

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019



Centre for Social Change

सामाजिक परिवर्तन केन्द्र

# **Annual Report 2019**

**Centre for Social Change**

110/38 Janasahayog Marg  
New Baneshwor, Kathmandu  
P.O.Box: 5714

This report covers the period of January 2019 to December 2019

Centre for Social Change  
110/38 Janasahayog Marg  
New Baneshwor, Kathmandu  
P.O.Box: 5714  
Email: [nepal.socialchange@gmail.com](mailto:nepal.socialchange@gmail.com)  
[www.socialchange.org.np](http://www.socialchange.org.np)

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## Message from the President:

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

It has already been more than four years of establishment of CSC and that our team working tirelessly with uncompromising integrity and dedication for positively contributing to the changing socio-political dynamics of Nepal. We are committed to our vision of building a peaceful, just, and inclusive society where everyone has an equal opportunity to live a dignified life. Where CSC is focusing on leveraging its strength of conducting research, creating discourses, and doing evidence-based policy advocacy work for social change in Nepal.

2019 remained an important year for CSC to widen its working scope and making ourselves visible as a research and policy advocacy organization locally as well as internationally. CSC's two major events of 2019, namely, Nepal Research Conference on Peace, Justice and Inclusive Society, and the South Asian Regional Institute on the Study and Practice of Strategic Nonviolent Action were highly appreciated by those who were part of those initiatives. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my colleagues at CSC for your dedication and hard work to take CSC to a new height. I also would like to thanks to our national and international collaborators for supporting our actions in Nepal.

Sincerely,

Prakash Bhattarai, PhD

President

## INTRODUCTION

Founded in 2015, Centre for Social Change (CSC) is a non-profit social think-tank working on the changing socio-political dynamics of Nepalese society via research, education, advocacy, and civic engagement. CSC is focused on the issues of civil society development, conflict transformation, governance, and migration.

## VISION

CSC envisions a peaceful, just, and inclusive society where everyone has an equal opportunity to live a dignified life.

## MISSION

CSC's mission is to advance social change through evidence-based knowledge development and grassroots engagement. We work to promote peace, defend civic space, enrich democracy, and empower workers.

## VALUES

**Integrity:** CSC is guided by ethical mindset and accountable actions.

**Collaboration:** CSC believes that social change happens through strong community partnership and trust among individuals and institutions.

**Empathy:** CSC puts itself in the situation of target group.

## WORKING APPROACHES

**Research and publication:** We conduct extensive research on our priority areas and other emerging issues and disseminates the research findings in the form of reports, infographics, blogs, videos, books, and journal articles. CSC also uses social media platform to disseminate the knowledge products among the wider segment of society.

**Education:** We organize both online and offline educational programs to develop subjective knowledge among the target groups on the spectrum of our priority areas. CSC enhances the capacity of target groups through promoting interpersonal skills like innovation, analysis and exploring the pathways for better engagement in both policy and academic discourses.

**Advocacy:** CSC engages in various activities that monitor the changes happening in society. Through this, we draw the attention of concerned stakeholders to act on the issues raised by our research-based monitoring work.

**Engagement:** We engage youth, women, policymakers, communities, and other stakeholders to contribute in the social change process. CSC provides people a platform to explore each other's perspectives and develop new understanding over the issues.

## WORKING AREAS



**Civic Engagement and Civil Society Development:** CSC through this thematic priority explores, how social change happens? We work to identify civic space related challenges and explore innovation to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations in Nepal. We are focused on increasing citizens participation in socio-political decision making, policy implementation and action monitoring in all three levels.



**Conflict Transformation and Peace building:** CSC is committed to transform violent conflict into constructive disagreements and expose shared solutions. We work with youth, communities, and academic institutions to build sustainable peace in Nepal. We are focused on identifying various unaddressed social issues and other root causes of violence and conflict, and purpose an evidence and knowledge induced transformation.



**Democracy and Governance:** CSC promotes openness, transparency, accountability, pluralism, and consensus decision making by strengthening government-citizen partnership. Nepal being a newly born federal country, we work with legislatures, governments, policy makers and activists to enhance democratic values in both small and federal polity.



