



# Islamic Relief Nepal

## Citizen-led Sustainable Development Goals Monitoring



**LEAVE  
NO ONE  
BEHIND**

Report  
Rajdevi Municipality, Rautahat Province 2, Nepal  
August 2021

## Acknowledgement

Islamic Relief Nepal is part of the Leave No One Behind (LNOB) consortium along with the Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) and other member organisations in Nepal. As part of the consortium initiatives, Islamic Relief Nepal conducted youth-led Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) monitoring in Rajdevi municipality of Rautahat district. The monitoring aimed to create a platform for citizens' voices on the progress of SDGs under specific national indicators by using various participatory tools including community score cards. This assessment report has been prepared for documenting the progress against the SDG indicators. We hope the findings will be helpful in highlighting the voices of young people and marginalised groups, as well as in contributing towards Nepal's policy development process and tracking the SDG progress over time.

The SDG monitoring was facilitated by a team of consultants, VSO and Islamic Relief Nepal staff. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to consultant Govinda Rimal, who designed the tools, facilitated the workshop and compiled the assessment report. I would also like to express my gratitude to Shantosh Thapa and Radha Pandey from the VSO and Pragya Adhikari, Iccharam Thapa Magar and Deepak Ramdam from Islamic Relief Nepal, who provided support during the planning, facilitating and documentation process.

Special thanks are also due to the board members and staff, particularly in those working in the field, of the Rural Development Centre (RDC), Islamic Relief's implementing partner.

Last but not least, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all the representatives of rights-holders, municipality workers and other stakeholders. Without their generous cooperation and support, this assessment would not have been possible.

**Talha Jamal**

Head of Mission

Islamic Relief Nepal

Front cover image:

Rights-holders' group exercise on the current state of SDGs/LNOB

# Contents

<b>Acknowledgements .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Summary .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>1. Introduction .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>2. Objectives .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>3. Approach and methodology .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>4. Results and discussion .....</b>	<b>9</b>
4.1 Goal 4 – Ensure quality, inclusive and equitable education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all .....	9
4.2 Goal 5 - Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls .....	11
4.3 Goal 10 - Reduce inequality within and among countries .....	13
4.4 Goal 13 - Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts .....	14
4.5 Goal 16 - Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels .....	15
4.6 Goal 17 - Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development .....	17
4.7 Other indicators that contributed to the effective implementation of SDGs .....	18
<b>5. Recommendations .....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>6. Conclusion .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>7. Annexes .....</b>	<b>21</b>
7.1 Criteria for providing scores .....	21
7.2 Action plan, Rajdevi Municipality .....	22

# Summary

**Nepal is pursuing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with strong national commitment as a means for transformative change in the country through its integrated approach and the principle of Leave No One Behind (LNOB). The Nepal SDGs Forum National Secretariat conducted a review workshop to identify the key issues and challenges in operating the SDGs. These issues included gaps in the disaggregated baseline data, a lack of operational guidelines, limited means for implementation, the need for effective private sector engagement, the need to bring focused attention to the agenda of disability, and the absence of a systematic monitoring and evaluation system.**

Due to the historic exclusion from public processes and lack of responsiveness from authorities and civil society groups, the voices of the most marginalised communities in Nepal are rarely sought or heard. This is a major barrier to their participation in and representation at the relevant forums. Consequently, even after the SDGs and policies are reformed and put in place, the marginalised groups are still left behind in local development processes including accessing social service schemes and government entitlements. The VSO-led LNOB consortium including Islamic Relief Nepal explored participatory and accountability tools to gather perceptions on progress against SDG indicators aligned to LNOB concepts. Islamic Relief Nepal used the community score card (CSC) method to assess the performance of SDG goals against set indicators.

The CSC method uses a rating system to score each indicator on the progress made. A score of 1 means 'not good' (no progress made), 2 means 'moderate', 3 means 'good', 4 is 'very good' and 5 means 'excellent progress' (accomplished and best practices shared further). For detailed criteria for scoring, kindly refer to annex 7.1

Islamic Relief Nepal assessed progress against the indicators of SDGs 4, 5, 10, 13, 16 and 17<sup>1</sup> in the Rajdevi municipality of Rautahat district, Province 2. Performance on most of the indicators was scored as either good or moderate. Only one indicator, related to birth registration, was scored as very good. This report documents the key findings and outcomes of the workshop to help guide further planning and to inform the future course of action.

