementing Projects: 7

Total Implementing Districts: 22

Project Name and total implementing CLRCs

S.N.	Project Name	Implementing CLRCs	Implementing District
1.	ROTA	Total CLRCs: 9 (Bhanu, Pokhariya, Tribhuwan, Kalika, Bansgadi, Tikapur, Bhanu Sati, Janata and Deukhuri CLRC)	Total Districts: 4 (Parsa, Bardiya, Kailali & Dang)
2.	PANs	Total CLRCs: 21 (Jhuwani, Sauraha, Dibyajyoti, Gardi, Agyauli, Shivashakti, Deurali, Laxminarayan, Tikapur, Jana Chetana, Gyanodaya, Tribhuwan, Chaturbujeshwor, Srijana, Kamala, Lumbini Tinau, Moti, Janajagaran, Deepshikha, Model center (Badikhel), Triveni, Gyan Bikas CLRC).	Total Districts: 15 (Chitwan, Nawalparasi, Lamjung, Kaski, Parbat, Kathmandu, Lilitpur, kavre, Banke, Bardiya, kailali, Sarlahi, Siraha, Sindhuli & Nuwakot)
3.	ICT Gates/ READ Global	Total CLRCs: 2 Thokarpa & Bhotasipa	Total Districts: 1 Sindhupalchowk
4.	DiDRR (ASB)	Total CLRCs: 2 Gaurishanker & Janajagaran CLRC	Total Districts: 2 Nuwakot & Dolakha
5.	Beautiful Store Project	Total CLRCs: 3 Thokarpa, Indrawati & Fulbari CLRC	Total Districts: 2 Sindhupalchowk & Nawalparasi
6.	Rebuilding Thak Library	Total CLRCs: 1 Thak CLRC	Total Districts: 1 Mustang
7.	Nepalese Can 2	Total CLRCs: 1 Takukot CLRC	Total Districts: 1 Gorkha

1 Expanding Educational and Livelihoods Resources in the Terai with Specific focus on ICT and Youth

Project Overview

READ Nepal has been implementing Expanding Educational and Livelihoods Resources in the Terai with Specific focus on ICT and Youth Project since 2014 in different 5 district of terai Nepal. Currently READ has been working with different community libraries of those 5 districts of terai Nepal under this project. This project is four years project and it has ended in 2017. This

is partnership project between READ Global and ROTA that ROTA is funding 75% fund and READ Global is funding rest of 25% fund. There are three different objectives in this project and READ has been partnering with Restless Development Nepal to implement one of objective about deepening youth engagement for implementation. The three objectives of this project are as bellow:

Objective 1: To provide access to educational resources, information and livelihoods to people in the Terai through the establishment/upgrade of community libraries across five districts.

Objective 2: i) To improve the education and opportunity offered to youth through the provision of life skills training, sports, clubs, academic and career support, and health awareness; ii) to provide youth with in-depth vocational skills training and general livelihood skills training; and iii) to create a sustainable structure for youth engagement through the formation of Youth Leadership Sub Committees (YLSC) that focus on addressing the needs of youth through the community engagement and leadership.

Objective 3: To create more a sustainable and impactful ICT infrastructure through the development of lower energy consumption hardware and alternative sources of power, and to provide a platform for ICT programming that uses technology for purpose - to provide access to information, facilitate communication among families and communities, and enhance ICT education for youth.

Major Outcomes of the Year:

In 2017, the final two centers launched through the project were formally inaugurated. Center resources and facilities were utilized 198,221 times in project implementing community libraries this year and 1,496 people benefitted from 61 different phase III trainings on livelihoods, women empowerment, financial literacy, small business development, basic health and other important topics. In 2017, 4,424 (not unique) youth received training on leadership, life skills, sports and healthy living and attended career counseling, motivational and school tutoring at READ Centers. At the Centers, the ICT sections were one of the most visited sections with 68% of total library visitors using free of cost ICT resources to access information, build their skills and communicate with family and friends. In 2017, 997 people received free basic computer training through 9 project implementing CLRCs.

This year, READ conducted 3 final capacity building trainings to help Center staff and library management committees (LMC) to effectively manage the centers. An evaluation of the 38 capacity development trainings offered during the program indicated that LMC members enhanced their management and outreach skills and feels confident leading their institutions. The centers provided 59 different demand-based trainings to local community members in 2017.

This year, more than 4,424 young people participated in a variety of youth development activities, with most outputs surpassing annual targets:

710 youth (296 Male and 414 Female) participated in life skills training;

610 youth (266 Male 344 Female) received career counseling;

250 girls participated in sports clubs;

541 youth (242 male 299 Female) participated in health training;

760 youth (321 Male 439 Female) attended events with motivational speakers;

13 youth (7 Male 6 Female) completed vocational training;

305 youth (119 Male 186 Female) participated in homework clubs; and

214 students received SLC/SEE tutoring.

