

# Multi-Sector Nutrition Plan (MSNP-II)

Annual Progress Report

2078/79 (2021/22)



Prepared by

**Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA)**

**Federal Affairs Divisiona**

**Local Level Coordination Section**

**Singhadurbar, Kathmandu**

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## Acronyms

ADCCN	Association of District Coordination Committees of Nepal
AWPB	Annual Work Plan Budget
CCG	Child Cash Grant
CNSI	Comprehensive Nutrition Specific Interventions
DCC	District Coordination Committee
ECD	Early Childhood Development
EDP	External Development Partners
EDPs	External Development Partners
EU	European Union
FY	Fiscal Year
G1,000D	Golden 1,000 Days
GoN	Government of Nepal
HKI	Hellen Keller International
IFA	Iron Folic Acid
IMAM	Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition
ITC	Inpatient Therapeutic Center
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
LLNFSSC	Local Level Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committee
MLNFSSC	Municipal Level Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committee
MNP	Multiple Micro-Nutrient Powder
MoALD	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoFAGA	Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration
MoHP	Ministry of Health and Population
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MoWCSC	Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen
MoWS	Ministry of Water Supply

MSNP	Multi Sector Nutrition Plan
MTR	Mid Term Review
NAGA	Nutrition Assessment and Gap Analysis
NDHS	Nepal Demographic and Health Survey
NFLG	Nutrition Friendly Local Government
NPC	National Planning Commission
OTC	Outpatient Treatment Center
PTA	Parent Teachers Association
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SMC	School Management Committee
SUN	Scaling Up Nutrition
ToT	Training of Trainers
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
WBRS	Web Based Reporting System
WLNFSSC	Ward Level Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committee

## **Acknowledgement**

Multi-Sector Nutrition Plan (MSNP) has been implemented in Nepal since 2013 (MSNP-I for the period of 2013-17 and MSNP-II for the period of 2018-22) with the strategic leadership of National Planning Commission (NPC) involving key sectoral ministries, departments, external development partners (EDPs), United Nations Agencies, academia, and private sector. The main objective of the plan is to combat against all forms of malnutrition among children, women, and adolescents by scaling up nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions in all 753 local levels across the country.

Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA) has the role of coordination with all sectoral ministries and providing leadership for implementation of the Governance sector. Similarly, Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) is leading the nutrition specific interventions whereas other sectoral ministries (Ministry of Education-MoE, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development-MoALD, Ministry of Water Supply-MoWS, Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen-MoWCSC) are leading the nutrition sensitive sectoral interventions to achieve the goals of MSNP.

MoFAGA would like to acknowledge the support and collaboration extended by all 7 provincial governments to achieve the goals of MSNP. In the meantime, MoFAGA would like to appreciate the role of all local levels to implement the MSNP activities at the municipal level. Moreover, MoFAGA would like to express its sincere gratitude to the European Union (EU) for their generous funding support and would like to appreciate the technical support provided by UNICEF Nepal. Also, MoFAGA would like to extend its sincere appreciation to other development partners namely USAID, HKI and others for their contribution towards successful implementation MSNP in Nepal.

Thanks,

**Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration**

**Local level Coordination Section**



Planning Commission (NPC) led the formulation of Multi Sector nutrition Plan (MSNP) in cooperation with sectoral ministries, departments, donors, United Nations (UN) agencies, EDP, academia, and private sector.

In line with the recommendation of NAGA, first phase MSNP was launched in 2013 and completed in 2017 with the financial and technical support of the EU through United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Nepal. After completion of MSNP-I, GoN developed the next phase of the plan (MSNP-II) for the period of 2018-2022. To achieve the target of MSNP-II, EU continued the support through UNICEF Nepal. After 2020 onwards, the EU provided budget support to the GoN for MSNP implementation, and UNICEF Nepal provided the technical support.

The GoN has set a target of lowering the prevalence of stunting to 24 per cent by 2025 and to 15 per cent by 2030 and reducing wasting to less than 5 per cent by 2025 and to 4 per cent by 2030. In addition, GoN has set a national target of reducing underweight to 15 per cent by 2025 and to 10 per cent by 2030. Nepal is on track in terms of meeting stunting targets as mentioned in MSNP-II but off track to achieve the wasting target. COVID-19 could be one of the major determinants/aggravating factors that impacted negatively on meeting the target as local levels could not implement the planned activities in the field during COVID-19 pandemic.

Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA) is the liaison ministry for local levels and has been coordinating and facilitating the sectoral ministries to develop integrated implementation plan of MSNP. In addition, MoFAGA has been facilitating the budget allocation and transfer of the grants and monitoring the implementation of nutrition sensitive interventions at the local level. Similarly, Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) is responsible for implementation of nutrition specific interventions in close coordination with MoFAGA.