SDG 4 indicators that scored good on progress were the enrolment status of girls (compared to boys) who reached grade eight, the attendance of early childhood education and the relative access to primary and secondary education for boys and girls. However, the ratio of girls to boys who reached grade 12 was still a challenge due to their poverty, early marriage, and engagement in household chores. Accessibility to the schools' physical infrastructure (electricity, internet as well as water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities and disability-inclusive facilities) received a good score, but the performance still felt moderate due to poor Wi-Fi networks and a lack of disability-inclusive infrastructure. The proportion of trained teachers in pre-primary,

primary, lower secondary and higher secondary education scored as good. However, there was still a need for refresher training for teachers. Moderately performing indicators included the ratio of girls' enrolment in tertiary, technical and vocational training, and also that of young people and adults in technical training.

Under SDG 5's indicators related to women and girls' leadership and participation at local level, their awareness of reproductive rights and ability to make informed decisions regarding sexual relations and contraceptive use were scored as good. Nevertheless, performance related to violence against women and girls, women's participation in the work force and in significant decision-making positions was still at moderate level.

SDG 10 had a good score for economic empowerment across women and men of all ages, including those with disabilities, due to various government allowances, social security schemes and income generation opportunities. Furthermore, a childhood free of stunted growth scored good, with focused nutrition intervention programmes run by both government and civil society organisations for children under six years of age. However, social and political empowerment for all women and men, including those with disabilities, still needed improvement as this performance was found to be at moderate level.

Most indicators under SDG 13 scored at moderate level. This issue was still new and not fully understood by the community. It was clear that there was a requirement to work closely with communities for preparation and implementation of local adaptation plans. Contrarily, at school level, the proportion of schools which cover climate change education scored good. However, there was a need for quality improvement.

Under SDG 16 scored good in most indicators. These included the proportion of the population that had been subjected to physical, psychological or sexual violence in the previous 12 months. Transparency,

accountability, anti-corruption, good governance to combat corruption and the amount of people satisfied with their last experience of using public services also scored good. However, the proportion of positions disaggregated (by sex, age, disability, and ethnicity/ caste) in public institutions and by decision-making positions held by women in public institutions still ranked at moderate level.

SDG 17 shows that indicators regarding internet density and birth registration were scored as good and very good respectively.

Other indicators that contributed towards effective implementation of SDGs included the number of public and private organisations incorporating a gender responsive budget in their regular planning and budgeting, the number of public programmes focused on SDG targets, and the number of private institutions reflecting SDG indicators in their regular result matrixes. These all scored moderate. The role of community health volunteers and their contribution scored good.

The above scores were discussed in detail during a plenary session with the multi-stakeholders (duty-bearers, rights-holders - particularly young people, adult women and men) attending the workshop, and an action plan was prepared to address the challenges around low performing indicators and ways to improve their future performance. The Municipal Authorities will ensure the implementation and monitoring of the action plan. An annual review of the progress made against each indicator was recommended using the same CSC method so that the right-holders and duty-bearers can keep track of the progress made vis-à-vis the action plan, and their experiences can inform the next planning cycle.

<sup>1</sup> SDG4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

SDG5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

SDG10: Reduce income inequality within and among countries.

SDG13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts by regulating emissions and promoting developments in renewable energy.

SDG16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

SDG17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

# 1. Introduction

**Nepal is pursuing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with strong national commitment to transformative change for the country through its integrated approach and the principle of LNOB. The equity-based principle of the SDGs has a strong resonance in Nepal, as the country has adopted a forward-looking and transformative constitution since 2015, with inclusive, federal, democratic, republican polity with a strong commitment to justice and the enjoyment of fundamental rights for all.**

The review report of SDG Forum National Secretariat, however, indicated a further requirement for improved coordination among the development partners, international non-governmental organisations (INGOs) and other key players including United Nations (UN) agencies in order to accelerate the SDGs 2030 agenda in Nepal. The national planning commission recently prepared its 15th periodic plan, together with civil society organisations (CSOs) and other stakeholders, by isolating the future course of actions with SDGs. This review identified the key issues and challenges in making the SDGs operational. These included gaps in baseline data and disaggregated data, a lack of operational guidelines, the limited means of implementation, the need for effective private sector engagement, the need to bring focused attention on the agenda of disability inclusion, and the absence of a systematic monitoring and evaluation system.