In 2017, ICT sections continued to be one of the most accessed sections of READ centers with 130,185 visits (Male: 78,055, Female: 52,130). This year, 997 people (Male: 400, Female: 597) received basic computer and internet usage training.

In the final month of the program, READ organized a project reflection meeting to review progress, share best practices and learn participatory approach. Best practices, such as the use of youth leadership subcommittees, were identified and the group strategized on how they can be incorporated into future programming.

As part of our ongoing commitment to community engagement and collaboration, READ and ROTA-supported centers worked in close coordination with government agencies at the local and national level, civil society organizations and other partners. This frequent communication

and coordination resulted in 7 centers raised more than NPR 3,200,000 (\$32,000) from government sources.

Project beneficiaries:

Type	Description of direct beneficiaries	Planned (for this year)	Achievement in this reporting period	Cumulative Achievement as of end of this reporting period	Achievement % (against this year 2017)
	Objective 1:				
	# people who utilized library resources through different sections (times)	110,550	198,221 M: 115,222 F: 82,999	456,485 M: 268,249 F: 188,236	151% (Against this annual target)
	# Library Management Committee and subcommittee members who received set up trainings	75	94 M: 64 F: 30	1064 M : 648 F: 416	125% (Against this annual target)
	# People who received Phase III trainings. Centers provided training on women empowerment and livelihoods (including off-season vegetable farming, fish farming, candle making, women leadership etc.)	1160	1,496 M: 377 F: 1119	4092 M: 1072 F: 3020	128% (Against this annual target)
	Objective 2				
	Youths benefited from youth engagement activities in this quarter	2,871	4,424 M: 1,864 F: 2,560	16,977 M: 6648 F: 10329	154% (Against this annual target)
	Objective 3				
	# ICT section and facility users (repeat)	41,400	130,185 M: 78,055 F: 52,130	282,548 M: 168,651 F: 113,897	314% (Against this annual target)

	Basic computer trainees (Youths)	675	997 M: 400 F: 597	3015 M: 1256 F: 1759	147% (Against this annual target)
Indirect	Our assumptions that for every direct beneficiary, there are two additional indirect beneficiaries. A total of 18,841 (8,615 male and 10,226 female) new community individuals directly benefited through resources of 9 ROTA libraries in 2017	6,000	37,682 M: 17,230 F: 20,452	103,406 M: 53,996 F: 49,410	828 % (Against this annual target) 147% against project target

2. Practical Answers Service (PANs) Program

READ Nepal and Practical Action Nepal are jointly implementing a project "Practical Answers Services" since 2011. It was piloted with four CLRCs and expanded its services with another two in the year 2012. With the huge success of the program it was expanded its implemented area with twenty CLRCs in the year 2013. Again in 2014 expanded in two CLRCs. Now Practical Answer Service (PANS) Program has been jointly implementing by READ Nepal and Practical Action (PA) in 16 different districts of Nepal through 22 Community Library and Resource Center (CLRC). The Program aims to enable access for all technical knowledge on the basis of their own queries regarding Agriculture, Livestock, DRR and CC via collecting and responding enquiries process.

Enhance knowledge and practice on major community issues i.e. Agriculture, Livestock, DRR, CC and other necessary need as per their own queries is the primary objective of Practical Answers Service Program. Practical Answers Service Program has been designed according to the need, interest and demand of community. Thus, Community Libraries are operating the program as its important limb so that community people of library's catchment area would get services as per their need and interest and it would be helpful to uplift their standard of life, educational status, and income and skill development. In the year of 2017, the project activities were implemented through 20 CLRCs in different Districts.

Objectives of the program

PA program was implemented through CLRCs and the major objectives of this program are:

- Provide practical technical knowledge through different knowledge materials & technical expert on the area of agriculture, livestock and DRR & CC as per their own queries.
- Develop the practice of knowledge, information and reaching towards resources and exchange through library.
- Conducting different Income generating training in need based and increase access of community people in economical development.
- Increase women empowerment through organizing different women empowerment related programs.
- Increase knowledge and involvement of community people in ICT.
- Develop habit of community people to visit library to solve their queries through different knowledge materials existing in the library.
- Develop link between community people & different service centers like Agriculture offices, livestock offices, health centers etc.

Target vs. Achievements

S. N.	Activities	No. of activities planned for 2017	No. of activities accomplished	Remarks
1	Enquiry collection	50000	52,578	
2	Responding queries	80% of 50000	52,340 (99.55%)	
3	Interactions	140	141	1 additional interaction conducted by Gardi
4	Practical Sessions	95	101	1 additional PS conducted by Agyauli, Janachetana, Tikapur, Tribhuwan, Lumbini Tinau & Gardi
5	FGD	216	79	Non budgeted program
6	Coordination meeting	20	20	
7	Livelihood development training	3	10	Janajagaran-6, Moti-1, Gardi-1, Godawari-1 & Tribeni-1
8	Mobile Knowledge Center	60	60	