## 2. MSNP implementation and scale up

Implementation of MSNP was piloted in 6 districts in 2013 and gradually scaled up to 30 districts (covering 308 local levels) by the end of the first phase. During the second phase (MSNP-II), it was scaled up to an

additional 47 districts (covering 445 local levels) so that MSNP reached to all 77 districts covering 753 local levels. Out of 753 local levels, MSNP has been implemented with full package in 392 local levels (interventions of all seven sectors), including Chepang special program in 9 local levels of Chitwan, Dhading, Gorkha and Makwanpur districts

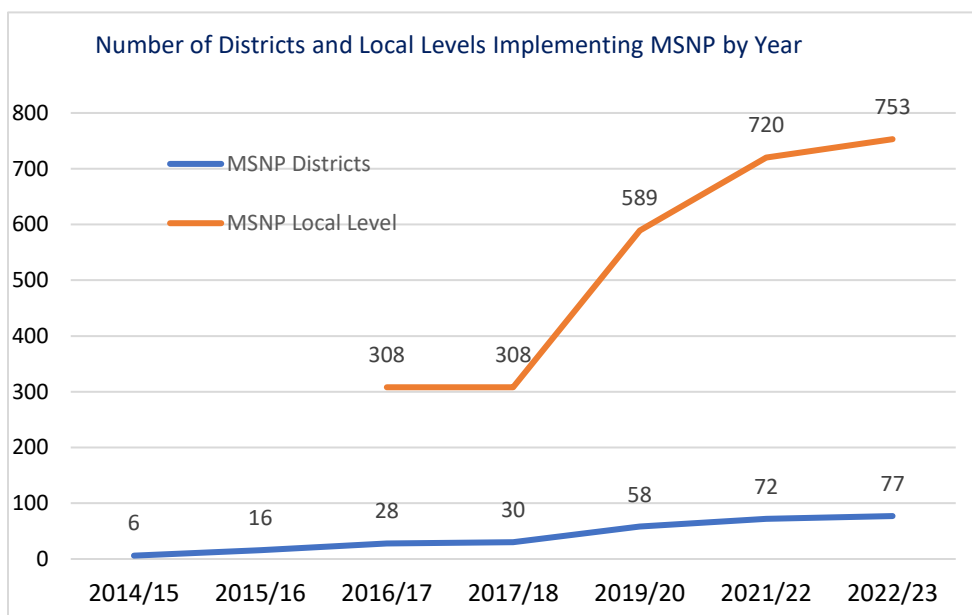


Figure-2: Number of MSNP scaled up districts and local levels by year

and partial package in 361 local levels (nutrition specific and governance interventions). The details of the provinces, districts, and local levels where MSNP is being implemented in different packages has been tabulated below (Table-1):

Table-1: Province wise implementation of MSNP

SN	Province	Full Package		Chepang Special Nutrition Package		Partial Package		Total	
		District	Local Level	District	Local Level	District	Local Level	District	Local Level
1	Province # 1	3	26			11	111	14	137
2	Madhesh	8	136			0	0	8	136
3	Bagmati	3	30	3	8	10	81	13	119
4	Gandaki	1	8	1	1	10	76	11	85
5	Lumbini	6	47			6	62	12	109
6	Karnali	9	70			1	9	10	79
7	Sudurpashchim	7	66			2	22	9	88
Total		37	383		9	40	361	77	753

**Note:** Chepang special nutrition package is a full package implemented in 9 local level of 4 district (Makwanpur, Gorkha, Dhading and Chitwan) where partial package is implemented in other local level than those of Chepang special. Hence, the above four districts are kept in the category of partial package.



### 3. Progress of MSNP implementation by sector

Multi Sector Nutrition Program has reached to all 753 local levels by the end of fiscal year 2078/79. Those local levels with full package are implementing the combined interventions of all seven sectors (Governance, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene-WASH, Education, Agriculture, Livestock, Health, and Women and Children) with five key targeted interventions as mentioned in the budget support indicators. Likewise, local levels with partial package are implementing at least nutrition specific activities as well as governance interventions. Respective District Coordination Committee (DCC) has the role of monitoring the MSNP interventions and organize review meetings. Moreover, provincial, and federal government have the role of policy support and coordination at respective level. The summary of the progress has been elaborated below:

#### 3.1 Governance sector

The governance sector is mainly responsible for creating the enabling environment and policy drive for smooth implementation of MSNP. The sector has the vital role for coordination at three tires of government namely federal, provincial, and local government for strengthening the nutrition governance, policy drive, revisions and development of the guidelines, budget commitments and provision of adequate and capable human resources for the MSNP.

##### 3.1.1 Functionality of institutional structure

As envisioned in MSNP-II, all three levels of institutional structures are functional and performing their task as per the defined role. The structure of the institutions along with their progress has been elaborated below:

##### a. MSNP coordination mechanism at federal level

At the federal level, there are two committees namely High-Level Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committee (HLNFSSC) led by Honorable Vice-Chair of NPC; and National Nutrition and Food Security Coordination Committee (NNFSSC) led by honorable member of NPC responsible for health and nutrition sector. The major roles of the committees are to provide policy guidance, coordination, planning and monitoring.

The HLNFFSSC meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> Magh 2078 (23 Jan 2022) decided to earmark the budget for MSNP so that there is no budget gap until the next phase of MSNP is in place. In addition to HLNFFSSC and NNFSSC, there is the National Nutrition and Food Security Secretariat (NNFSS) within NPC which is responsible for supporting the high-level committee to

Table-2: Number of provincial steering committee meetings

SN	Province	Number of steering committee meetings held in 2022
1	Province #1	4
2	Madhesh Province	4
3	Bagmati Province	4
4	Gandaki Province	3
5	Lumbini Province	3
6	Karnali Province	4
7	Sudurpaschim Province	4

Source: Provincial reports/WBRS

discharge their duties. Among others, the committees at federal level conducted the mid-term review (MTR) of MSNP, organized and conducted program review with the participation of all sectoral ministries, European Union (EU), UNICEF and USAID. Similarly, NNFSS organized and facilitated a meeting of Nutrition for Growth (N4G), prepared the country commitment which was endorsed by the cabinet. In line with the country commitment, N4G Summit recommended the continuation of MSNP in the next phase. Furthermore, MSNP-III formulation process has been started with the decision of NNFSSC for which consultations at various level and sectors have been completed. Also, a series of meetings and workshops were conducted, and the preliminary draft of MSNP-III has been prepared. Further, the NNFSS provided support to conduct UN Food Systems Summit 2021 at national and subnational level.