Islamic Relief Worldwide has been working in Nepal since 2015 to help improve the lives of the most marginalised and vulnerable communities, especially young people and women, who are often left behind in development processes. Along with VSO and other organisations, Islamic Relief Nepal is part of the LNOB consortium<sup>2</sup> in Nepal. As part of the consortium's initiatives, Islamic Relief Nepal conducted a workshop for SDG monitoring focused on LNOB indicators. The LNOB initiative aimed to highlight citizens' opinions on the progress of SDG goals under specific national indicators by using various participating and social accountability tools. These include focus group discussions (FGDs), multi-stakeholder dialogues and interface meetings. Processes for gathering inclusive data and evidence were planned with a focus on ensuring access for marginalised groups in community-led monitoring, advocacy and other activities. The findings were gathered, analysed and validated for the purpose of advocacy, marginalised groups were represented in local, provincial, national and international meetings to facilitate policy decisions. Through this process, Islamic Relief Nepal conducted youth-led SDG monitoring in Rajdevi municipality of Rautahat district in province 2.

<sup>2</sup> <https://nepal.tracking-progress.org/sample-page/>

<https://nepal.tracking-progress.org/consortium-members/>



## 2. Objectives

The initiative aimed to contribute to the Making Voices Heard and Count (MVHC) programme. It hoped to achieve the following key objectives:

### 2.1 To strengthen capacities of CSOs in Nepal around inclusive data and evidence generation

A community score card was adopted to collect citizens' data to contribute to citizen-led data generation procedures. It was planned to initiate citizen-led SDG monitoring of SDGs 4, 5, 10, 13, 16 and 17. The generated data will also contribute to strengthening linkages among SDG mechanisms and platforms in Nepal at local, national, regional and global levels.

### 2.2 To influence government stakeholders for increased responsiveness to citizen engagement in SDG monitoring

Evidence generated from civil society will be used for policy and advocacy purposes to strengthen government commitments to promote the participation of marginalised groups in SDGs reviews, Voluntary National Review (VNR), etc.



Consensus-making for allocating scores during an interface meeting.

# 3. Approach and Methodology

**The community score card is a monitoring and accountability tool, which is important for gaining the perceptions of rights-holders on service delivery mechanisms. It has the dual benefit of allowing rights-holders to assess the quality of service, while also offering service-providers the opportunity to track progress and take corrective measures based on these assessments. The following methodologies were adopted during the assessment of SDG indicators using the community score card method.**

**3.1 Desk review:** The study team reviewed the SDGs national indicators and current policy documents, VNR reports, case studies, and reports produced by the Government of Nepal and other agencies.

**3.2 Primary data collection:** The study team developed the community score card focusing on the SDG national indicators of SDG 4, 5, 10, 13, 16 and 17. The team facilitated the process of collecting and analysing the progress status data from Rajdevi municipality of Rautahat district. Scores were provided by community groups and service providers separately and the final scores were discussed and agreed upon through an interface meeting.

**3.2.1 Community dialogue and interaction:** The study team conducted community dialogue at town level for collecting data using score card tools. Participants were mostly young people from underrepresented minority communities in Madhes/Terai including Muslims and Dalits. Thirteen people (including seven women) aged 20-35 years participated in the community group meeting and provided scores for each SDG indicator along with the reasons behind the given score.

**3.2.2 Interaction and dialogue among the duty-bearers and other stakeholders:** A separate gathering was held for the representatives of the town, ward members and sectoral staff. They also provided their scores and reasons for each as they related to the SDG indicators. A total of 16 people, including seven women, participated in the duty-bearer's meeting. Service providers in the age group of 30-55 years from schools, health facilities, the Women Development Section of the local authority and elected members of the municipality represented groups at risk of marginalisation.

**3.2.3 Interface dialogue between community and duty-bearers and other stakeholders:** An interface dialogue was held at town level among community members and representatives from the town, ward offices and development sector staff.

**3.4 Preparation of action plan:** At the end of consultation meetings, participants discussed and reviewed the lower score indicators and identified key actions to improve those indicators in future. Rajdevi town will be responsible for planning and implementing the activities, with support from other supporting agencies working in the similar sectors/themes. Details of an action plan are presented in Annex 7.4.



## 4. Results and Discussion

**Following the separate meetings of rights-holders and duty-bearers, an interface meeting was arranged to help reach a consensus for common scores and reasons behind them for each SDG indicator. Six SDG indicators – 4, 5, 10, 13, 16 and 17 – are directly aligned to LNOB and were used to measure progress. Each was given a mark on the scale of one to five. The participants were also expected to give scores for future improvement. The detail of the status of those SDG indicators is given below in section 4.1 to 4.7.**

### **4.1 Goal 4 - Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all**

The SDG 4 targets include ensuring that by 2030 (i) All girls and boys will complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes, (ii) All girls and boys will have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education, (iii) All women and men will enjoy equal access to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university, (iv) A larger percentage of young people and adults with relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, will be able to gain employment, decent jobs and take part in entrepreneurship, and (v) Gender disparities in education will be eliminated and vulnerable people will have equal access to all levels of education and vocational training.