Major Outcomes

- i) Total of 6926 queries received and responded.
- ii) 8908 community people were benefited from Focus Group Discussions (FGD), Expert Interactions, and Practical Session & Training Programs.
 - i.e.
 - 1183 (male=91 & female=1092) from FGD.
 - 4499 (male=1075 & female=3424) from Interaction program.
 - 2848 (male=573 & female=2275) from Practical session program.
 - 378 (male=166 & female=212) from Complementary/livelihood trainings.
- iii) 2 Animal Health camps were organized by Jhuwani & Gardi CLRC in coordination with District Livestock Development Office (DLDO), Chitwan. Total 579 animals got treatment and 165 families were benefited from the camp.
- iv) "Kishan Technical Knowledge service group" formed by Sauraha library was formally registered in 2072 B.S. in District Agriculture Development Office (DADO). This year the group was able to get irrigation project worth Rs. 1,15,000.00 for their community.
- v) 20 coordination meetings were conducted in different CLRCs in presence of Local government representatives and other technical experts to build partnership with local government institutions for ensuring community engagement and project sustainability.
- vi) 7 CLRC conducted one day soil test program to test productivity of soil where, total 604 soil samples were tested.
- vii) Gyan Bikas CLRC got Digital Soil Test Lab from Potato Super Zone Division Office of Nepal Government and 2 Tractor (1 for agriculture groups & 1 for library) from District Agriculture Development Office. The income from the lab & tractor will go for project sustainability.

3. ICT program update

During the year of 2017, 2 New ICT sections were setup in the following centers.

1. Thokarpa CLRC, ThokarpaSindhupalchok
2. Indrawati CLRC, Bhotsipa, Sindhupalchok

All these centers are up and running with our basic ICT infrastructure. Centers are now currently offering basic computer courses for the community, free access to email and internet communications, printing and photocopy along with basic desktop services for the community.

4. Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (DiDRR) through Community Library Project in Dolakha

Project Background

READ Information and Resource Center (RIRC) in collaboration with READ Nepal and in partnership with Arbeiter-Samaritar-Bund Deutschland (ASB) Nepal is implementing “Disability-inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (DiDRR)” projects in the 2015 earthquake-affected districts of Nuwakot and Dolakha. The projects are funded by Aktion Deutschland Hilft (ADH), German Telekom and ASB’s internal contributions.

With the goal of strengthening the resilience of earthquake-affected communities through the inclusive and risk-aware initiatives, these projects will help construct a multi-hazard resistant and accessible Community Library and Resource Centers (CLRCs) along with sustaining enterprises, implement inclusive Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) activities through the CLRC outreach programs, strengthen livelihoods and empower most at-risk groups through the improved access to knowledge, information and literacy skills.

Goal: Strengthen the resilience of the earthquake-affected communities in Dolakha through the inclusive risk awareness initiatives and creating access to relevant informative resources.

Project Period: 17 Months Dec 2016 - 18 April 2018)

Name of development partner (donor): Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund ASB Nepal via Aktion Deutschland Hilft (ADH).

Name of local partner: Gaurishankar CLRC, Dolakha

Target vs. Achievement against outcomes (result) of project

Result 1: A multi-hazard resistant and accessible Community Library and Resource Center (CLRC) constructed and functioning along with its sustaining enterprises

1.1 Building construction agreement has been made between the CLRCs and selected contractors in Dolakha. Kankai International Builders Pvt. Ltd. was selected for Dolakha . As the technical assistance was provided by ESS, they have conducted orientation to the contractors and detail drawing was handed over.

1.2. Project orientation to the library management committee and local stakeholders was conducted.

1.3. District Project Advisory Committee (DPAC) meeting was conducted for 3 times, throughout the year. Local government officials and concerned stakeholders were the meeting participants and major discussions were held on project progress, up-coming plan and community participation.

1.4. 75% Construction of the Library is completed (plan to complete by end of March., 2018).

1.6. In order to establish a sustaining enterprise for the library different steps and possibilities has been identified and these are:

- Firstly, Retrofitting of Existing building completed by 80% by GCLRC own initiation; under the close supervision of DCC engineer has been supervising and monitoring.
- As another identified possibility, Cooperative Service Business plan and MoU has been completed till this period.

1.5. Various trainings were conducted to build capacity of the LMC, Sub-committee and local stakeholders. The trainings provided are listed below:

- “Social Mobilization training on functional community participation for library building”.
- “Sustaining Enterprise Management Training”
- “Institutional Strengthening and Good Governance Training.”

Result 2: Improved community-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) initiatives through the CLRC outreach programs, with a particular focus on inclusion of persons with disabilities

2.1: Stakeholders meeting with DPOs and local stakeholders was conducted in different time period of the project.

2.2: 3 trainings on DiDRR for youth and teacher were conducted this year.

2.3 Under Practical Answers Service (PANs) Project, total 1060 queries related to agriculture, livestock and DRR were collected and answered through different interactions.

2.4 to extend awareness among community people, 8 interactions on DiDRR were conducted.

2.5 10 school based orientation on DiDRR was jointly conducted by teachers and LMC.