#### b. MSNP coordination mechanism at province level

Province Level Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committee (PLNFSSC) is the mechanism at province level envisioned by MSNP that plays the role of coordination and collaboration with the DCCs, and Local Governments (LGs). PLNFSSC organizes regular meetings as per the given terms of reference (ToR) and extends its coordination support to local level. During the reporting period, there were total 26 PLNFSSC meetings which is presented in the table above (Table-2).

#### c. MSNP coordination mechanism at local level

MSNP has envisioned municipal and ward level nutrition and food security steering committees to establish coordination mechanism and strengthen the collaboration.

During the Local Level Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committee (LLNFSSC) meetings, there were several programmatic and policy decisions to take MSNP further. Some of the decisions made by local level nutrition and food security steering committees that are the milestones for MSNP have been listed below:

##### i. Governance:

- Mainstream the MSNP into the local government's policies, and programs and allocate an additional budget from the local level.

Table-3: Number of local level steering committee and meetings

SN	Provinces	# Of local level steering committee and meetings held by province	
		Number of steering committees	Number of Meeting held
1	Province #1	137	208
2	Madhesh Province	136	304
3	Bagmati Province	91	223
4	Gandaki Province	80	128
5	Lumbini Province	109	173
6	Karnali Province	79	175
7	Sudurpaschim Province	88	250
	<b>Total</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>1,461</b>

Source: Provincial Reports/WBRS

- Allocate budget for MSNP from the internal source and approve the integrated annual work plan and budget.
- Adopt targeted approach to address the nutritional issues of targeted group in the community, allocate an additional resource from the local level and manage the nutrition help desk.
- Organize MNSP promotion campaigns at the local level, conducted orientation and advocacy for nutrition friendly local government.
- Request for special grants to the federal and provincial governments to accelerate the MNSP at local level and to conduct the nutrition friendly campaign.
- Continue coordination with development partners for cooperation and collaboration.
- Organize orientation sessions on nutrition friendly local governance (NFLG).
- Declare the nutrition-friendly settlements (tole) and allocate an additional budget from the local level to provide nutrition allowances for lactating mothers.
- Establish the nutrition friendly model ward and identified the ward to move ahead.
- Conduct the orientation on MSNP and NFLG, submit a proposal for NFLG special grant and identify the sectoral interventions, and publish a public notice to identify the female cooperative to implement the program.
- Amend the annual work plan, identify the health facility for promotion of nutrition friendly facility and identify the MSNP implementation wards.
- Declare nutrition friendly ward and **launch integrated programme.**

## **ii. Health**

- Declare nutrition friendly health facility for which identify the health facility.
- Conduct mass screening of the children 6-59 months to assess their nutritional status.
- Establish outpatient therapeutic center (OTC) for treatment of severely malnourished children and conduct mass screening.
- Establish nutrition desk at local level for effective and efficient coordination for implementation of MSNP.
- Allocate internal resources for periodic screening of children under 5 years to identify their nutrition status.

## **iii. Education**

- Promote locally available nutritious food for mid-day meal in the schools by conducting orientation sessions and supporting for the same.
- Identify the schools to declare as junk food free schools by discourage unhealthy food.
- Promote kitchen gardening at Schools.
- Develop and distribute nutrition-related source books and educational material, orient teachers about adolescent Iron Folic Acid (IRA).

## **iv. Agriculture:**

- Establish the seed bank of indigenous crops

### 3.1.2 Child cash grant to children under 5 years

Child Cash Grant (CCG) is a scheme implemented by the GoN to promote nutritional status of the children below five years of age. CCG is distributed to two u5 years children from the same mother in a family in 270 targeted local levels of 25 districts and all *dalit* children u5 years of age in 753 local levels across the country. In each quarter, targeted families receive NPR 532 per month per child as a cash grant which they utilize to promote the nutritional status of the children.

To sensitize the parents and care takers of those children about optimum utilization of the grant, local levels organize sensitization events linking with Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF). Initially the cash grant was started from five districts of former Karnali zone targeting to all children u5 years of age, which was gradually scaled up reaching 25 districts now. The table below (Table-4) describes the province wise local levels that conducted orientation on child cash grant linking with IYCF during the reporting period.

Table-4: Child cash grant implementing district and local level

SN	Type	District	Local level
1	Dalit Children	All 77 districts	753
2	Districts with children U5 years of age	Dolpa, Jumla, Humla, Mugu, Kalikot, Rautahat, Mahottari, Sarlahi, Siraha, Jajarkot, Doti, Bajhang, Bajura, and Achham <b>(14 Districts)</b> Rasuwa, Dhanusha, Dailekh, Salyan, Bara, Baitadi, Rukum- East, Rukum-West, Rolpa, Saptari, and Kapilvastu <b>(11 Districts)</b>	270

For the effective implementation and utilization of CCG, local governments sensitized the parents/guardians of the beneficiary children before and after handing over the cash. During the reporting year, total 77,063 parents/guardians were sensitized across the country.

### 3.1.3 Local level orientation on MSNP

To sensitize and mainstream the MSNP, MoFAGA has developed the orientation package and has been imparting to the elected representatives, NFSSC members, officials of local government and the other stakeholders at local level collaboration with NPC, UNICEF, and provincial coordinators. During the reporting period, total 6,002 individuals from the local level participated in such orientation sessions.