The ratings given by rights-holders and duty-bearers to the SDG 4 indicator using the community score card method are shown in Table 1.

SDG 4 indicators that scored good on progress were the enrolment status of girls (compared to boys) who reached grade eight, attendance at early childhood education, and relative access to primary and secondary education for boys and girls. However, the ratio of girls (to boys) who reached

grade 12 was still a challenge, due to poverty, early marriage and engagement in household chores. The relatively better access to primary and secondary education for boys and girls was partly due to existing school facilities being located closer to residential settlements. The literacy rate for women and girls aged 15-24 was scored as very good. However, there was discrimination towards boys and girls accessing higher education and vocational training. The accessibility of physical infrastructure facilities at schools (electricity, internet, WASH facilities, playground, library, laboratories) was scored as good. However, the performance of said infrastructure was moderate due to poor Wi-Fi networks, poorly equipped laboratories, and a lack of disability inclusive infrastructures.

The number of trained teachers in pre-primary, primary, lower secondary and higher secondary education was scored as good. However, there was a need for refresher training. Moderately performing indicators included the ratio of girls' enrolment in tertiary, technical and vocational training and young and adults with technical training. The participants also gave a progressive score to each indicator so that a higher score could be obtained in the future once a plan of action was agreed upon. Some recommended activities for future improvement included awareness raising among children and parents about pursuing education at higher secondary level and above, improved physical infrastructure of schools, refresher training for teachers and better access to technical and vocational training for girls, young people and adults.

**Table 1: Review of scores provided by rights-holder, duty-bearer and interface meetings on SDG 4 indicators**

National Indicators	Rights-holders	Duty-bearers	Interface Meeting			
	Present	Future	Present	Future	Present	Future
<b>4.1.1 a &amp; d - Enrolment status of girls (compared to boys) who reach grade eight</b>	4	5	3	4	3	4
<b>4.1.1.e - Ratio of girls (to boys) who reach grade 12</b>	2	3	2	4	2	3
<b>4.2.2 b - Attendance of early childhood education</b>	3	4	4	5	3	4
<b>4.3.1.a Ratio of girls' enrolment in technical and vocational education</b>	2	4	2	3	2	3
<b>4.3.1.b Ratio of girls' enrolment in tertiary education (graduate level)</b>	2	3	2	3	2	3
<b>4.4.1.a Young people and adults with technical and vocational training</b>	3	4	2	4	2	3
<b>4.5.1. a, b, c - Relative access to primary and secondary education of boys and girls</b>	3	4	4	4	3	4
<b>4. a 1 i, ii, iii and iv - Accessibility to the school physical environment (electricity, internet, WASH facilities and disability friendly facilities)</b>	3	4	3	4	3	4
<b>4.c.1 Proportion of teachers in pre-primary, primary, lower secondary and higher secondary education who have received at least the minimum organised teacher training ( e.g. pedagogical training)</b>	2	3	3	4	3	4
<b>4.6.1.b Literacy rate of women and girls aged 15-24 years old</b>	3	4	4	4	3	4

## 4.2 Goal 5 - Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

This goal includes the following targets: (i) Ending all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere, (ii) Eliminating all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking, and sexual and other types of exploitation, (iii) Eliminating all harmful practices, such as child, early, and forced marriages, (iv) Recognising and valuing unpaid care and domestic work, (v) Ensuring women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life, and (vi) Ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health care and reproductive rights.

The Government of Nepal has created a supportive environment for the empowerment of women through labour legislation which guarantees equal wages for equal work, as well as equal work opportunities for both men and women. The results shown in Table 2 indicate wage equality for similar work (ratio of women's wages to those of men) and was found good in the formal employment sector. However, wage discrimination continues to exist in informal sectors such as construction and agriculture where the women's workforce is quite high. Culturally, young women are still not allowed to seek employment due to social prestige/'honour' issues. In general, there are few skilled women in industry as compared to men.

Women and girls aged 15-49 years old who have experienced physical or sexual violence and women and girls aged 15-19 years old who were married or in a union (the legal age of marriage in Nepal is 20 years) was scored as moderate. The practice of early marriage, particularly among Dalit and Muslim communities, is still common.