Result 3: Strengthened livelihoods and empowerment of most at-risk groups through improved access to knowledge and information

3.1 Formed and mobilized 8 community level group to collect queries and disseminate practical based information to the community.

3.2: Total 6 expert interaction programs were conducted on livestock, agriculture and other issues

Result 4: Improved literacy skills of the community people through the promotion of reading and other educational activities

4.1 Total 4 educational and awareness related activities targeting school students from library catchment area. They are Quiz-2 (1- School level, 1-GOs level), Drawing-1 (School level), Speech 1 (School)

4.2: This different disaster related days were marked by the library. They are:

- National Earthquakes Safety Day (ESD)-15 Jan., 2017
- International Wheel Chair Day-1 March, 2017
- International Women day 8 March. 2017.
- Environment Day-June 5, 2017

5. Reconstruction of Janajagaran Community Library and Community Based DRR, Nuwakot

Project Background

READ Information and Resource Center (RIRC) in collaboration with READ Nepal and in partnership with Arbeiter-Samaritar-Bund Deutschland (ASB) Nepal is implementing

“Disability-inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (DiDRR)” projects in the 2015 earthquake-affected districts of Nuwakot and Dolakha. The projects are funded by Aktion Deutschland Hilft (ADH), German Telekom and ASB’s internal contributions.

With the goal of strengthening the resilience of earthquake-affected communities through the inclusive and risk-aware initiatives, these projects will help construct a multi-hazard resistant and accessible Community Library and Resource Centers (CLRCs) along with sustaining enterprises, implement inclusive community-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) activities through the CLRC outreach programs, strengthen livelihoods and empower most at-risk groups through the improved access to knowledge, information and literacy skills.

Target vs. Achievement against outcomes (result) of project

Result 1: A multi-hazard resistant and accessible Community Library and Resource Center (CLRC) constructed and functioning along with its sustaining enterprises

1.1 Building construction agreement has been made between the CLRCs and selected contractors in Nuwakot. Himdung & Thokar Pvt. Ltd was selected for Nuwakot. As the technical assistance was provided by ESS, they have conducted orientation to the contractors and detail drawing was handed over.

1.2. Project orientation to the library management committee and local stakeholders was conducted.

1.3. District Project Advisory Committee (DPAC) meeting was conducted for 3 times, throughout the year. Local government officials and concerned stakeholders were the meeting participants and major discussions were held on project progress, up-coming plan and community participation.

1.4. 65% Construction of the Library is completed (plan to complete by end of March., 2018).

1.6. In order to establish a sustaining enterprise for the library MoU between Library and Cooperative.

1.5. Various trainings were conducted to build capacity of the LMC, Sub-committee and local stakeholders. The trainings provided are listed below:

- “Social Mobilization training on functional community participation for library building”.
- “Sustaining Enterprise Management Training”

- “Institutional Strengthening and Good Governance Training.”

Result 2: Improved community-based disaster risk reduction (CBDRR) initiatives through the CLRC outreach programs, with a particular focus on inclusion of persons with disabilities

2.1: Stakeholders meeting with DPOs and local stakeholders was conducted in different time period of the project.

2.2: 3 trainings on DiDRR for youth and teacher were conducted this year.

2.3 Under Practical Answers Service (PANs) Project, total 982 queries related to agriculture, livestock and DRR were collected and answered through different interactions.

2.4 To extend awareness among community people, 32 interactions on DiDRR were conducted.

2.5 15 school based orientation on DiDRR was jointly conducted by teachers and LMC.

Result 3: Strengthened livelihoods and empowerment of most at-risk groups through improved access to knowledge and information

3.1 Formed and mobilized 8 community level group to collect queries and disseminate practical based information to the community.

3.2: Total 16 expert interaction programs were conducted on livestock, agriculture and other issues

3.3. Poultry farming training was conducted under livelihood development training for the community people.

Result 4: Improved literacy skills of the community people through the promotion of reading and other educational activities.

4.1 Total 4 educational and awareness related activities targeting school students from library catchment area. They are Quiz-2 (1- School level, 1-GOs level), Drawing-1 (School level), and Speech 1 (School).

4.2: This different disaster related days were marked by the library. They are:

- National Earthquakes Safety Day (ESD)-15 Jan., 2017
- International Wheel Chair Day-1 March, 2017
- International Women day 8 March. 2017.

- Environment Day-June 5, 2017.

4.3 Organize 3 events of award and prize distribution program

4.4 Conduct basic computer training for persons with visual impaired through the DAISY of accessible ICT section.

6. The Beautiful Library Project, Nawalparasi:

Project Background

Read Information and Resource Center (READ Nepal) has signed an agreement with the beautiful store to build community library at Nawalparasi as a part of ‘The Beautiful Library Project’. The RIRC is a national-level local, non-profit and non-governmental organization, established in 2006 under the NGO Act of Nepal at the District Administration Office, Kathmandu.