**Labour and Migration:** CSC conducts research for building better policies on safer migration. We work to trace out the existing problems in the migration, its causes and consequences, opportunities, and challenges. We are focused on identifying needs of migrant workers, maximizing the benefits of migration and ensuring the protection of migrant workers in destination countries.

## OPERATIONAL STRUCTURE

CSC is currently operating with its three organizational wings, namely, think-tank initiative, projects and programs, and movement building.

**Think-tank Initiative:** CSC envisions a platform to promote evidence-based policy making and advocacy. With this vision, CSC conducts different research related to its working themes for generating evidences that may support to policymaking and advocacy initiatives in Nepal. In addition, CSC also aims to provide analysis of the context through newspaper articles, blogs, and online knowledge management and information portal. Besides conducting research, think-tank initiative is envisioned for establishing CSC as a watchdog to provide a prudent analysis of the socio-political context and providing policy feedbacks and inputs to politicians, policymakers, donors, and civil society organizations.

**Projects and Programs:** This wing is mainly responsible for designing and implementing projects and programs within its working themes and in partnership with donors, civil society organizations, universities, and private sector.

**Movement Building:** CSC strongly believes in continuous coordination and cooperation among different stakeholders for achieving sustainable change. With this view, movement building wing at CSC establishes connections and partnerships with local, national, regional and global social change movements and also takes proactive efforts to create and strengthen social change movements in the areas of CSC's strategic priorities.



## STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP

February 15-16, 2019  
Kathmandu

Strategic Planning Workshop analyzed past, present, and future strategies, working approaches, research, and program outcomes of CSC. Workshop designed concrete plan for partnership building, fundraising, networking, human resource development, branding, and visibility. Further, the team deliberated on CSC's style of inclusivity, accountability, leadership, and management.



## **SOUTH ASIAN REGIONAL INSTITUTE ON STUDY AND PRACTICE OF STRATEGIC NONVIOLENT CONFLICT (ASIAN ACTION INSTITUTE)**

March 3-9, 2019  
Dhulikhel

South Asian Regional Institute on Study and Practice of Strategic Nonviolent Conflict offered and opportunity to learn about and reflect on ways to achieve social change through nonviolent civil resistance actions to 36 international practitioners and scholars from 12 different countries. Activists, organizers, scholars, civil society professionals, as well as civic and political leaders across South Asia, including Nepal, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Sweden, The Netherlands and The USA participated in the week long workshop.





## Nepal Research Conference on Peace, Justice and Inclusive Society | 2019

### NEPAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE ON PEACE, JUSTICE AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETY

June 27-28, 2019  
Lalitpur

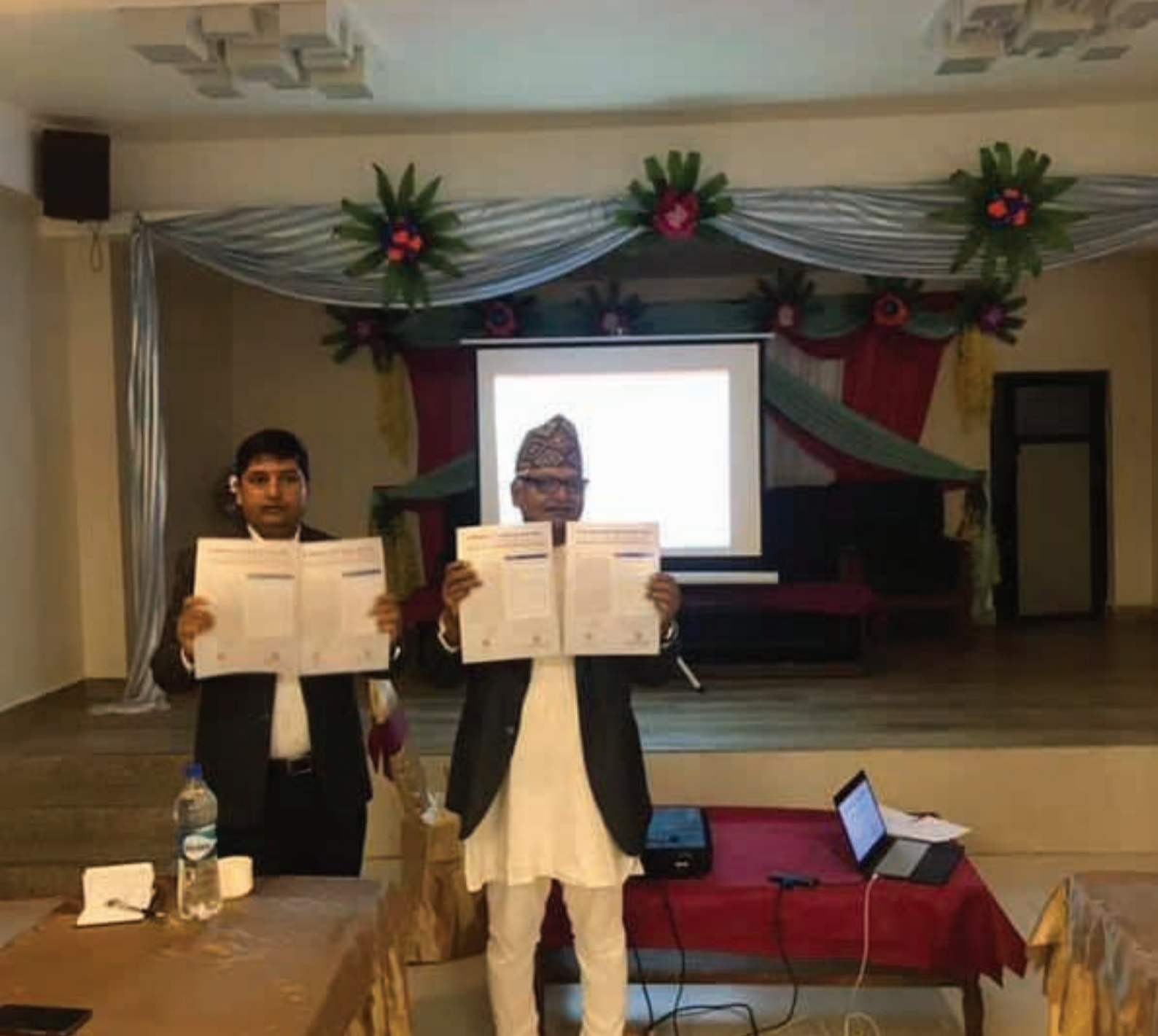
Nepal Research Conference on Peace, Justice and Inclusive Society brought graduates, post-graduates students, academics, social science researchers and social science practitioners from Nepal and abroad who have conducted research on relevant social science discipline and provide them an opportunity to be part of knowledge generating community in Nepal by presenting their research findings to the participants and invitees. The program witnessed around 80 participants during two program days. Altogether 26 papers were presented in eight different panels by 28 presenters.



## ACADEMIC WRITING AND PUBLISHING IN NEPALI UNIVERSITIES: EXISTING PRACTICES AND GAPS WORKSHOP

September 12, 2019  
Biratnagar

CSC in collaboration with Mahendra Morang Campus, organized an academic writing and publishing workshop to strengthen and enrich the academic society of Province no. 1. As a part of the workshop, Prof. Dr. Balaram Paudel facilitated group discussion on 'University Grant Commission Nepal Standard in Academic Writing and Publications.' Similarly, Associate Prof. Dr. Komal P. Dulal facilitated another discussion on 'Academic Writing Skills and Ethics'; Associate Prof. Dr. Krishna Pandey conducted discussion on 'Manuscript Submission and Peer Review Process in Publication'; and Dr. Achut Kattel facilitated discussion on 'Language Skills for Academic Writing' among the participants/faculty members from dozens of academic institutions in Biratnagar city.