Awareness about reproductive rights among women and girls and the proportion of women and girls aged 15-49 years who said they made their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use, and reproductive healthcare was scored as good. The proportion of seats held by women in local government was also considered good. However, moderate progress was observed in provincial and national parliament. The increased representation of women in local government could be attributed to the representation policy (at least 33 per cent of seats are held by women). Political parties and other stakeholders should create favourable environments and provide opportunities to increase the representation of women in decision-making positions. In many cases, the representation of women is reduced with actual power being exercised by male relatives.

The government should ensure that recommended actions to improve the weaker indicators under SDG 5, specifically ensuring equal access for men and women to the labour force both in formal and informal sectors, are committed to. Raising public awareness about gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual violence and strengthening protection mechanisms, as well as investing in women's leadership development activities must be included in the government SDG 5 action plan.

**Table 2: Review of scores provided by rights-holder, duty-bearer and interface meetings on SDG 5 indicators**

National Indicators	Rights-holders	Duty-bearers	Interface Meeting			
	Present	Future	Present	Future	Present	Future
5.1.1.a. Wage equality for similar work (ratio of women's wages to those of men)	3	4	3	4	3	4
5.1.1.c. Gender Empowerment Measurement (leadership, representation and participation)	2	3	3	4	3	4
5.2.2.a. Women and girls aged 15-49 years who have experienced physical or sexual violence	3	4	2	3	2	3
5.3.1.a. Women and girls aged 15-19 years who were married or in union	3	4	2	3	2	4
5.4.1.a. Ratio of women to men participation in labour force	2	3	2	3	2	3
5.5.1.a & b. Proportion of seats held by women in provincial and national parliaments	2	3	2	3	2	3
5.5.1.c. Proportion of seats held by women in local government	3	4	3	4	3	4
5.5.2.a,b&c Women's participation in decision making level in the private sector, cooperative and public service	2	3	2	4	2	3
5.6.1.a. Awareness about reproductive rights among girls and women	2	3	3	4	3	4
5.6.1.a Proportion of women and girls aged 15-49 years who said they made their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care	2	3	3	4	3	4
5.6.1.b. Receiving specific support and service provisions related to sexual health care to the poor, discriminated and marginalised groups	2	3	3	4	3	4

### 4.3 Goal 10 - Reduce inequality within and among countries

This goal includes the targets of progressively (i) Achieving and sustaining income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average, (ii) Empowering and promoting the social, economic and political inclusion of all people, (iii) Ensuring equal opportunities and reducing inequalities of income, (iv) Adopting policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieving greater equality.

Operational progress as scored by respondents against each indicator at local level is shown in Table 3. Economic empowerment of women and men including those with disabilities was scored as good. This was mainly due to providing social security allowances and income generating activities that focused on women, minority groups, the elderly

and people with disabilities. However, social and political empowerment by sex, age and disability was rated moderate mainly due to a lack of political empowerment/representation and political and lack of social awareness. The municipality's health department representative mentioned a reduction in stunted growth among children. However, due to the current progress in meeting SDG10, participants expected a progressive score in the future by reducing inequality and discrimination of all women and men including those with disabilities. To address these gaps, the suggested action plan by the group included income-generating activities for self-employment, empowerment programmes - including better representation - and more opportunities for economic development activities linked to age, sex, ethnicity and disability. The local town officials needed to include tailored responses based on the different needs of young people, single women, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups.

**Table 3: Review of scores provided by rights-holder, duty-bearer and interface meetings on SDG 10 indicators**

National Indicators	Rights-holders	Duty-bearers	Interface Meeting			
	Present	Future	Present	Future	Present	Future
<b>10.1.1.b. Income inequality</b>	2	3	2	3	2	3
<b>10.2.1.a. Social empowerment, by sex, age and disability</b>	2	3	3	4	2	3
<b>10.2.1.b. Economic empowerment, by sex, age and disability</b>	3	4	3	4	3	4
<b>10.2.1.c. Political empowerment, by sex, age and disability</b>	2	3	2	3	2	3
<b>10.3.1.a. Childhood free of stunted growth (ratio of richest vs poorest quintile)</b>	3	4	4	5	3	4



## 4.4 Goal 13 - Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

The SDG 13 aims to (i) Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries, (ii) Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning, and (iii) Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.

The consultation outcome is given in Table 4. Preparation and implementation of the local adaptation plan was scored as moderate. There was no systematic planning in climate change and mitigation measures at the community level. The proportion of schools including climate change

education for students was scored as moderate. However, there was still a need for improvement around knowledge, skills and practice among teachers and children regarding climate change adaptation measures, preparedness and mitigation measures for reducing the impact of climate change.

