



**CREATING
OPPORTUNITIES FOR
MIGRANT RETURNEES**

Quarterly Update

SUMMARY

The eighth quarterly update of Project SRIJANA, covering September to December 2023, showcases the most notable achievements during this period. A pivotal moment happened during the project's final review meeting from September 25 to 27, 2023, where Cordaid organized a comprehensive review workshop. The meeting involved consortium members discussing the project's progress, challenges faced, and lessons learned over the past three years. This session culminated in the preparation of the project extension plans up to end of December 2023. Cordaid, UMN Bajhang, and INF Jumla collectively planned and executed various project activities during this quarter, demonstrating a remarkable stride in the overall progress of the initiative.

Cordaid's impactful role extended to Jumla, where 51 local enterprises received orientation and motivation to consolidate their businesses based on the business plans prepared. Additionally, Cordaid documented project milestones through professional photo and video coverage, capturing 18 compelling stories, which will be published and disseminated in the coming months. The ongoing development of the project's website, <https://projectsrijana.org/>, aims to disseminate updates to stakeholders and donor agencies. As the project heads toward evaluation, Cordaid is actively reviewing proposals from consultancies. Regular coordination with UMN (PYS) and INF ensures effective monitoring of remaining activities and quality assurance. Looking forward, Cordaid is preparing for the SRIJANA – II design workshop in the third week of December 2023, with detailed communication forthcoming to consortium partners.

COST EXTENSION PERIOD STARTED WITH APPROVED PLAN AND BUDGET

Cordaid organized a review meeting to reflect on the three years of the project and planning for the coming months, together with INF, UMN-and its partner PYS. A total of 10 participants participated from the project consortium members. Additional activities were planned for 3 months (October-December) by all the consortium partners to complement and reinforce the efforts of the last three years.



**COST EXTENSION PERIOD
STARTED WITH APPROVED PLAN
AND BUDGET**

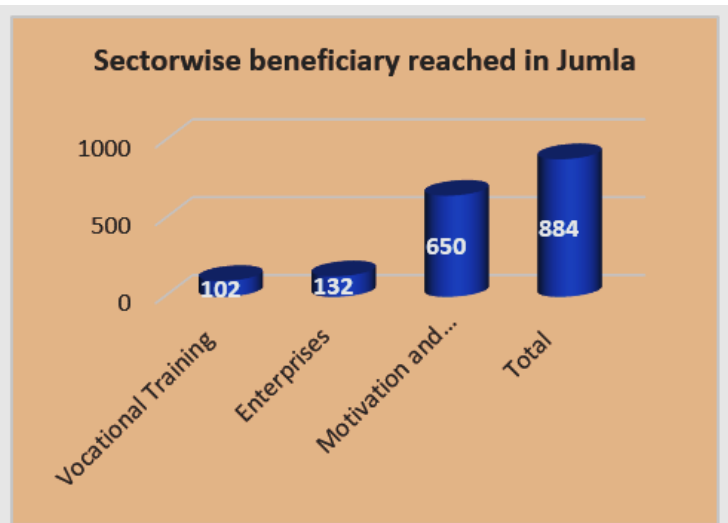
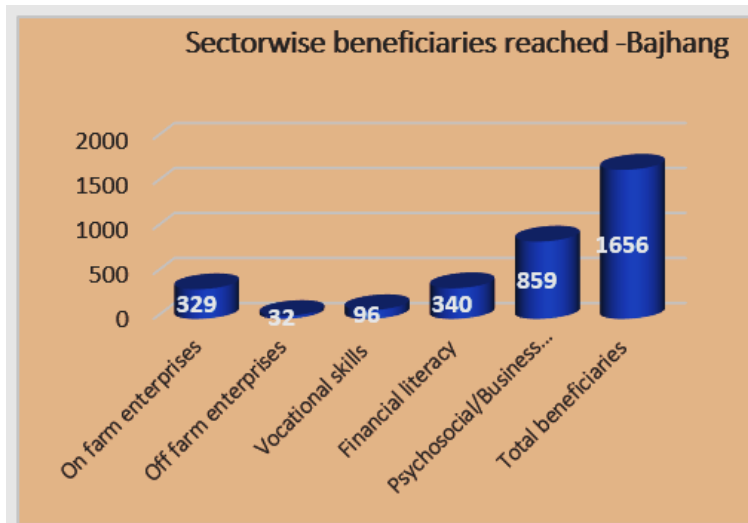
**FIELD LEVEL ACTIVITIES
STARTED IN THE BAJHANG AND
JUMLA**