### 3.1.4 Mobilization of the MSNP volunteers

To take the MSNP forward as a campaign enhancing the ownership and participation of beneficiaries, as well as effective and efficient implementation of MSNP, all 392 local levels with full package are mobilizing the volunteers. In those local levels implementing Chepang Special intervention, the MSNP volunteer

should be the member of the same community. From the current fiscal year, only the females can be appointed as a volunteer. To enhance the capacity of the volunteer, MoFAGA provided basic and refresher training on MSNP including basic nutrition, planning, and mainstreaming of MSNP and web-based reporting system.

### 3.1.5 Other governance sector activities

In addition to the above-mentioned interventions, local governments identified the additional activities based on program implementation guideline. The major interventions under this sector are:

- a. Accountability programs such as review meetings and public hearing.
- b. Advocacy activities such as display of hoarding boards, broadcasting the radio program, showing street drama etc.,
- c. Campaigning against the bad social practices like child marriage, gender-based violence, restriction during the menstrual period etc.

Some major indicators with progress of the EU budget support period are summarized below (Table-5):

Table-5: Progress of the major indicators under the governance sector

SN	Activities	Unit	Year				Total	
			2077/78 (2020/21)		2078/79 (2021/22)		Target	Progress
			Target	Progress	Target	Progress*		
1	Municipal Level Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committee (MLNFSSC) meetings held	Number	3,012	2,842	2,852	1,461	5,864	4,303
2	Stakeholders trained on nutrition and MSNP	Number	6,500	6,641	9,500	6,002	16,000	12,643
3	Display of hoarding boards/banners on nutrition	Number	11,252	12,666	3,012	4,320	14,264	16,986
4	Household members informed about IYCF while receiving child cash grant	Number	10,000	8,215	15,000	77,193	25,000	85,408
5	Ward Level Nutrition and Food Security Steering	Number	4,500	4,212	7,500	8,134	12,000	12,346

	Committee (WLNFFSSC) meeting held							
6	Advocacy campaign on Nutrition	Number	1,420	942	2,500	4,320	3,920	5,262

Source: Web-based Reporting

\*Progress up to December 2022

### 3.2 Women and children sector

The Women and children sector is mainly responsible for raising awareness of G1,000D mothers, caregivers and adolescent girls on nutrition, personal hygiene, child marriage, gender-based violence (GBV) and empowering the communities, targeting to women, children, and adolescents. Income generation of G1,000D women through the income generation activities is the major intervention of the sector.

#### 3.2.1 Income generation of female cooperative or women group

According to NDHS-2022 Key Indicator Report, prevalence of stunting among the children under 5 years of age is 24.8 per cent in Nepal. In the meantime, prevalence of stunting is 36.9 per cent among the lowest wealth quantile and 13.1 per cent among the highest wealth quantiles. From this report it is obvious that poverty is one of the major determinants of malnutrition in Nepal. There is a significant difference and an impact of income in reduction of malnutrition.

Considering the fact, Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration together with EU/UNICEF has set one of the key budget supports indicators, grant support to the poor female cooperative or women’s group. The concept of the intervention is to support to increase the income of poor Golden 1,000 days (G1,000D) family and invest the income in children, women, and adolescent girl’s nutrition. During the reporting year, 1,950 G1,000D families of 78 female cooperatives or women’s group were provided with a grant of NPR 25,000 per family for income generation and provided one-day orientation in their desired area of income generation. The members of the female cooperative or women’s group have started the income generation activities such as kitchen gardening, poultry farming, pig rearing goat rearing, running petty shop etc. During the monitoring visit of those cooperatives or women’s group, it was found that the beneficiaries were quite happy with the support and using the income for their children’s nutrition improvement. From the



Photo-1: Group members used grant support for goat keeping

successful result of the cooperatives/women’s group, it has been realized that it is one of the successful interventions from which the beneficiaries are directly benefitted. The target of the EU budget support was to establish 190 cooperatives/women’s group for the budget support period, out of which MSNP reached to 252 women’s cooperatives/women’s group by the end of reporting period. During the implementation of this activity, local levels were very much supportive to identify the targeted beneficiary, document and sign the memorandum of understanding (MoU) and execute it.

### 3.2.2 Other women and children sector activities

The activity under this sector has the vital role to raise awareness on gender-based violence (GBV), safe motherhood, menstrual hygiene, reproductive health, and nutrition.

In addition to the above-mentioned interventions, local governments identified the additional activities based on program implementation guideline. The summary of the major interventions under this sector and number of beneficiaries are as below (Table-6):

Table-6: Progress of the major indicators under the women and children sector

SN	Activities	Unit	Year				Total	
			2077/78 (2020/21)		2078/79 (2021/22)		Target	Progress
			Target	Progress	Target	Progress*		
1	Members of women federation/women cooperatives/mothers' group/ women group, adolescent trained on nutrition, reproductive health, and safe motherhood	Number	85,258	63,017	42,000	58232	12,7258	121,249
2	Advocacy activities conducted against harmful traditional belief/culture about menstruation	Number	5,682	5,529	6,000	7237	11,682	12,766
3	Mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law enrolled in the interaction program	Number	32,025	28,652	42,500	10232	74,525	38,884

4	Out of school adolescent girls trained on life skills and nutrition	Number	42,850	38,532	55,000	4959	97,850	43,491
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Source: Web-based Reporting