An action plan was prepared to help improve the weak areas/indicators under SDG 13. It included awareness-raising activities related to climate change and environmental protection, preparation and the implementation of the Local Adaptation Plan. As part of this plan, schools and the local government will conduct practical sessions on climate change and consider including climate change adaptation and mitigation in the school curriculum.

**Table 4: Review of scores provided by rights-holder, duty-bearer and interface meetings on SDG 13 indicators**

National Indicators	Rights-holders	Duty-bearers	Interface Meeting			
	Present	Future	Present	Future	Present	Future
<b>13.2.1.a Local adaptation plan preparation (number of village councils)</b>	2	3	3	4	2	3
<b>13.2.1.b Community-level adaptation plan</b>	2	3	2	3	2	3
<b>13.2.1.c Implementation of adaptation plan</b>	2	3	2	3	2	3
<b>13.3.1. Integration, adaption and impact reduction and early warning in schools (curriculum and practices) and communities</b>	2	3	2	3	2	3
<b>13.3.1.a Proportion of schools covered by climate change education</b>	2	3	3	4	3	4



Introducing participants to the SDG/LNOB concepts and principles

#### 4.5 Goal 16 - Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Goal 16 deals with the following targets: (i) Significantly reducing all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere, ending abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against children, (ii) Promoting the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensuring equal access to justice for all, (iii) Reducing the illicit flow of arms and capital, (iv) Strengthening the recovery and return of stolen assets and combating all forms of organised crime, (v) Reducing corruption and bribery in all their forms, and (vi) Developing effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.

The assessment report showed that the proportion of the population aged between 18-29 years that had experienced physical, psychological and sexual violence in the previous 12 months had reduced. Stakeholder discussion reflected that GBV still exists, but that people often do not report these incidences due to social pressure and fear.

Transparency, accountability, and anti-corruption was scored as good as a robust complaints system was well established. Anti-corruption measures included public hearings, social audits and a transparency board around ongoing projects, and the assignment of a focal person in town offices.

The proportion of the respondents that expressed satisfaction regarding their experience of accessing public services was overall positive. However, the satisfaction of different groups disaggregated (by sex, age, disability and ethnicity/ caste) accessing public services in public institutions still ranked at a moderate level. On the other hand, the proportion of decision-making positions held by women in public institutions still ranked at a moderate level.

The action plan prioritised community awareness and psychosocial, gender and leadership training to reduce GBV. It also prioritised governance practices such as a social audit, public transparency/ information board, public hearings, taking affirmative steps for the inclusion of women and people with disabilities, and the prevention of exclusion in leadership positions.

**Table 5: Review of score provided by rights-holder, duty-bearer and interface meetings on SDG 16 indicators**

National Indicators	Rights-holders	Duty-bearers	Interface Meeting			
	Present	Future	Present	Future	Present	Future
<b>16.1.3. Proportion of population that had experienced physical, psychological or sexual violence in the previous 12 months</b>	2	3	3	4	3	4
<b>16.2.3. Proportion of women and men aged 18 - 29 years who had experienced sexual violence by age 18</b>	2	3	3	4	3	4
<b>16.3.1.a Transparency, accountability, and anti-corruption in public</b>	2	3	3	4	3	4
<b>16.3.2.b Good governance for control of corruption</b>	3	4	3	4	3	4
<b>16.5.1.a People's perception of corruption</b>	2	3	3	4	3	4
<b>16.6.2. Proportion of population satisfied with their last experience of public services</b>	4	4	3	4	3	4
<b>16.7.1. Proportions of positions (by sex, age, persons with disabilities and population groups) in public institutions (national and local legislatures, public service, and judiciary) compared to national distributions</b>	2	3	2	3	2	3
<b>16.7.2.a Proportions of decision-making positions held by women in public institutions</b>	3	4	3	4	2	3

## 4.6 Goal 17 - Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

Goal 17 is the key factor for attainment of other SDGs. This goal has 19 targets which include (i) Strengthening domestic resource mobilisation, (ii) Full implementation of official development assistance commitments by 'developed' countries, (iii) Mobilisation of additional financial resources for 'developing' countries from multiple sources, (iv) Adopting and implementing investment promotion regimes, (v) Technology transfer to 'developing' countries, (vi) Promoting a rule-based, open and equitable multilateral trading system, (vii) Enhancing policy coherence for sustainable development and (viii) Strengthening data, monitoring and statistical capacity.

