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.spcsnnepal.org

Mr. Paudel, chairperson of SPCSN greeted the participants and shared the program objectives.

A social Protection one day interaction program focusing on child grant organized by Social Protection Civil Society Network (SPCSN) and locally coordination by Collective Campaign for Child Rights (CCR) and Ministry of Social Development (MoSD), Karnali Province with the financial support by Save the Children (SCI) was held in Birendranagar Surkhet, Karnali province on August 22, 2022. A total 49 participants along with the Social Development Committee of Karnali Province Chairperson, Mayor from Birendranagar Surkhet, Secretary of MoSD, Chief District Officer from District administration Office, Birendranagar Surkhet, Secretary from Office of Chief Minister and Council, DSP from District Police Office, Birendranagar Surkhet, Under Secretary from Ministry of Economic Affairs and Planning, CSOs, Development Partners and media persons.

The main objectives of the workshop were to share the existing scenario of social protection and (Enforcement, importance and challenges) of child grant in Karnali Province, to suggest the stakeholders by sharing challenges, opportunities and setting priorities, develop common understanding to scale up child grant through continued advocacy level intervention in social security policies, current status of social security policies and programmes of federal, provincial and local level government including programmes related to Child Nutrition allowances. To discuss issues and possibilities on vertical (benefits) and horizontal (coverage) expansion of programmes; and to explore and establish the role of Civil Society Organizations and concerned stakeholders.

Mr. Tilottam Paudel from Social Protection Civil Society Network (SPCSN) was chaired the program and welcomed and greeted to all the participants and stated the objective of the event. Detail programme

After the inaugural session the paper on "Child sensitive Social Protection in Karnali province- Achievement, and Way forward". was presented by officer from Ministry of Social Development Ms. Anita Gyawali updated the details program and policy in Social Protection in Karnali Province, the roles of MoSD and status of child grant, challenges and way forward. She also responded to the queries raised from the floor. After that Mr. Basant Raj Gautam, former Director General, Department of National ID and Civil Registration presented a paper on “Child sensitive Social Protection in Karnali province- Achievement, and Way forward”.

The presentation scoped social protection system, social security allowances, Child protection schemes and their present status in Karnali province including the nutritional status of the children under 5. The presentation contained detail information on the current status of social protection policies and programmes of the provincial government and some of the local governments in the province. The Vertical and the expansion of current social protection programmes/schemes were briefed. The paper highlighted aspects like executing organization, registry system, programme reach, vulnerability, fiscal liability. The paper concluded the challenges and way forward on the policy improvements and promoting the roles of CSOs in expansion of the child nutrition grant utilizing the province and local level resources as well.
Secretary from Ministry of Social Development Mr. Krishna Prasad Kapri emphasized the government position in Social Protection and provided programme update of Karnali Province. All the participants were actively shared their quarries, challenges and way forward during the interaction program. Mayor of Birendranagar Surkhet Ms. Mohan Maya Dhakal stated that ”Only distributing money to the beneficiaries is not a social security, Social Security is that if the government should manage the proper data and ensure the social security fund accordingly”.

The Social Development Committee Chair Ms. Devi Oli praised the efforts of SPCSN and requested to all the CSOs who looking after the Social Protection should be joint coordination to three tiers of the government. At the end Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal Technical Manager from Save the Children said that although there are positive activities from the provincial government regarding child-centered social security programs, the local levels have not yet implemented child-centered social security. He said that the local levels should be more sensitive and awareness should be increased in the common understanding that social security is only old-age allowance, and the cooperation of civic associations and organizations under the leadership of the government is necessary. setopati.com

Ms. Mohan Maya Dhakal Mayor of Birendranagar Municipality appraises her view during program.

Mr Suraj Karki, DSP from District Police Office shared the challenges during distribution of SSF, in Karnali Province Province.

Mr. Rishikesh Dhakal, technical Manager from Save the Children is providing vote of Thanks during program.