



NATIONAL INTER-RELIGIOUS NETWORK ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN NEPAL (NIRN Nepal)

ABOUT NIRN

Established in 2008, NIRN Nepal is an interfaith group registered in Lalitpur. It brings together leaders from all 10 religions recognized by Nepal's constitution, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, Kirat, Jainism, Sikhism, Bahá'í, Bon, and others.

Using multi faith-based approach, we work to end harmful traditional practices (HTPs) like child marriage, dowry, Chhaupadi, child labor, and gender-based violence.

Today, NIRN Nepal has active interfaith committees in over 30 districts across Nepal.



MISSION

To promote gender equality, religious harmony and reduce HTPs through dialogue, collaboration and partnership with interfaith organizations and stakeholders

"समाज प्रति को चिन्तन, अन्तरधार्मिक लगन"



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FACT SHEET



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<https://nirn.org.np/>

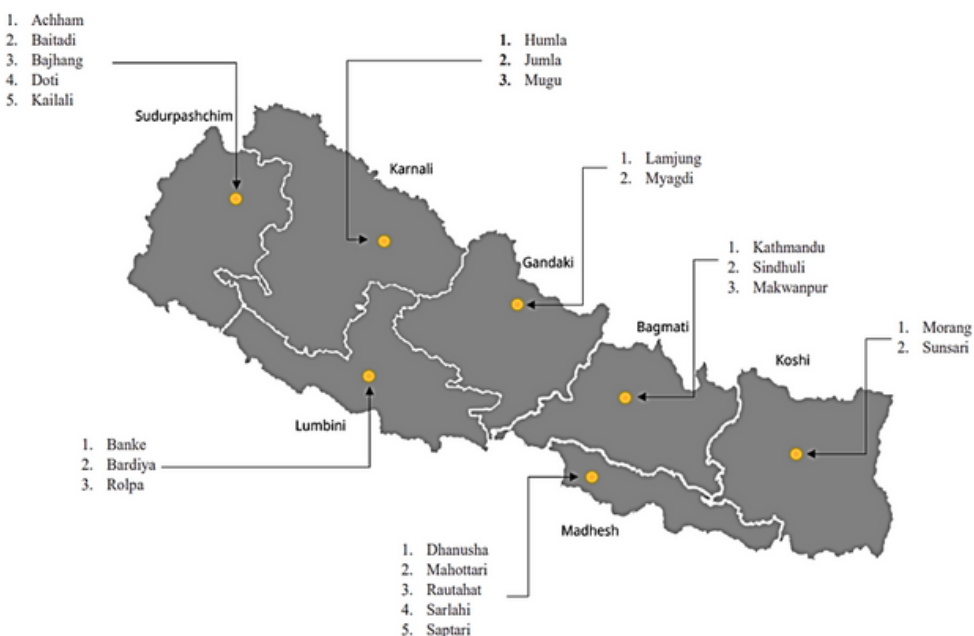


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Interfaith Networks of NIRC Nepal



1 National Inter-Faith Committee

23 District Inter-Faith Committee

28 Municipality Level Committee

5 women Inter-Faith Committee

15 Inter-Faith Child Protection Group

OBJECTIVES

1. To contribute from religious sectors for elimination of gender-based violence and to end child marriage
2. To lobby and advocate against child marriage and GBV through religious platforms
3. To build and strengthen faith leaders capacity, faith-based organizations and other interfaith groups
4. To conduct research and discussions on interpretation of core message from various faith scriptures
5. To collect evidences and impact stories on good practices and changes and its dissemination for a wider reach.