An assessment was carried out only for applicable indicators at the local level. Internet density was scored as good in all wards of the community, however there were sometimes network problems in peri-urban areas. The proportion of children under five years of age whose births were registered was scored as very good. This progress has been possible due to the active role of female community health volunteers and local government. Some mothers do not have citizenship or a registered marriage, which creates problems for birth registration.

Under goal 17, key activities were planned, such as the improvement of internet connectivity/density in urban and rural areas in coordination with private telecom and internet service providers. This could be facilitated by the local government. Local governments could also improve the outreach for child birth registration and associated registrations (marriage, citizenship, migration etc).

**Table 6: Review of score provided by rights-holder, duty-bearer and interface meetings on SDG 17 indicators**

National Indicators	Right-holders	Duty-bearers	Interface Meeting			
	Present	Future	Present	Future	Present	Future
<b>17.4.1.a Outstanding debt to GDP ratio</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>17.6.2.a Internet density</b>	3	4	3	4	3	4
<b>17.19.2.a Proportion of children under five years of age whose births have been registered</b>	4	5	4	5	4	5

## 4.7 Other indicators that contributed to the effective implementation of SDGs

The LNOB Consortium has also identified a number of indicators that contribute towards the effective implementation of SDGs. The assessment showed that few public and private organisations align their planning and budgets to include a gender-responsive budget, and even if a gender-responsive budget is allocated, it is not properly implemented. As a result, this indicator was scored as having made moderate progress.

The number of public programmes focused on SDG targets and the number of private institutions reflecting SDG indicators in their regular result

patterns was scored as moderate. Participants perceived that the role of female community health volunteers in dispensing immunisation, nutrition, maternal and childcare, institutional delivery etc. was very good, whereas the role of other volunteers (such as community leaders, faith leaders and other community-based organisations (CBOs) representatives etc.) seemed to be minimal.

Key activities have been planned such as the mobilisation of active volunteers from across CBOs, the private sector, and networks for facilitating implementation of SDGs. Local authorities were to increase coordination with the private sector to tap into the corporate social responsibility fund so as to implement development activities focused on poor and disadvantaged groups for achieving the SDGs.

**Table 7: Review of score provided by rights-holder, duty-bearer and interface meetings on other important indicators that contributed to effective implementation of SDGs**

National Indicators	Rights-holders	Duty-bearers	Interface Meeting			
	Present	Future	Present	Future	Present	Future
<b>1. Number of public and private organisations including a gender-responsive budget in their regular planning and budgeting</b>	2	3	2	3	2	3
<b>2. Number of public programme focused on SDG targets</b>	2	3	2	3	2	3
<b>3. Number of private institutions reflecting SDG indicators in their regular result matrices</b>	2	3	2	3	2	3
<b>4. Contributions of volunteers in achievements of SDG</b>	3	4	3	4	3	4



# 5. Recommendations

## Recommendations for local government:

- The local development planning process should ensure the participation of multi-stakeholders to identify local needs and align this with priority SDGs targets and indicators.
- Ensure the active participation of service providers such as health (to improve immunisation, institutional delivery, nutrition, maternal and child health etc.), education (to improve school enrolment, encourage girls to undertake higher education and vocational/technical training, gender and disability inclusive infrastructure in schools etc.) and social development (to improve access to social security and entitlements).
- Organise an annual review to assess the progress made against the SDG indicators. This will help to assess the progress against the improvement areas and also assess the service delivery mechanism of local government. Similarly, rights-holders will have the opportunity to interact directly with service providers and raise issues and concerns.
- Coordinated action among all stakeholders including those in the private sector is very important for achieving SDG targets. Hence, local governments should conduct a periodic dialogue with them.

## Recommendations for supporting agencies:

- Supporting agencies such as the UN, international non-governmental organisations and non-governmental organisations should provide technical and financial support to conduct an annual performance review and document/publicise any progress made.
- Supporting agencies should engage and play a proactive role in publicising the SDG messages, and in localising them.
- Local stakeholders and communities should be aware of SDGs and the 2030 agenda. For this purpose, orientation should be provided to rights-holders and service providers.
- Supporting agencies should help to develop operational guidelines and tools that contribute to the operationalisation of SDGs at local level.