**BAJHANG – WEAVING
ENTERPRISES IN PROGRESSES,
STORIES BOOK PREPRATION**

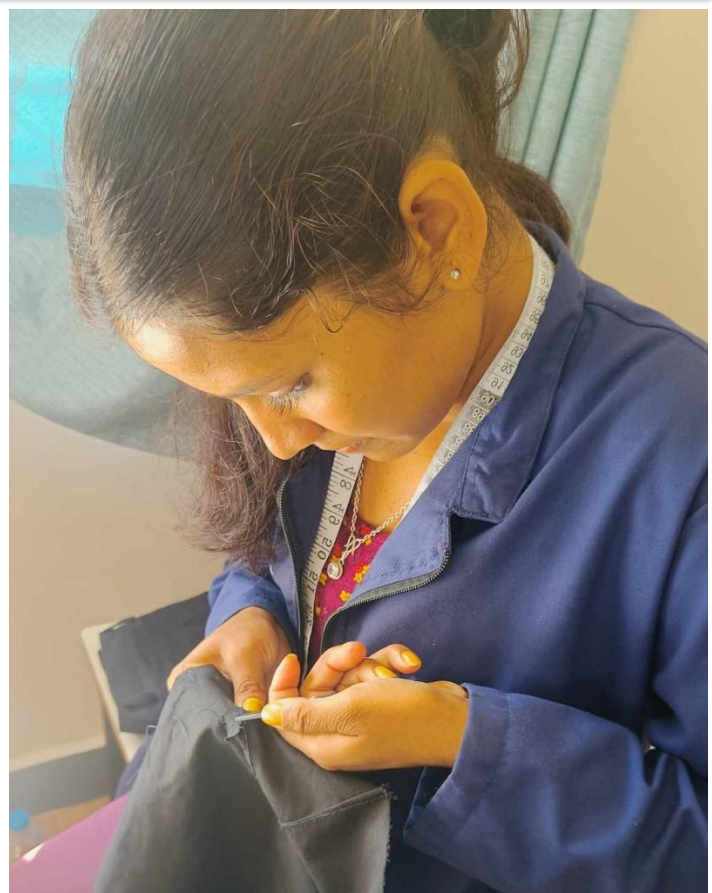
**JUMLA – 51 ENTERPRISES
RECEIVED THE BUSINESS
ORIENTATION AND COUNCELLING
CORDAID – PHOTO / VIDEO
AND STORIES RECORDING
FROM THE BAJHANG & JUMLA
PROJECT WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT
AND SHARING**

FIELD LEVEL ACTIVITIES STARTED IN THE BAJHANG AND JUMLA

The cost extension activities are currently under implementation and are planned to be completed by December 2023, with emphasis on quality interventions. The goat farming training is set to be launched soon, with preparations nearing completion. In Bajhang, the Allo (Himalayan nettle) bag skill training, alongside Agri-product packaging training are underway, together with their ongoing support to the Rural Municipality on preparing the five-year Youth Employment Strategic Plan. INF Jumla has successfully implemented various activities, including business plan orientation for migrant youths, material support for goat keeping, and monthly review meetings with the team. Alongside these, additional hand-holding support to small entrepreneurs on kick-starting their business plans, field-level collection of human interest stories and video raw footages are underway from Cordaid's side.



On November 10, 2023, a brief monitoring visit took place at Olgapuri Vocational School. The purpose was to observe the progress of the four potential migrant girls from Bajhang enrolled in industrial tailoring training. The project manager from UMN and PMEL from Cordaid joined in this monitoring effort. Our focus was on gathering insights into the participants' perspectives, lessons acquired, challenges faced, and issues encountered during the training. The girls expressed satisfaction, stating that they have gained valuable skills in tailoring, and commended the institute for providing excellent training along with accommodation facilities.



