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**CWIN Initiatives for child rights and climate justice**

Established in 1987, Child Workers in Nepal Concerned Centre (CWIN) is a pioneer child rights organisation in Nepal with a vision is to build a just, prosperous, and inclusive society where all children enjoy fundamental human rights and where the state takes full responsibility to respect, protect and fulfill these rights. CWIN's total budget for the past year was 1414967 Euros obtained through grants, donations, and partnerships with national and international organisations. CWIN adopts a child rights-based approach to address the challenges faced by vulnerable children and focuses on research, evidence-based advocacy, capacity-strengthening, and direct interventions to bring about sustainable changes in the lives of children. Climate change disproportionately affects marginalised communities, including adolescents increasing their vulnerability to child labour and trafficking. Through this research partnership, CWIN can leverage its legacy of advocacy and networking to implement climate-responsive child protection systems and advocate for child-centered climate policies. The expected outcome of this partnership is the reduction of child labour and prevention of trafficking ensuring that adolescents are protected, educated, and empowered to be agents of change in building climate resilience. CWIN's experiences in integrating child protection measures into climate change adaptation strategies, conducting child-centric climate vulnerability assessments, and promoting adolescents’ participation in climate advocacy align with the specific requirements of climate justice concerning child labour and trafficking. CWIN’s expertise and direct engagement with adolescents is crucial in designing interventions that address the root causes of child labour and trafficking in the context of climate change and create sustainable solutions

Children and climate justice share a profound and intricate relationship, as the well-being of our youngest and most vulnerable members of society is deeply intertwined with the equitable and just management of climate change impacts. Climate justice, at its core, advocates for fairness and impartial treatment for all individuals and communities, particularly those who are disproportionately affected by the consequences of environmental shifts. This concept is exemplified in CWIN-Nepal's comprehensive approach to addressing climate justice through various initiatives:

**Child rights responsive humanitarian assistance:** CWIN-Nepal has extensive experience, expertise and mechanism to provide child sensitive and child rights responsive humanitarian assistance to children and communities during the natural and man-made calamiities. It has been in the forefront to provide humanritation child rights responsive humanitarian assistance during the unfortunate events of armed conflict, floods, earthquake and pandemic in Nepal. It also runs Child Helpline Nepal 1098, the national child protection mechanism in collaboration with the Government of Nepal/National Child Rights Council in seven districts covering 6 propvinces of Nepal. The Child Helplines are actively engaged to respond to emergency calls, psycho-social and emotional support, emergency rescue operations for the protection of children in crisis situations. Child Helplines also provide emergency shelter and family reintegration services.

**Empowering Children on the Move:** CWIN-Nepal acknowledges the heightened vulnerability of children who are compelled to migrate due to environmental pressures such as natural disasters and climate-related hardships. These children often confront numerous dangers, including exploitation and trafficking. In response, CWIN-Nepal is dedicated to creating secure and nurturing spaces for these displaced children. The organization not only offers essential support and educational programs tailored to their distinctive needs but also equips them with essential skills. This empowerment equips them to confront the challenges associated with climate-induced displacement while encouraging them to assert their rights and advocate on behalf of other affected children.

**Promoting Climate-Resilient Farming Practices**: The impact of climate change on regions like Dolakha in Nepal is evident through erratic weather patterns, droughts, and landslides that pose severe challenges to agricultural livelihoods. CWIN-Nepal recognizes the urgency of adapting to these changes and actively engages with farmers to introduce innovative and climate-resilient farming techniques. By organizing workshops, training sessions, and hands-on demonstrations, CWIN-Nepal equips farmers with sustainable methods that conserve water, enhance soil fertility, and foster biodiversity. These climate-smart practices empower farmers to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change on their crops and ensure the long-term sustainability of their communities.

**Educating Children on Climate Action:** CWIN-Nepal is steadfast in its belief that nurturing environmental consciousness among younger generations is pivotal to building a sustainable future. The organization achieves this by conducting comprehensive educational programs in schools and communities, emphasizing the significance of climate action and the preservation of the environment. Through interactive workshops, awareness campaigns, and nature-centered activities, CWIN-Nepal sensitizes children to the far-reaching impacts of climate change and its potential role in its mitigation. This approach inspires and empowers young people to become devoted environmental stewards, propelling them to proactively engage with issues of climate justice.

**National Adolescent Boys and Girls Network:** Recognizing the potency of peer-to-peer engagement, CWIN-Nepal has facilitated the establishment of the National Adolescent Girls Network and subsequently the National Adolescent Boys Network for the last 12 years. These networks provide platforms for adolescents from all diversities belonging to all 77 districts/7 provinces of Nepal to unite their voices in advocating for their rights. CWIN-Nepal's support, encompassing orientations, workshops, and training, bolster the capacity of these young individuals to champion their rights. The networks have set their sights on climate justice and the eradication of child labour exploitation/trafficking, exemplifying their commitment to both individual agency and collective action.The networks are continously invited by the civil society and government agencies for their contributions to the local/national policies and interventions.

**Green Chakra - Empowering Adolescents for Climate Justice and Resilience**: CWIN is supporting the young people belonging to the National Adolescent Boys and Girls Network to initiate GREEN CHAKRA- young people’s platform for climate justice. They are working towards empowering children and adolescents from their communities to become agents of change and advocates for climate justice. CWIN is facilitating the process for their active participation in decision-making processes, awareness campaigns, and capacity-building initiatives to enhance climate resilience.

**Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Mental Health:** CWIN-Nepal has pioneered Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Mental Healthin Nepal. It has been operating OPD at National Children’s Hospital (in collaboration with Kanti ChildrenHospital) and will be starting Nepal’s first in-patient service. We reach out to children from across the nation through tele-psychiatry, rapid response team and child mental; health camps. This initiative is capable of providing comprehensive mental health support to children and adolescents who are affected by climate crisis.

CWIN-Nepal's unwavering commitment to climate justice is visibly reflected in its multifaceted approach. By uplifting vulnerable children, fostering climate-resilient practices in agriculture, educating the youth, and facilitating the formation of adolescent networks, CWIN-Nepal demonstrates a comprehensive and impactful strategy. This concerted effort not only empowers communities but also nurtures a profound sense of environmental responsibility, propelling Nepal towards a more sustainable and climate-resilient future.