## 6. Conclusion



Duty-bearers' group exercise on current state of SDG/LNOB

Local governments play an active role in taking forward the SDGs plan and its implementation. There is a need for further support from the federal government and UN agencies to increase the capacity of local government in developing an SDG action plan and integrating local needs and voices from the field. Local government also needs to support the integration of this plan into the larger action plan and policies to be able to address local needs. There have been positive changes in education, health, women's empowerment and social inclusion, climate change and disaster management. There have also been positive changes with regards to leveraging resources from different sources in order to create awareness and establish physical infrastructure. However, there needs to be more focus on social issues such as girls and women's

leadership positions, disability inclusion, health facilities for marginalised groups, the practice of climate change adaptation at both community and school level and the engagement of the private sector and volunteers to operationalise the SDGs at the local level. It is also recommended to review SDG monitoring on a periodic basis and inform the different levels of stakeholders including province and federal governments. UN agencies and supporting agencies such as non-governmental organisations can support local government in the planning and monitoring process. Local government should take the lead role for implementation and monitoring of SDGs in close coordination with supporting agencies.

# 7. Annexes

## 7.1 Criteria for providing score

Score	Status	Basis for providing score
1	Not good	All stakeholders/actors are not aware of SDGs No progress at all in policies and programme
2	Moderate	Stakeholders are simply aware of SDGs Partially reflected in policy, programme and operations Needs to improve in quality
3	Good	The majority of stakeholders are aware of SDGs and programme Additional clarity needed Needs to improve in quality
4	Very good	All stakeholders are aware of SDGs and programme Included in policies and programme Maintained quality and result Initiation of seeking complaints/grievances
5	Excellent	Included in policies and programme and all implemented Maintained result and quality Institutionalise complaints/grievances handling and response Documentation and sharing good practices

## 7.2 Action Plan, Rajdevi Municipality

Sustainable Development Goals	Actions	Time frame	Responsibility	Support Needed
<b>SDG 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.</b>	Public awareness regarding student enrolment campaign	Annual programme	Municipality	Rural Development Centre (RDC), United Nation Children Fund (UNICEF), European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), United Nation Development Programme (UNDP), media and other organisations working in education
	Increase access and quality of vocational training	Annual programme	Municipality	Province, federal government and vocational institutions
	Improve physical infrastructure of schools	Within five-year plan	Municipality	School Management Committee and other supporting agencies
<b>SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls</b>	Increase awareness and practice of equal access to the labour force	Regular	Municipality	Supporting agencies and province government
	Increase awareness of sexual and domestic violence	Regular	Municipality, women's groups, agriculture groups, students and Tole Sudhar Samiti	Supporting agencies and province government
	Women leadership and empowerment training	Regular	Municipality/Social Development Committee	Supporting agencies
<b>Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries</b>	Income-generating activities for self-employment	Annual programme	Municipality	Supporting agencies
	Empowerment programme such as increasing representation, providing opportunities in economic development activities regardless of their age, sex, ethnicity or disability	Annual programme	Municipality	Supporting agencies

<b>Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impact</b>	Awareness-raising around climate change and local adaptation plan	2nd to 5th year	Municipality	Supporting agencies
	Prepare and implement local adaptation plan at ward and municipal level	2nd to 5th year	Municipality	Supporting agencies
	Practise climate change adaptation measures at school level	Regular	School	Municipality/ Supporting agencies
<b>Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels</b>	Conduct psychosocial and domestic violence training	Annually	Municipality	Supporting agencies
	Adapt good governance practices at ward and municipal level	Regular	Municipality/Users committee	Supporting agencies/ political parties
	Increase leadership positions by of all women and men including those with disabilities at all levels	Regular	Municipality/Users committee	Supporting agencies/ political parties
<b>Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development</b>	Increase partnership with the private sector for possible interventions such as improving internet access and school facilities etc.	Regular	Municipality	The Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI)/ private companies and other supporting agencies
	Collaborate for Corporate Social Responsibility Fund (CSR) fund	Regular	Municipality	Private Companies
<b>Other important indicators those contributed for effective implementation of SDG</b>	Explore volunteer mobilisation focusing on implementing the SDG	Regular	Municipality	Province and Federal government
<b>Monitoring and evaluation</b>	Conduct review meeting/ workshop to assess the SDG	Annually	Municipality	RDC/other supporting agencies





**Islamic Relief Worldwide**

19 Rea Street South  
Birmingham  
B5 6LB  
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 121 605 5555  
Fax: +44 121 622 5003

[irw@irworldwide.org](mailto:irw@irworldwide.org)  
[www.islamic-relief.org](http://www.islamic-relief.org)

Registered Charity No. 328158  
Registered Company No. 02365572