PROGRESS MADE IN BAJHANG

Bajhang experienced a 5.3 magnitude earthquake on October 8, 2023, resulting in partial cracks and damage to almost all houses and buildings in the project areas. The impact on project beneficiaries was evident and relief materials were distributed by the KiA DRR project in Thalara Rural Municipality through UMN and the local partner-PYS. The Progressive Youth Society (PYS) is currently hiring a consultant to develop a 5-year strategy for the same Rural Municipality on youths, entrepreneurship, and enterprise development. Project activities include upcoming goat farming training, ongoing hiring processes for experts in Allo bag skill training and Youth Employment Strategic Plan development, and progress in local branding and support. The PYS project team members have received their roles and responsibilities for the remaining project period.



PROGRESS MADE IN JUMLA

The goat keeping support initiative has positively impacted 30 existing goat farmers by providing essential equipment and skills. Additionally, the vocational training support program focused on cooking and hotel/home stay management training, benefiting a total of 17 individuals, including 5 previous and 12 new beneficiaries. The training, spanning five days, emphasized the preparation and offering of locally prepared food with special focus on hygiene, sanitation, and other hospitality aspects. Materials Support extended to 12 beneficiaries, covering diverse areas such as goat keeping, grocery shops, tailoring, and cooking (hotel management). Furthermore, 51 entrepreneurs received one-to-one business plan orientations and counseling. District level eighth monthly review and reflection meeting was conducted, identifying further opportunities in hatchery farming, local breed goat and sheep farming, beekeeping, and ironsmiths. For the production of a video documentary, nine successful case stories, highlighting vocational skills such as grain mill, goat keeping, apiculture, sheep farming, and home stay were selected, and the visit facilitated by Jumla team.



7 days cooking and hotel/ home stay management training photos list

WWW.INF.ORG

Project progress photos



Business Plan orientation support to 51 returnee youth by technical person at KRM-02, Jumla

WW

Data :- Earthquake impacts on project beneficiaries, Bajhang

Bajhang Earthquake Impacts in the SRIJANA Beneficiaries

Ward No.	No. Beneficiaries	Affected by Earthquake		House / Building			
		Yes	No	fully destroyed	Partial destroyed	only cracked	nothing
1	104	104	0	0	0	104	0
2	88	88	0	0	2	85	1
3	70	70	0	8	1	61	0
4	46	46	0	0	1	45	0
5	25	25	0	3	2	20	0
6	39	39	0	0	0	39	0
7	37	37	0	6	1	28	2
8	16	16	0	5	2	9	0
9	33	33	0	3	6	24	0
Total	458	458	0	25	15	415	3

* No impact (destruction) in enterprises

CORDAID – PHOTO / VIDEO AND STORIES RECORDING FROM BAJHANG & JUMLA

Cordaid deployed two experts with the task of systematically documenting noteworthy and exemplary instances of the project, utilizing a combination of photographs, videos, and narratives. The primary goal of this undertaking is to methodically record the project's progress on a case-by-case basis and subsequently disseminate the materials to a broad spectrum of project stakeholders and donor agencies, who are actively involved in the areas of migrants, migrant returnees, entrepreneurship, enterprise development, and employment generation. A total of 18 stories have



been meticulously captured, covering diverse sectors, including both on-farm and off-farm activities. The ongoing process involves finalizing these narratives and videos, preparing them for presentation and distribution.

PROJECT WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT AND SHARING

After extensive discussions with the project team and a realization within Cordaid regarding the importance of documentation, it has become evident that sharing project updates and progress is crucial. This dissemination needs to extend to a diverse audience, including individuals, stakeholders, and donor agencies that are instrumental in supporting the project's expansion into new areas. The holistic development of communities is underscored by recognizing that small inputs and efforts play a vital role in bringing about impactful changes in the rural and remote villages of Nepal. This, in turn, directly contributes to job creation, enterprise development, and the fostering of entrepreneurship opportunities for migrant returnees and potential migrants. The project team aims to reach diverse stakeholders such as international/national non-governmental organizations (I/NGOs) and individuals through webpages and social media, aiming to inform people about the positive impacts of the SRINANA project. The website is currently in the final stages of development. <https://projectsrijana.org/>

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