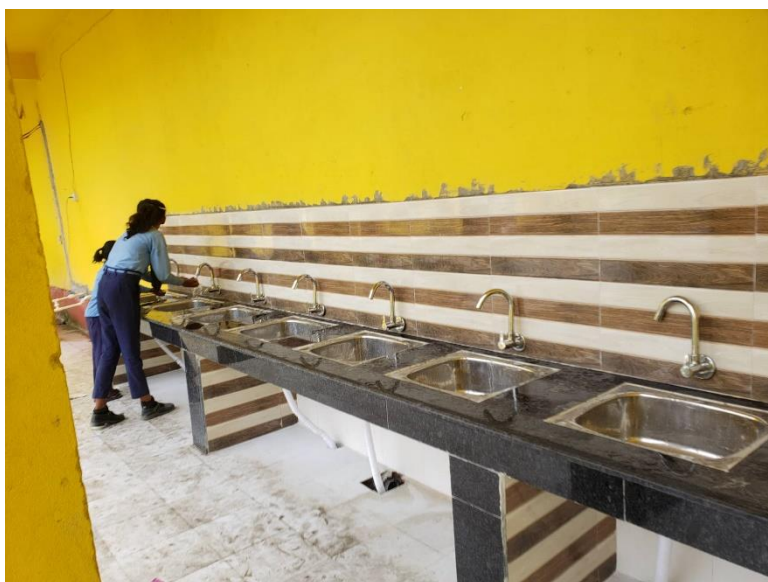
\*Progress up to December 2022

### 3.3 Education sector

Education sector activities are the ones that contribute enhancing the knowledge of children and adolescents and support increasing the nutrition knowledge and skill to develop nutrition behavior change. The followings are the major activities under this sector implemented in the targeted schools during the reporting period.

#### 3.3.1 School water, sanitation, and hygiene (School WASH)

Support for school WASH is one of the major interventions under MSNP. Under the education sector, school WASH is one of the activities which is quite instrumental to enhance the knowledge and behavior change of the school going children on the role of WASH to promote nutrition at school, family, and community level. As per the plan, the target of the EU budget support was to construct 185 WASH facilities in the schools for the EU budget support period, out of which MSNP reached to 247 WASH facilities benefitting 57,079 students. During the implementation of this activity, local levels played the vital role to identify the schools, document and sign the MoU with the schools and execute the activities.



#### 3.3.2 Other activities under education sector

In addition to school WASH activities, local governments identified the additional activities based on the program implementation guideline. The major interventions under this sector are:

- Orientation and support for mid-day meal at schools utilizing the locally available food grains
- Awareness raising activities in school mobilizing the child clubs to promote iron folic acid (IRA) and deworming.
- Hygiene promotion activities including menstrual hygiene and proper use of sanitary pads



- Mobilization of School Management Committee (SMC), Parent Teachers Association (PTA), and teachers' association to promote good nutrition in the community.

Summary of the major interventions under this sector and number of beneficiaries are presented below (Table-7):

Table 7: Other major activities implemented by education sector

SN	Activities	Unit	Year				Total	
			2077/78 (2020/21)		2078/79 (2021/22)		Target	Progress
			Target	Progress	Target	Progress*		
1	Adolescent girls who received sanitary pad	Number	25,852	26,521	45,500	6,940	71,352	33,461
2	Child clubs formed in local level	Number	435	312	852	203	1,287	515
3	Children who received education kit	Number	250	289	6,532	5,590	6,782	5,879
4	ECD and literacy class conducted to women/ mothers for nutrition	Number	260	169	50	0	310	169
5	No. of toilet constructed in school	Number	950	1,393	325	420	1,275	1,813
6	SMC/PTA/Teachers Association mobilized for parent education	Number	1,500	1,656	2,500	1,101	4,000	2,757
7	School drinking water and sanitation scheme	number	114	103	95	247	209	350

Source: Web-based Reporting; \*Progress up to December 2022

### 3.4 WASH sector

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene sector contributes to manage and promote the safe drinking water, good sanitation, and hygiene practices for better nutrition of children, women, and adolescents. The sector organizes hygiene promotion campaigns, orients the school students for hand washing with soap and water, builds user-friendly WASH facilities in schools, makes available of drinking water at household level and promotes water purification techniques, develops WASH corners at the public institutions (health facilities, office of the local levels), formulates and activates the WASH coordination committees at local levels.

Summary of the major interventions under this sector and number of beneficiaries are presented below (Table-8):

Table 8: Major achievement of WASH Sector

SN	Activities	Unit	Year				Total	
			2077/78 (2020/21)		2078/79 (2021/22)		Target	Progress
			Target	Progress	Target	Progress*		
1	Adolescent girls trained on use of incinerator for disposal of sanitary pads	Number	4,952	4,132	8,945	6940	13,897	11,072
2	WASH committee meetings held	Number	450	263	390	129	840	392
3	Household members trained on water purification methods	Number	2,875	2,245	6,252	2,139	9,127	4,384
4	Students sensitized on hand washing during critical situations and drinking water purification	Number	25,000	22,852	50,000	63,452	75,000	86,304
5	WASH facilities upgraded in ECDs and schools	Number	681	663	169	13	850	676
6	Filter/purifier distributed at households	Number	8,675	8,140	9,658	3940	18,333	12,080

Source: Web-based Reporting

\*Progress up to December 2022

### 3.5 Health sector

Health sector has the role of implementing nutrition specific interventions to enhance the nutritional status of women, children, and adolescent girls. Furthermore, it contributes enhancing the knowledge and skills to develop the nutrition behavior change. To eliminate all forms of adolescent, maternal and young

child malnutrition, GoN has been implementing the MSNP, out of which management of wasting among the u5 children is a very critical intervention.