The RIRC was supported by Rural Education and Development (READ) Nepal that has been working in Nepal since 1991 with the mission to empower communities, increase literacy and support education in Nepal by building a self-sustaining rural community library. The primary focus of the RIRC is to promote community libraries and to contribute to overall educational and social development in Nepal.

As a part of this project, Fulbari Community Library and Resource Center has been established in Nawalparasi as a Satellite Center of Agyauli Community Library and Resource Center which is a Hub Center. READ Nepal has developed Hub-Satellite model to create interdependencies between a centrally located, full READ CLRC (called a “Hub”), and nearby smaller “Satellite” center(s). The model was developed to reach more remote communities that are too small to be eligible for their own ‘Center’. This help to provide deeper impact in selected rural areas while reducing the overall cost of establishing a READ CLRC. By linking them with a hub, more of these communities can be reached in a sustainable manner.

As per the agreement, the project period is from February 2014 to June 2017 that is 3 years support after inauguration.

Annual Programs

The annual activities of 2017 are described as follows:

Educational Activities

- **Quiz Competition:** A lower secondary school level quiz competition was organized on January 28, 2017. In order to encourage students to come and get knowledge in the library that event was organized. Quiz questions were selected from general knowledge, science and technology, national and international issues etc. A total of 16 children from different school participated in the program.



Picture : Students participating in Quiz competition

Grihini Classes (Class for housewives): The library is also conducting a Grihini class (literacy class for housewives) nearby the

library. There are 33 women students in the class. The Grihini classes are recognized by Nepal Government. Participants after succeeding 5 years of Grihini education are eligible for SLC (School Leaving Certificate) examination- Class 10 in Nepal. In Nepal, the students can continue higher education only after passing the SLC examination. Currently, students from class 1 to 6 are participating in the class. There are two classroom facilitators in the class.



Picture : A woman studying in Grihini Class

- **Advance Literacy Classes:**

Two months advance literacy classes were conducted in 2017. Since the community was fully literate and was demanding for advance classes, Fulbari Community Library conducted literacy classes in support with READ Nepal. Facilitators were selected from previously trained group for literacy class facilitation. Advance level book was provided by READ Nepal. Total 5 different classes were taken in different part of the community and 100 neo literate community people took part in the classes for two month.



Storytelling, writing and wall magazine training for children:

7 days creativity development training (story writing, telling and wall magazine) was conducted in Fulbari CLRC to promote reading habit among children. Especially for the story telling session other mothers and teachers also joined the class. Mr. Yashu Shrestha (Children's Literature) facilitated the training. As the outcome of the training they have formed a children's group under library and they will conduct story writing and telling session as well as will publish wall magazine every month.

Specific activities for the women

- **Women Saving Credit Cooperative Progress:** Nanda Bhauju Saving and Credit cooperative is the cooperative strengthened with the initiative of the library in 2015. It has increased its membership after getting merged with Fulbari CLRC. There are 250 members in the cooperative where as there were only 130 members before merging. The collected amount of the cooperative are being mobilized for agriculture, small business for women, foreign employment etc.
- **Cotton Bag Making Training:** A 15 days cotton bag making training was conducted in the library in coordination with Nanda Bhauju saving and credit cooperative. Major objective of this training to develop women entrepreneurship and to improve economic access of women in the community. VDRC- Nepal provided technical assistance in the training. A total of 16

women have received the training among them 2 are became professional entrepreneur and rest are making bag for their own use and as per demand by their relatives.

- **Crystal Jewelry Making Training:**

5 days crystal jewelry making training was conducted in Fulbari CLRC. Ms. Sarita Paudel, local entrepreneur facilitated the training for 16 local community women. Marginalized women form Tharu community was selected for the training. Different types of jewelry like necklace, bangle, finger ring etc were taught in the training. They have started production and selling in the market.



- **Women Empowerment TOT Training:** A 5-day women empowerment ToT training was conducted in Fulbari CLRC, Nawalparasi. Major objective of the training was to develop leadership quality, clear understanding of women empowerment and gender, women violence and rights and facilitation skill of local community women to become good trainers who can empower other community women on various women's issues and to increase women's access in the library. After getting 5 days training, the local women has to conduct two days women empowerment training in their own community. A total of 15 women participated in the training.

- **Women Empowerment Cascade Training:**

After ToT training on women empowerment, Fulbari CLRC has conducted 10 different women empowerment training in library. The trained women from TOT are the facilitator for the training. A total of 100 women get benefited from 7 different trainings.



Specific activities for youth

- **Life skill Training:** 2- days life skill and leadership development training for youth was conducted in Fulbari CLRC, in coordination with Youth Leadership Sub-committee from Agyauli CLRC. A total of 35 (20 male and 15 females) youth have received the training with the major contents of self motivation, skill utilization, leadership development, leadership style, qualities of good leaders and confidence building.

