



Social Protection Civil Society Network

Conducted two workshops to formulate a procedure for local governments to operate child endowment fund for orphan children in Bagmati Province

Established on 16 February 2012, Social Protection Civil Society Network (SPCSN) has been active in raising the voice of right holders, promoting interfaces among right holders, experts, and duty bearers, and making duty bearers more accountable on various social protection issues. SPCSN is a liberal forum comprising 16 non-government organizations (NGOs), which are actively engaging themselves in the sector of human rights and social protection. Member organizations represent and are dedicated to working with the most vulnerable groups in Nepal such as children, the elderly, people with disabilities, traffic survivors, people with HIV/AIDS, single women, landless people, and so on: URL: www.spcsnepal.org

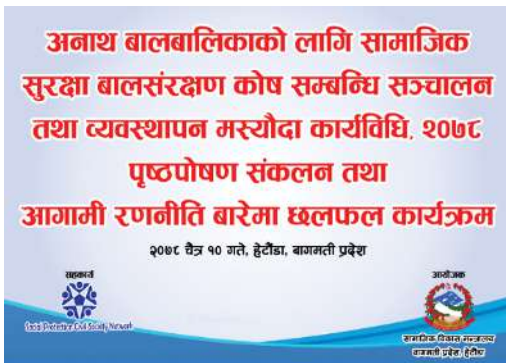
Child Act 2075 has guarantees provisions of special protection from the state for orphan and vulnerable children (Article-48, chapter -5). To realize this right of children, the Ministry of Social Development (MoSD), Bagmati Province had announced to provide social protection allowance for orphaned children (a child whose parents have died, are unknown, or have permanently abandoned them) in the fiscal year 2076/77. As per the program, they are eligible to receive Rs. 2,000 (Two Thousand Rupees) on monthly basis. To some extent, this decision has arisen the rays of hope to those children and the families to reduce the potential risks and vulnerability but besides the hope, there has been seen so many challenges on an implementation like the local level government doesn't have adequate and authentic data of those categories' children and which is hampering the smooth implementation needed to formulate operating procedure for SP allowance for Orphan children.

The main objectives of the workshops were to support the Bagmati Province government to to formulate a procedure for local governments to operate child endowment fund so that it will be operated smoothly through the local government which was halted because of lack of a uniformed policy after the change in political structure in Nepal which was announced by Bagmati Province in the budget speech of 2076/2077 and 2077/2078.

The SPCSN was the main host of the project with the support of The Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) of Bagmati Province, Hetauda. To bring more vibrant discussions, it expects to inter-link "PAHUNCH" projects for budgetary and programmatic aspects which has been managed by the project team. The interaction program has been divided in two modalities. On 16 February, 2022, half day initial consultation meeting and 24th March, 2022 - one day sharing meeting was conducted with the concerned government stakeholders and development partners in Bagmati Province. A visibility logo of SPCSN, and MoSD has been incorporated in sharing workshop on 24th March, 2022 were financial supported by Save the Children.

Workshop was chaired by Honorable Minister Kumari Moktan, MoSD from Bagmati Province. The both initial consultation meeting and to collect the feedback on Procedures of orphaned children was so fruitful and interactive, Total 43 participants (male 28 and female 15) were present in the both meeting conducted on February 16, 2022 and 24 March, 2022 from Ministry of Social Development (MoSD), Office of Chief Minister and Council of ministries, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Planning, Ministries of Internal Affairs and Law and Provincial Policy and Planning Commission, Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP).

Child Right Council of Bagmati Province and other development partners and CSOs. MoSD, Bagmati Province took the ownership to organize the both initial consultation/ Interaction meeting and to collect the feedback/ input from line ministries and development partners. The SPCSN worked as a coordinator of both program and MoSD was an organizer.



Banner of Provincial Level meeting to collect the feedback of draft procedure of Orphaned children



Mr. Paudel, chairperson of SPCSN greeted the participants and shared the program objectives in the presence of special guest Hon'ble Minister Ms. Kumari Moktan of MoSD, Bagmati Province



Participants discussed about the procedure of child endowment fund during session.



Mr. Gopal Prasad Kandel section officer of MoSD of Bagmati



Participant from Mahila Sale of Bagmati Province raised her quarries during session

The initial consultation meeting, opening remarks has kicked off by Ms. Kunda Sharma, treasurer and second meeting by Mr. Tilottam Paudel, Chairperson of SPCSN. They welcomed all the participants on the behalf of the SPCSN and Save the children. They shared the meeting objectives and emphasized that this meeting is chain of the discussion during the meeting held on 14th December, 2021 and 16th February, 2022 as requested of the MoSD to make the procedure of orphan's children for the effective implementation of the child endowment funds. Hon'ble Minister Ms. Kumari Moktan from MoSD, Bagmati Province and all the participants from different ministries and development partners, put their input and felt need the procedures of the orphaned children and added their feedback. The comments and feedback received during the March 24, 2022 are incorporated to the extent possible. While doing so the focus of the Guidelines remains on the allowance for orphan children from the provincial government. In the absence of concrete conceptual say about the fund provisions and their administration from the concerned authorities during interaction sessions, the provisions designed in the preliminary draft that attracted the existing fund at the Ministry have been taken out. But the provisions of the cash support payment apart from the allowance from the fund at the Ministry is linked.

The procedure of orphaned children has been finalized a model act for local governments to operate child endowment fund to implement a new Social Protection scheme for orphans which was announced by Bagmati Province in the budget speech of 2076/2077 and 2077/2078 and submitted to MoSD. The MoSD of Bagmati province has verbally committed to share the final copy into Federal level government for their input and after finalization the procedure of orphaned children it has to keep it in their web site for wider circulation for the comments and feedbacks [click here](#)

SPCSN program Coordinator has been continuously follow-up with MoSD of Bagmati Province to Mr. Gopal prasad Kandel, Section Officer. He has committed to work on it for getting the effective output ahead.