In addition, health sector has been working for capacity building of health workers, and female community health volunteers (FCHVs) on Comprehensive Nutrition Specific Interventions (CNSI), scale up interventions of Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) program to manage wasted children. Likewise, establishment of outpatient therapeutic centers (OTCs), inpatient therapeutic centers (ITCs), community mobilization for identification of wasted children, provision and supply of nutrition commodities and equipment are the activities implemented, among others. Furthermore, the following are the health interventions that contribute the nutritional status of women, children, and adolescents.

Furthermore, local level completed the following activities under the MSNP support:

- 3.5.1 Promotion of nutrition friendly health center in each local level,
- 3.5.2 Establishment/Strengthening of OTCs in all 753 local level
- 3.5.3 Promotion of Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices (IYCF) and distribution of MNP
- 3.5.4 Additional support for FCHVs to screen the children under 5 years for their nutritional status.

### 3.6 Agriculture sector

Agriculture and livestock sector has the role of ensuring food security, access, utilization, and sustainability at all levels. It advocates for the food quality and dietary diversity at individual and household level. During the reporting period, the sector implemented some key interventions such as:

- Training for kitchen gardening, management, and support (seeds, micro irrigation etc.)
- Promotion of model agriculture farm and use of wastewater and kitchen waste for kitchen gardening.
- Promotion of healthy diet and locally available nutritious food.
- Orientation on management and use of organic fertilizer and indigenous crops.
- Agriculture development training management and support

Summary of the major interventions has been tabulated below (Table-9)

Table 9: Activities implemented by agriculture sector

SN	Activities	Unit	Year				Total	
			2077/78 (2020/21)		2078/79 (2021/22)		Target	Progress
			Target	Progress	Target	Progress*		
1	Support for Kitchen Garden activities (including	HHs	9,500	9,123	15,000	12,211	24,500	21,334

	promotional activities: pipe motor, micro irrigation)							
2	Trainings conducted for kitchen gardening	Number	4,252	4,268	3,250	9,774	7,502	14,042
3	Trainings conducted for Promotion of traditional and local food grain including organic farming	Number	510	543	1,200	1,561	1,710	2,104
4	Mothers trained on nutrition	HHs	4,621	4,302	9,562	13,439	14,183	17,741
5	Households with kitchen garden	HHs	16,252	15,225	35,000	44,500	51,252	59,725
7	Trainings conducted for students on kitchen gardening at school and home	Number	69	77	200	49	269	126

Source: Web-based Reporting

\*Progress up to December 2022

### 3.7 Livestock sector

The livestock sector has the role of ensuring the availability of animal source food and promotion of consumption of animal protein and iron rich nutritious food. It advocates for the food quality and dietary diversity at individual and the household level through improved production of and consumption of eggs, meat, and milk. To increase the access of animal source food, the livestock sector conducted awareness raising activities, orientations, and training along with supplies at the local level targeting to G1,000D families.

To get available and access to animal source foods, the livestock sector conducted several interventions, including orientations, trainings, group formations and livelihood promotion with logistic supplies and commodities at the local level targeting to the G1000 Days HHs. Summary of the major interventions under this sector and number of beneficiaries are presented below (Table-10):

Table 10: Activities implemented by livestock sector

SN	Activities	Unit	Year				Total	
			2077/78 (2020/21)		2078/79 (2021/22)		Target	Progress
			Target	Progress	Target	Progress *		
1	Households receiving plant/seed of grass to promote animal husbandry	Number	6,600	4,951	12,000	48,225	18,600	53,176
2	Distribution of chicken/pigeons/duck	Number	520,125	421,343	550,000	316,684	1,070,125	738,027
3	Distribution of goats/pigs	Number	10,250	9,115	15,625	7,340	25,875	16,455
4	Individuals receiving the training on animal husbandry	Number	25,030	24,253	30,000	51,230	55,030	75,483
5	HHs receiving support for establishment of model cow shed	Number	12,525	12,583	16,255	925	28,780	13,508

Source: Web-based Reporting

\*Progress up to December 2022

#### 4. Major activities accomplished at federal level

##### 4.1 Regular meeting and coordination

As provisioned by the MSNP-II to establish and strengthen the coordination mechanism at three tiers of governments, the HLNFSFC and NNFSCC are established and functional at federal level. Similarly, the NNFSS located in NPC, has effectively been discharging its support by coordinating various stakeholders in terms of MSNP planning and implementation. As the major role of the federal level coordination bodies is to provide policy guidance and resource mobilization support, HLNFSFC and NNFSCC have been proven quite proactive in this regard.

##### 4.2 District level MSNP orientation

During the reporting period, MoFAGA coordinated and organized 24 district wise orientations inviting the mayors, deputy mayors, chairperson, vice-chairperson, chief administrative officer and one of the section chiefs of municipality/rural municipality. In addition, provincial MSNP

coordinators have been mobilized in all 7 provinces to sensitize and establish NFSSC at municipal and ward level. As the government of Nepal scaled up MSNP in an additional 131 new local levels of 14 districts during the reporting period, all those newly scaled up local levels established the Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committees at their level for which provincial MSNP coordinators extended their facilitation support. So far, 720 (95.6%) local levels have been formed and functionalized the LLNFSSC.