Health and Sanitation Activities

- **Village Clean-up Program**

Time and again the library organize village clean-up program where community people participate to clean the Kolhuwa village ward no 7, 8 and 9. They not only clean the village but also created awareness among the community people on importance of keeping the village clean. Aa

- **Vaccination Program**

The library has been conducting monthly vaccination program in coordination with District Public Health Office and local Nawalpur health post since November 2014. Through this program, the children and women of Kolhuwa ward no. 7 and 8 Kolhuwa have been benefitted. In the program, both the mothers and children are vaccinated against different diseases such as measles, Diptheria, Tetanus, Polio, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis, Influenza etc. Also, mothers are counseled about the vaccination, its types and timing, child disease and family planning.



- **Ghau Ghar Clinic Program:**

The library is conducting Ghau Ghar (Village Home) clinic program from January 2015 in coordination with local health post to do regular checkups of pregnant women. The clinic placed once a month in the library during which free birth control contraceptives are also distributed.

7. Building Resilience Community through Community Libraries, Sindhupalchowk

Background of the Project

A 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal on 25 April at 11:56 local time creating large scale damage and many casualties. Strong aftershocks, including a 6.7 magnitude quake of 12 May continued to threaten the lives of thousands of people and to further damage buildings and infrastructure. Sindhupalchowk is one of the most earthquake affected districts.

However, READ Nepal has implemented short term Community Safe Space Project in Nuwakot and Sindhupalchowk from September 2016 – April 2017, in responding the post earthquake needs of the community. Using Community Safe Spaces, local communities have conducted different awareness related like awareness program in health, vaccination and hygiene, interaction program on water purifying. Different agriculture related interaction and trainings are provided to community people for improving their agricultural production. Agriculture supportive materials (seeds) and equipments (pesticide dispenses pump, field plugging tractors) were also distributed. Regularly educational competitions, sports competitions are organizing for reading habit promotion.

Owing to the positive change from the CSS and the needs of the Community Library in the said villages, **“Building Resilient Communities Through Community Library”** Project has been implemented from May 2016 – October 2017 in Thokarpa and Bhotasipa, Sindhupalchowk in partnership with The Beautiful Store Foundation, South Korea. This project will address the need of permanent place and mechanism to provide reliable and need based knowledge to local people, including children, women and other marginalized section of the village. The project has completed its project period.

Project Objective

The main objective of the project is to build a community owned vibrant community library paired with sustaining enterprise in the village that contributes to the positive social transformation of communities. A common venue for the local community to gather, hold meetings, conduct trainings, workshops and need based educational activities. Some specific objectives of the project are given below:

- To provide place for access to knowledge, information, and resources through the sustainable community library and resource center.
- To improve the culture of reading for learning among community members through the provision of education-related opportunities such as knowledge materials (books, newspapers, software) and adult literacy classes.
- To increase awareness of general health and life skills of community people and women's empowerment.
- To increase awareness on disaster risk reduction and preparation to respond Disaster Risk Reduction in community level.

Annual Progress of 2017

Library Inauguration

The Thokarpa Community Library and Resource center was inaugurated on January 11, 2017 and the Indrawati Community Library and Resource center was on 12 Jan, 2017. Ms. Hwang Inyi, Samsung Engineering, Ms. Hana Kim, Jiye Seol and Sun woong Hwang from The Beautiful Store Foundation, Ms. Sanjana Shrestha from READ Nepal, Mr. Bhola Kumar Shrestha from Read Information and Resource Center were participated in the inauguration of both CLRCs.



Mr. Mohan Bahadur Basnet., Member of Legislature Parliament, Mr. Swornim Wagle, Member of National Planning Commission, Ms. Hwang Inyi, Samsung Engineering jointly inaugurated the Thokarpa Community Resource Library

Educational Activities (III phase activities) after inauguration

As per the project activities designed, one year support from inauguration was also planned for different educational program. Reading habit promotional, awareness related interactions, women empowerment and livelihood trainings were conducted in both Indrawati and Thokarpa CLRC. Library wise educational activities details are given below:

Indrawati CLRC, Bhotasipa:

Achievement against its target of Indrawati CLRC, educational plan is given below:

Indrawati Educational Program Target Vs. Achievement

S.N.	Activities	Target		Progress				Remarks
		Times	# of beneficiary	Times	# of beneficiary	Achievement against the target of Event	Achievement against the target of Beneficiaries	
1	Reading Habit Promotional Activities	4	80	4	109	100%	136%	
1.1.	interactions program	1	20	1	21	100%	105%	

1.2.	English language promotional class	1	20	1	42	100%	210%	Due to high demand of the class two different groups participated in the training.
1.3.	speech competition	1	20	1	25	100%	125%	
1.4.	quiz context (inter school level)	1	20	1	21	100%	105%	
2	"Learn to Lead" Women empowerment & Gender Training	5	90	2	110	40%	122%	
2.1.	Women Empowerment Tot training	1	10	1	10	100%	100%	
2.2.	Women Empowerment Cascade Training	4	80	1	100	125%	125%	
3	Livelihood Training (Poultry farming training)	1	15	1	17	100%	113%	
4	Awareness interactions on contemporary issues	4	100	4	100	100%	100%	
4.1.	awareness program on environment and pollution	1	25	1	28	100%	112%	
4.2.	orientation on media and cyber crime	1	25	1	22	100%	88%	