CORE VALUES



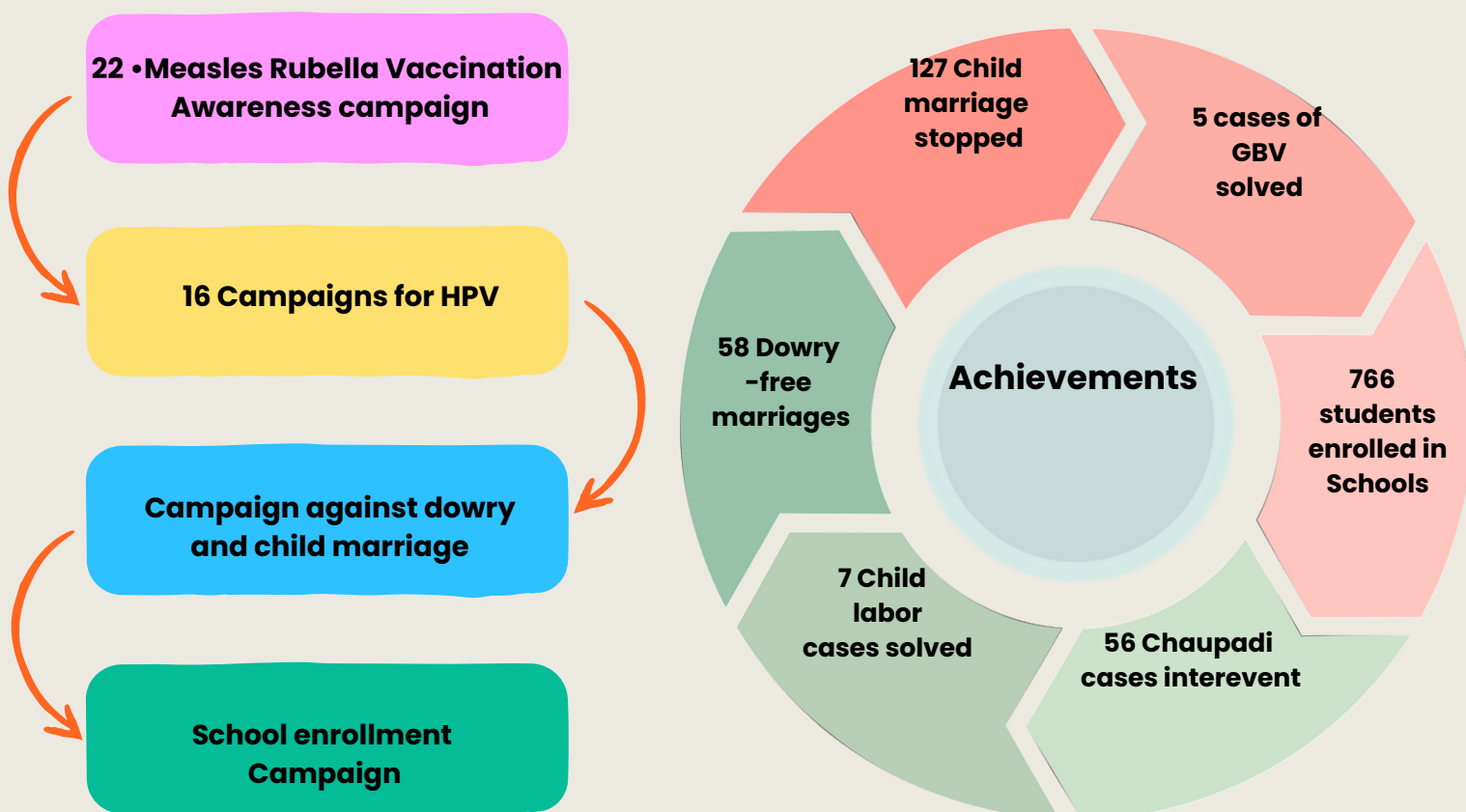
Highlights of NIRN's Progress (2020-2024)

Inter-Faith advocacy tools

1. Manual on roles of religious leaders to end child marriage
2. Manual on role of religious leader to end HTPs
3. Channel of Hope on Child protection
4. Empower World View
5. Traveling Together : Disability friendly manual for children with disability and people with disability

Faith Leaders trained so far

1. 2014- 2017 Trained 210 FLs
2. 2018 -2020 Trained 230 FLs
3. 2020 -2024 Trained 1622 FLs



Mr. Kriparaj Bhattarai – A Hindu Priest Leading Change Through Faith and Farming

Mr. Kriparaj Bhattarai, a respected priest and Chair of the Interfaith Committee in Mellekh, Achham, is also a farmer and social worker. He advocates against harmful practices like Chhaupadi and child marriage in his community and nearby areas.

Four years ago, after attending the Empowered Worldview (EWV) training, he was deeply inspired especially by the component on using local resources for community transformation. He then formed the Bahunugaun Farmers Group to promote vegetable farming using local land and tools.

With government support, the group earned over NPR 600,000 in the first year. Their success led to recognition as a potato pocket zone and support with seeds and tools. They later received a grant of NPR 1,700,000 to build an irrigation canal.

After completing a Training of Trainers in Kathmandu, Mr. Bhattarai now trains others and also serves on the Child-Friendly Local Government Committee in his ward.

Pastor Sunil Suchikar – Promoting Interfaith Harmony and Child Protection in Doti

Earlier, Pastor Sunil Suchikar only taught Christian children. But after attending the Channel of Hope and Asha Ko Kiran trainings by NIRN Nepal, he understood the true meaning of interfaith respect and child protection. Now, he teaches over 200 children from different religions for free.

The training changed his thinking as he began to realize all children as equal, regardless of religion. By joining the community CHAT group, he worked with other religious leaders to challenge harmful traditional practices and raise awareness about child rights.

Pastor Suchikar's transformation has inspired others around him. His journey shows how faith and love, when shared across beliefs, can bring lasting change for children and communities.