#### 4.3 Review and refresher training of MSNP volunteers

MoFAGA organized 12 groups of three-days review and refresher training to MSNP volunteers to cover all 383 MSNP volunteers. The first day was to do review of fiscal year 2077/78, where all the MSNP volunteers shared the progress, issues and next year plan. Similarly, second day allocated to do refresher training on basic nutrition, local level planning process, nutrition friendly local governance, and MSNP implementation guideline. The third day was all about online reporting system using tablets. MoFAGA with the support of UNICEF developed mobile app for web-based reporting system (WBRIS). Similarly, as per the request from MoFAGA, UNICEF supported one tablet to each volunteer for online reporting purpose.



Province Level review and Refresher Workshop in Dhulikhel

#### 4.4 Provincial ToT on nutrition friendly local governance (NFLG)

MoFAGA organized 4 batches of training of trainers (ToT) on Province Level Nutrition Friendly Local Governance (NFLG). The ToT was designed for 3 day which covered seven sectoral indicators, NFLG declaration process/steps and other relevant technical sessions. The first batch of training was conducted in Pokhara where 30 participants participated from Gandaki and Lumbini Provinces. Similarly, the second batch of training was conducted in Dhulikhel where two groups of training were simultaneously conducted for Province # 1, Madhesh and Bagmati Province where 62 participants were trained. The third batch of training was conducted in Nepalgunj for Karnali and Sudur Pashchim Province, where 38 participants were trained. Similarly, fourth batch of ToT was conducted again in Dhulikhel targeting to train representatives of sectoral ministries, selected



NFLG ToT conducted in Dhulikhel

senior officials of local levels, academia, representatives of Child Friendly Local Governance (CFLG) forum, ADCCN and other freelancers. The objective of the ToT was to prepare trained human resource on NFLG to materialize it at the local level. However, the specific objectives of the training were as below:

- a) Create common understanding on the concept of MSNP among the participants.
- b) Enhance knowledge and skill on Nutrition Friendly Local Governance and its indicators and interventions.
- c) Make aware on sectoral indicators and their contribution on NFLG

## 5. Budget and expenditure status of FY 2078/79 (million)

### 5.1 The EU budget support to GoN

On 10 July 2020, the GoN and the EU signed an agreement to support the MSNP with a total budget of €23.35 million for two years (2021 and 2022) as budgetary support. Out of total financial support, €20 million was direct budget support to the GoN through the government treasury system and €3 million was for technical support through UNICEF for MNSP implementation. UNICEF provided an additional €1 million as a top up totaling €4 million for technical support. As part of technical support, UNICEF has been providing competent human resources at NNFSS, MoFAGA, MoHP and Provincial Policy and Planning Commissions (PPPC) to provide technical backstopping for MSNP implementation at the federal, provincial, and local level. The detail of the support is illustrated in the table below:

Table-11: EU's budget support to the Multi-Sector Nutrition Plan-II

Execution Period	Support Type				
	Total Cost of the Support (EU and UNICEF)	EU Budget Support through GoN Treasury	EU Complementary Measures (Technical Support through UNICEF)	UNICEF's Contribution to the Support of the complementary measures	Communication, Visibility, and Evaluation through the EU
2020 to 2022	€ 24.35 million	€ 20.00 million	€ 3 .00 million	€ 1 million	€ 0.35 million

### 5.2 Budget expenditure against released budget

As per the program support agreement between the GoN and the EU, 10 million Euro was supposed to be received from EU for implementation of MSNP for the FY 2078/79 (2021/22). Thus, GoN fixed annual budget ceiling of FY2078/79 of NPR 1,528.82 million for all three tiers of government to implement MSNP. However, GoN received 5 million Euro only from the EU and therefore, GoN mobilized NPR 900.36 million for MSNP implementation in all three level, out of which 98.16 percent of the budget was utilized.

Table-12: Budget expenditure against the released budget (NPR in million)

Description	Budget	Released budget	Expenditure	Expenditure %	Remarks
Federal	65.6	65.6	65.2	99.39	
Province	6.92	5.26	3.5	67	
DCC	16.3	11.1	10.7	96	
Local level	1,440	818.4	804.4	98.28	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,528.82</b>	<b>900.36</b>	<b>883.8</b>	<b>98.16</b>	

### 5.3 Federal, provincial, and local government's budget for MSNP implementation

In addition to the EU budget support for MSNP, the federal, provincial, and local governments allocated budgets for MSNP implementation for the fiscal year 2078/79 (2022/2023). The table below (Table-13) details the budget allocation by federal, provincial, and local governments.

Table-13: Budget expenditure against the released budget (NPR in million)

Year	Federal Government	Provincial Government	Local Government	Total
2020 (2077/78)	NPR 2.5 M	NPR 250.00 M	NPR 170.00 M	NPR 422.5 M
2021 (2078/79)	NPR 2.4 M	NPR 59.34 M	NPR 220.00 M	NPR 281.74 M
2022 (2079/80)	NPR 74.0 M	NPR 415.80 M	NPR 234.10 M	NPR 723.9 M

Moreover, the GoN allocated NPR 74.0 million for MSNP implementation to fill the budget gap after the EU's budget support concluded in December 2022.

## 6. Issues/Challenge:

Despite of all above achievements, there are a few issues and challenges in terms of implementation of MSNP as listed below:

- i. Although the GoN is trying its best for mainstreaming the MSNP in all levels, it is taking more time than expected because of resource and time constraints.
- ii. Although social development and infrastructure development are equally important, local levels are still prioritizing the infrastructure. It is taking more time to internalize the issue in grassroots.
- iii. Compared to the coverage and volume of MSNP, there is still a human resource gap at provincial and local level.
- iv. Due to the elections at all three level, there was the delay in implementation of MSNP.