4.3.	awareness programme safe drinking water	1	25	1	23	100%	92%	
4.4.	training on menstruation hygiene	1	25	1	27	100%	108%	
5	Interactions and training on Disaster Risk Reduction in community	4	100	4	170	100%	170%	
5.1.	Safety Message on DRR	1	25	1	39	100%	156%	
5.2.	Preparedness Plan	1	25	1	43	100%	172%	
5.3.	Street Drama on DRR	1	25	1	56	100%	224%	
5.4.	Interaction on Basic DRR Terminologies	1	25	1	32	100%	128%	
	Total	18	385	15	510	440%	668%	

Thokarpa CLRC, Thokarpa:

Achievement against its target of Thokarpa CLRC, educational plan is given below:

Thokarpa III phase Program Target Vs. Achievement

S. N.	Activities	Target		Progress				Remarks
		Times	# of beneficiary	Times	# of beneficiary	Achievement against the target of Event	Achievement against the target of Beneficiaries	

1	Reading Habit Promotional Activities	4	80	4	77	100%	96%	
1.1	Reading skill development	1	20	1	13	100%	65%	
1.2	Speech competition for neo literate	1	20	1	22	100%	110%	
1.3	Essay writing Competition Youth	1	20	1	16	100%	80%	
1.4	Hand writing competition	1	20	1	26	100%	130%	
2	"Learn to Lead" Women empowerment & Gender Training	5	90	2	110	40%	122%	
2.1	Women Empowerment Tot training	1	10	1	10	100%	100%	
2.2	Women Empowerment Cascade Training	4	80	1	100	125%	125%	
3	Livelihood Training (Poultry farming training)	1	15	1	13	100%	87%	
4	Awareness interactions on contemporary issues	4	100	6	173	150%	173%	
4.1	Basic Health Education Program	1	25	3	100	300%	400%	In coordination with FHN German basic

								health trainings were conducted
4.2 .	Interaction on Alcoholism control	1	25	1	24	100%	96%	
4.3 .	Psycho-social counseling	1	25	1	24	100%	96%	
4.4 .	Sanitation Program	1	25	1	25	100%	100%	
5	Interactions and training on Disaster Risk Reduction in community	4	100	5	150	125%	150%	
5.1 .	Safety Message on DRR	1	25	1	18	100%	72%	
5.2 .	Preparedness Plan	1	25	1	23	100%	92%	
5.3 .	Masson training	1	25	1	32	100%	128%	
5.4 .	Reconstruction facilitation and brick making	1	25	2	77	200%	308%	in coordination with Buildup Nepal two trainings on brick making and reconstruction facilitation.
	Total	18	385	18	523	515%	628%	

Major Achievements/ Outcomes

- 2 Community Library and Resource Centers (1 at Thokarpa and 1 at Bhotasipa) has built and providing lifelong learning space for community people along with sustaining enterprise.
- 12919, population of Bhotapisa and 14527 population of Thokarpa have visited and accessed library resources and facilities and increased access to knowledge, information and resources through community library resources center (CLRC).
- The culture of reading for learning has been improved through educational activities.
- Increased awareness among the local people on disaster risk reduction and the exposure to the risk has minimized through different interaction on Disaster Risk Reduction.
- Increased women's empowerment and leadership through the TOT and Cascade trainings and library resources. 20 local community women has become trainer for women empowerment and gender training.
- Awareness generated on burning social issues through different awareness generating activities.
- Local level coordination and partnership has been increased as a strong part of project sustainability.

8. Reconstruction of Library, Section Upgrade and ICT Section Set up

Thak Community Library, Tukuche

Background of the Project

Thak Community Library was established on 1995 in Tukuche VDC of Mustang district. It had Library section, Children section and Audio Visual Section and has wood mill as sustaining enterprise. Due to the 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal on 25 April and strong aftershocks, including a 6.8 magnitude quake of 12 May damaged the library building. The local community people already started to reconstruct the building with the support from VDC USD 1000 and Parliament development fund USD 5000 but the resource was not sufficient to complete the structure. As per their request along with cost estimation of library building READ Nepal committed to support the reconstruction along with section upgrade.

Objectives of the Project

- Construction of earthquake affected Thak CLRC.
- To establish ICT section in the library.

Major achievement till this period:

The construction was started on July 2016. Some updates from the project progress are given below:

- Agreement with Thak Community for reconstruct, section upgrade, and establishment of ICT Section was made on September 2016. The pre-consensus was also taken from District Development Committee (DDC), Mustang for project implementation. The total amount of agreement is NPR 42, 55,464 (USD 42554.64) and the construction will be completed by September 2017.
- The construction of the library building is completed.