## RESEARCH FINDINGS SHARING PROGRAM

October 20-23, 2019

Sunsari, Dang and Surkhet

Research Findings Sharing Program was organized in three targeted districts (among six) where the research had been conducted in 2018 entitled - Gender, War trauma, and Peacebuilding. These sharing programs brought various stakeholders from the district to discuss on the findings of the research. The program reflected the understanding of the peacebuilding process, reconciliation, truth-telling, and effects of war based on the result developed from the survey of 1000 women and men across six districts.



## ALL HANDS TOGETHER

November 9-20, 2019  
Janakpur and Kathmandu

A grassroots peace building project integrated 12 young influencers belonging from Madhes and Pahad community in Nepal and rejuvenated the unity and energy to work together for ethnic justice, harmony and social cohesion in their communities. Two weeks long intellectual exchange program (in Janakpur and Kathmandu) consisted of several lectures, workshops, field visits, case study, community stay, civic engagement activities, food exchange and cultural photoshoots. This facilitated participants to understand each other's culture, history, tradition, religion, politics, cuisine, ethnic dress, music and lifestyle. Exchange program raised the discussion over several socio-political issues about gender equality, equity and inclusion, social accountability, local governance and active citizenship.

## OUR INITIATIVES



**Nepal Peace Portal:** A website that provides comprehensive information about Nepal's socio-political change processes that has been achieved through socio-political movements, negotiated settlement of Nepal's decade long Maoist armed conflict and various agreements signed between the agitating forces and the governments formed after 1990s.



**Asian Action Institute:** An educational hub that organizes course on the study and practice of strategic non-violent actions engaging both local and international practitioners and scholars. It is maintained collaboratively by International Center on Nonviolent Conflict (ICNC), Centre for Social Change (CSC), Department of Conflict, Peace and Development Studies (DCPDS), Tribhuvan University and Network of Families of the Disappeared, Nepal (NEFAD).



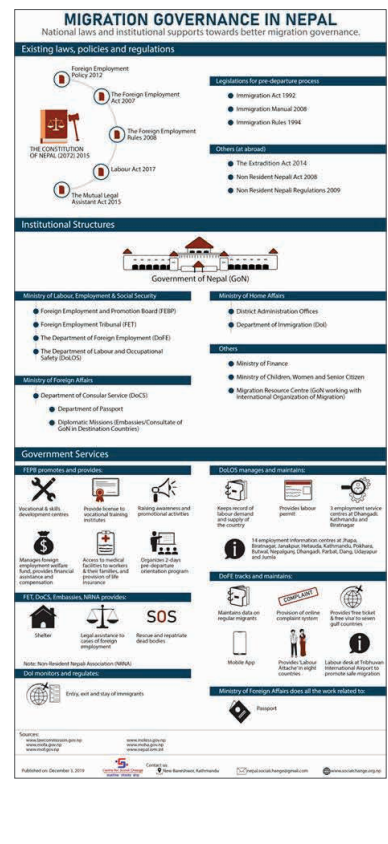
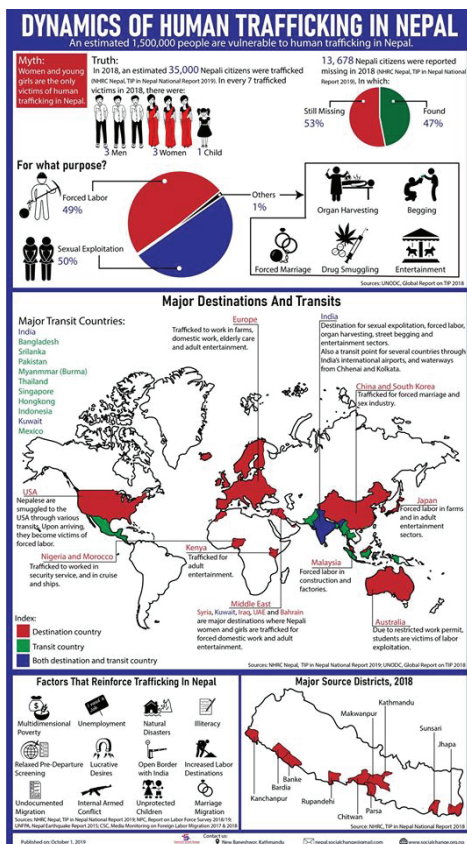
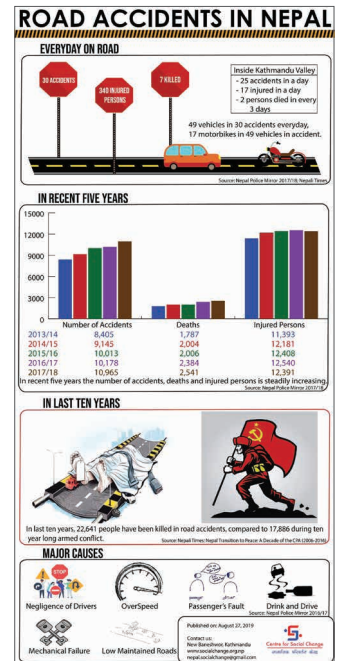
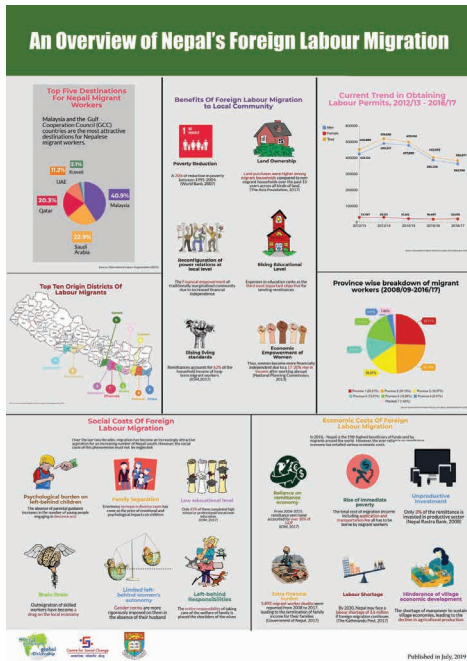
**Youth Initiative for SDG 16:** A youth peace movement working to innovate digital and grassroots engagement platform to promote, protect and advocate for youth leadership, civic action, sustainable peace, democratic institution and social justice in Nepal.