## 7. Annexes:

### Annex-I: Case Study/Success Story

#### a. The multi-sectoral nutrition plan brought about a change in Devaki's life:

Devaki Khadka is a permanent resident of Ward No. 6 of Tatopani Rural Municipality, (district and province). She has a family of five members at her home and her family is dependent on agriculture. Despite of being an educated mother, the first child's growth and development was not as expected. She has a 6-year-old son as her eldest child and an 8-month-old daughter.

Now she has realized that there is a wide difference in upbringing and growth between sons and daughters. The only reason for this is the awareness-based training, distribution of nutritious food and other facilities provided to the mothers of the G1,000D under the MSNP program implementing by Tatopani Rural Municipality. In the rural municipality, the multi-sectoral nutrition program has been implemented in all 8 wards for the past 4 years, targeting mothers, children, and adolescent girls. Devaki Khadka is one of the G1000Ds women benefited through the MSNP program.



Before the implementation of the program, she gave birth to her first child in the traditional way. She had to face a lot of problems to raise her first child. Inadequate knowledge about the nutritional diet, rest and proper care needed during pregnancy has caused problems in the growth and development of the child, but now she is free from this problem because she not only got the opportunity to participate in various programs related to nutrition, but she also learned about nutritious food, health conditions, acquired knowledge related to nutrition such as food, hygiene and applied it in their behavior.

In addition to receiving nutritious food from the program, she also received many materials such as filters for pure and clean water, plastic tunnels for vegetable production. She said that since she became pregnant, she felt a great change in her and the child's health due to regular check-ups at the health institution, nutritious food, cleanliness, and complete rest. Her 8-month-old daughter is completely healthy, and her weight has reached 8 kg. Now, apart from mothers' milk, she is feeding nutritious foods such as nuts, legumes, eggs, vegetables, and fish in proportion. She further said that since the implementation of the multi-sectoral program, she felt that the health condition of mothers and babies of the G1,000D, including herself, has greatly improved compared to before.

We believe that this program has given great relief to women and their families who are economically poor. Like her, hundreds of G1,000D women have received a lot of nutritious food items like chicken, vegetables, goats, eggs etc. for free, so the condition of the children is healthy, and the mothers are working hard to produce the same kind of food. She informed that she was also teaching the neighboring mothers and sisters what she was going to.

Multi-sectoral nutrition program has worked to give fragrance in gold for mothers and children in remote areas. Khadka says, "Through this program, I have constructed a plastic tunnel for women to use green plants and vegetables. From that, I have sold and distributed the rest of the income and continued to earn financial income. She added that the nutrition program has made it easier for me to take care of children and I would like to say thank you to everyone for making the lives of mothers and babies in remote areas easier and simpler, including myself, by advocating for nutrition, food safety and use.

#### **b. Improved livelihood and nutrition status in Majhi community of Melamchi by cooperatives support**

Melamchi is one of the municipalities in Sindhupalchwok district where there was a massive flooding last year Melamchi town was swept away by the flooding converting the fertile land into the desert. A small marginalized Majhi community close to Melamchi town was also affected by the flooding while the residents lost their property including the nominal land.



Women group member with Goat and managed shed at Melamchi

Traditionally, Majhi community was dependent on fishing for their livelihood but due to flooding in Melamchi river, they lost their occupation too. Due to loss of the nominal land as well as fishing occupation, they faced food scarcity in the community, especially mothers and children were severely affected by food deficiency. Melamchi municipality started to support the community mobilizing women's group. Based on the demand of the community, municipality supported them with goats and protected shed construction. MSNP facilitated to construct the shed and purchase the goats. Mostly shed construction and goat purchase activities are chosen by group members. 25 women group members are prepared their business plan and granted support to group members according to their submitted business plan. In this programme implementation MSNP has supported Rs. 25000.00 for a member.

All together Rs.625000.00 has been granted for this group. Now each group members have at 10 goats with protected goat shed. They have also been started to sell buck and goat for the income generation purpose.

Wealth got from selling is used for children schooling, daily food stuffs purchase and nutrition related commodities.

### c. Goat and Vegetables Farming as Source of Nutrition and Income

Bimala Pun, a 34-year-old Female Community Health Volunteer (FCHV) from Runtigadhi Rural Municipality-4, Rolpa district has been managing her livelihood by goats rearing. She started the goat rearing since 2069 B.S. though she registered her goat farm in 2072 B.S. Bimala has her a modern coop which she prepared after getting goat rearing training from District Livestock Service Office (DLSO) in 2071 B.S.



Bimala got two local goats as her share while she decided to separate from her joint family in 2069. As those local goats were not very much productive for her, she decided to buy an improved male goat to crossbreed with the local goats. As a result of crossbreeding, she was able to have more productive goats which helped her increase the family income.

According to her, she had very limited income while she decided to separate from the joint family. She had only two goats and a small plot of land which was not sufficient for her livelihood. Once she decided to crossbreed her goats with the improved one, she managed to have more productive goats. By the time she was rearing goats, she started vegetable farming in her small plot of land using the manure of those goats. For all above, she gets support from her husband and daughter. Now, Bimala has 39 goats and small plot of land where she grows vegetable such as cabbage, cauliflower, beans, tomato etc. and she has no issue with the market to sell her goats and vegetable.

Now, Bimala has the income of approximately NPR 120,000 per year from both vegetable farming and goat rearing. She has a plan to increase the number of goats up to 61 within two years.