9. Nepalese can – 2, Takukot Project:

After successful accomplishment of Nepalese Can campaign to build Gyanbikash Community Library in Panauti, RIRC has started Nepalese can campaign-2 to build a community library in Takukot Gorkha. In this process an agreement ceremony between RIRC and Takukot CLRC was organized in Kathmandu, where Takukot Library Building agreement was signed by Mr. Bhola Kumar Shrestha, President form RIRC



and Mr. Moha Prasad Paneru, President from Takukot Community Library and Resource center. Total amount for building construction is NPR 80,00,000 (USD 76190.48¹), out of which NPR 30,00,000 (USD 28571.43) will be raised by the Takukot community and rest NPR 50,00,000

¹ Exchange rate of USD-1= NPR105

(USD 47619.05) will be raised through Community Library Lovers Campaign (CLLC)² led by Read Information and Resource Center (READ Nepal).

Project Progress

- Construction of the library building is in underway.
- Fund raising from RIRC and community level is continuing to accomplish the building construction.

B. Monitoring & Evaluation Activities carried out in 2017

Baseline Survey:

Baseline survey was conducted in Dolakha (Gaurishankar CLRC) and Nuwakot (Janajagaran CLRC) for the establishment of DiDRR libraries. The motive of baseline survey was to know the situation and interest of the people of the catchment area which would help to design program to be implemented by the library.

ROTA project outcome assessment:

Since ROTA project is to end in year 2017, the assessment was done in all 11 ROTA centers to know the outcome by the project.

There were total of 3 assessments done with different set of questionnaires prepared for the each survey. The surveys conducted were as follows:

- a. Capacity building training assessment:** In this assessment the effect of capacity building trainings i.e. sustaining enterprise training, Institutional strengthening and good governance training, social mobilization training and Library management training were taken into account. The motive of this assessment was to know how well the training has had impact on beneficiaries.
- b. Outcome assessment:** Outcome assessment had 4 different survey forms i.e. Youth survey, ICT survey, User survey and Livelihood survey given to the project implementing libraries.

² Learn more about this campaign on Web: www.library-lovers.org, FB: www.facebook.com/cllcnepal

- c. **Sustaining enterprise assessment:** In this assessment the situation of sustaining enterprise was assessed by collecting all incomes and expenditure of the project implementing libraries.

Strategic planning workshop: Strategic planning was 3 days workshop participated by RIRC board members and staffs.. The major purpose and outcome of the workshop were:

- a. **Working modality:** The main purpose of strategic planning was to identify the working modality under which READ Nepal is to work from 2018.
- b. **Identification of READ Model:** READ Model was identified in 3 days workshop.
- c. **Problem tree analysis:** The identification of the major problem that the organization could face and what are the ideal ways to deal with it was identified.
- d. **SWOT analysis:** SWOT analysis was done identifying strength, weakness, opportunity and threat of an organization and further discussion about how can the problems be resolved.
- e. **Identification of Prioritized outcomes:** 5 prioritized outcomes were identified which will be implemented from the year.

Librarian refreshers training: Librarian refreshers training was conducted from December 25th to December 30th in 2 different clusters where 57 different participants from different CLRC participated. The training was conducted in 2 different places with 57 participants, first being in Pokhara, hotel Grand from 26th December, 2017 to 27th December, 2017 where 29 participants participated and other in Sauraha, Hotel Monalisa from Dec 29-30, 2017 where 28 participants participated.

C. Major Administrative Updates

Major administrative updates are listed below:

- As per the need of the organization, total 6 new staffs have been recruited from September 2017.
- Organizations 5 years strategic planning has been drafted in the year 2017.

D. Read Information & Resource Center (READ Nepal) team – 2017 Board Members

Mr. Bhola Kumar Shrestha – President

Mr. Murari Binod Pokhrel – Vice President

Mr. Sushil Mainali – Treasurer

Ms. Pushpa Bhadel – Secretary

Ms. Rambha Thapa – Member

Mr. Keshab Raj Acharya – Member

Mr.

Staff Members

Mr. Durgesh Kumar Yogi – M&E and Capacity Building Manager

Ms. Pushpa Bhadel – Administrative Manager

Mr. Prakash Pokhrel – Project Manager

Mr. Chin Kaji Shrestha – Program Officer

Mr. Tara Bahadur Thapa – Youth Development Program officer

Ms. Sadhana Thapa – Project Officer

Ms. Prabha Wagle – Project Coordinator

Mr. Nabin Subba – Admin & Finance Coordinator

Mr. L. B bhandari – Field Coordinator

Mr. Arjun Maharjan – ICT Administrator

Mr. Kanchha Man Lama – Field Supervisor

Mr. Rabindra Shrestha – Field Supervisor

Mr. Prakash Shrestha – Field Supervisor

Mr. Lila Nath Sapkota – Field Supervisor

Mr. Ashutosh Kharel – M & E Assistant

Ms. Ranjana Subedi – Admin Assistant

Ms. Shanti Pun – Receptionist

Ms. Devi Maya Rai- Office Assistant

Ms. Bina Tamang – Office Assistant

Ms. Saraswati Majhi – Office Assistant