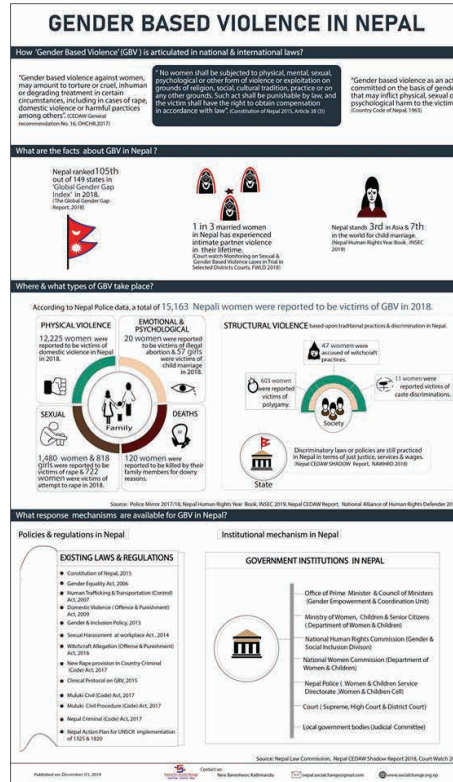
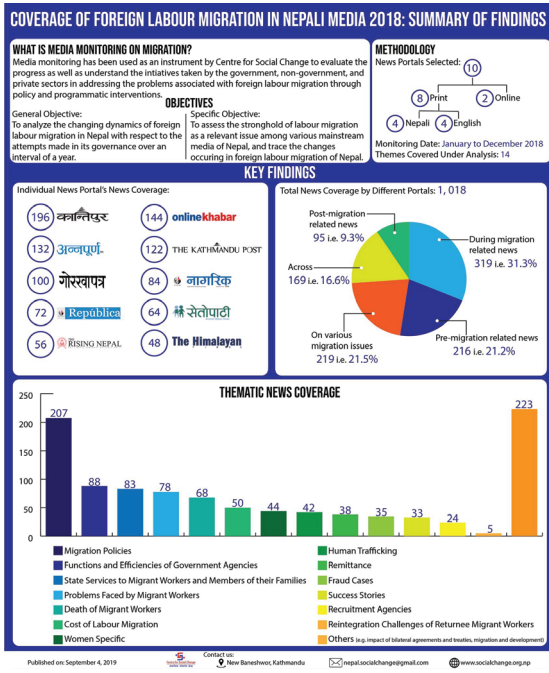


**Let's Speak for Change:** In order to promote civic space for youth, Centre for Social Change has initiated a monthly workshop series under the title "Let's Speak for Change" where young people can openly express their concerns, opinions, reflections, ideas, and experiences about the narratives of social change. The workshop welcomes young people to discuss politics, governance, civil society, law enforcement agencies, media and public service delivery of Nepal, and how they impact young people's future.

# PUBLICATIONS

## Information Graphics





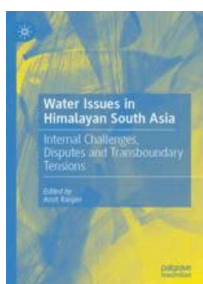
## Reports/Book Chapters



**Annual Media Monitoring Report 2018:** Annual Media Monitoring Report: This report analyzed the changing dynamics of foreign labour migration in Nepal with respect to the attempts made in its governance during 2018. The study focused on understanding the media's coverage of the lived experiences of the Nepali people who have been impacted, either directly or indirectly by labour migration.



**Does Gender Affect Peacebuilding? A Quantitative Study on Paths to Peace in Nepal:** This report summarizes the findings for a survey of 1000 women and men across six districts in order to examine the peacebuilding process in Nepal, including views on reconciliation and truth-telling. The survey found that legacy of the conflict has implications for people's mental health and that people have low levels of interpersonal and institutional trust. Results also indicated important gender differences that should be taken into account when designing and implementing peace-building mechanisms.



CSC researchers Dr. Prakash Bhattarai, Dr. Sanju Koirala and Ms. Sarita Barma have contributed a book chapter titled **"Multi-stakeholder Hydropower Disputes and Its Resolutions in Nepal"** in a book named "Water Issues in Himalayan South Asia." Drawing from the examples of three hydropower projects namely, Upper Tamakoshi, Arun III and West Seti, this study finds that lack of adequate information sharing among the local and national stakeholders, and the violation of national and international legal and policy provisions significantly contribute to escalate the disputes between hydropower stakeholders.

## EXCHANGE VISITS



Centre for Social Change and The University of Hong Kong (HKU), Faculty of Social Sciences had an academic exchange collaboration project that was aimed at enhancing the research knowledge and practices of HKU students while being at a different context and different environment. Students presented photo book, infographics and also wrote article on various issues about the Nepali society, where they stayed for two months prior to the presentation. Associate Dean of HKU Prof. Dr. Samson Tse was also present in the program monitoring and guiding the performance of her students.



As a part of capacity building, Mr. Pawan Roy, Secretary General, CSC visited Uppsala University as a visiting researcher at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research and also took part in the Internationally recognized training course in Dialogue and Mediation jointly organized by Uppsala University and Dag Hammarskjold Foundation in Sweden on June, 2019.



Dr. Punam Yadav visited and interacted with CSC team at the CSC office, Kathmandu. Dr. Punam Yadav is a lecturer in Humanitarian Studies and Co-director of the the Institute for Risk and Disaster Reduction, University College London. CSC receives such guests as a part of capacity building to look for new academic partnership opportunities.



## PARTNERSHIP AND COLLABORATION

### Collaboration with Universities and Academic Institutions



### Collaboration with Other Institutions and Organizations



## ANNUAL FINANCE FY 2075/76 (in NRs) as of 16 July, 2019

### Income

Income received from the donor:	70,90,927.25
Other Income:	2,42,478.49

### Expenses

Program Expenses:	59,99,038.44
Administrative Expenses:	5,80,731.57

Cash and Bank Balance:	18,17,263.03
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