

# ANNUAL REPORT | 2023



Our Voice: A Society Free From Trafficking Of Children And Women

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## Message from the Chairperson and the Executive Director

Gratitude fills our hearts as we reflect on the profound journey of Maiti Nepal throughout the past year. The dedication and generosity of our supporters and well-wishers have been the cornerstone of our efforts to combat human trafficking and empower vulnerable individuals.

The landscape of trafficking continues to evolve, presenting us with increasingly complex challenges. The disturbing rise in online and social media abuse has cast a shadow of vulnerability over countless individuals, highlighting the earnestness of our mission. Moreover, the alarming surge in domestic trafficking and child sexual abuse cases demands our urgent attention. It's within our communities that we must strengthen our efforts, willingness, and machinery for prevention, nurturing a culture of vigilance and resilience from the grassroots level.

Education, awareness, and empowerment stand as beacons of hope in our battle against trafficking and CSEC (Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children). By imparting knowledge and equipping individuals with the tools to recognize and resist exploitation, we illuminate the path toward liberation for those at risk. Through education, we empower not only the minds but also the hearts, instilling a sense of dignity and worth that transcends the clutches of exploitation.

In the face of these daunting realities, collaborative action is more crucial than ever. We must unite forces across all levels of governing structures, from local to federal, and engage with civil society organizations and communities to effectively address the multifaceted dimensions of human trafficking. Only through rigorous efforts can we hope to counter the tide of this pervasive injustice. We need to mitigate the root causes of trafficking and create all the opportunities for education, health, and economic prospects.

At Maiti Nepal, we remain steadfast in our commitment to preventing the trafficking of girls and women and providing them with the support they need to rebuild their lives. Our tireless efforts are driven by a vision of a world where everyone can live free from the fear of exploitation and abuse.

As Maiti Nepal, we've embraced the responsibility of being the torch bearer and the voice of the voiceless, stepping into another year of advocating and taking action. With revitalized resolve, we unite to fight against human trafficking and CSEC in every manifestation. In unity, we strive toward a future where dignity, freedom, and justice prevail for all.

With heartfelt appreciation and solidarity,



Anuradha Koirala  
Founder/Chairperson  
Maiti Nepal



Bishwo Ram Khadka  
Executive Director  
Maiti Nepal

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# Introduction

Maiti Nepal, founded by Ms. Anuradha Koirala in 1993, has been resolute in its mission to combat human trafficking, rescue victims, and advocate the rights of women and children in Nepal. What started as a modest shelter for a handful of survivors has evolved into a diverse organization. Maiti Nepal not only saves and helps survivors of violence but also empowers them through education and vocational training, promoting long-term sustainability.

The organization's remarkable work hasn't gone unnoticed; it has garnered recognition and awards, including the prestigious CNN Hero of the Year Award and the Padma Shri Award for its founder. As we delve into Maiti Nepal's world, you'll encounter stories of resilience, hope, and transformation that emanate from the organization's dedicated efforts. Maiti Nepal stands as a beacon of compassion and determination, striving to create a world free from exploitation and abuse.

Maiti Nepal operates through five key sectors: the 6 P's (Prevention, Protection, Participation, Prosecution, Partnership, Policy), the 5 R's (Rescue, Repatriation, Rehabilitation, Reintegration, Referral), and the 2 A's (Advocacy and Awareness). This non-profit, secular organization not only shields vulnerable individuals and rescues victims but also improves their lives, advocates for children's and women's rights, and endeavors to eradicate human trafficking.

In its pursuit, Maiti Nepal seeks to raise awareness and garner support from students, parliamentarians, governments, law enforcement agencies, the general public, and various organizations, both within and outside Nepal. Maiti Nepal's holistic approach underscores the power of compassion and determination in fostering positive change.



### MISSION

Reaching out to all exploited and high-risk children, adolescent girls, and women adopting the rights-based approach, creating the critical mass, empowering survivors and securing livelihood opportunities.



### VISION

A society free from human trafficking, violence, and all forms of exploitation, ensuring dignity.



### GOAL

Prevention and mitigation of human trafficking, violence, and exploitation reaching out to 60% of the high-risk population by 2025.

## OBJECTIVES :

By the end of 2025

- Reach 60% of the high-risk population (girls/women) and raise through mass awareness and evidence-based advocacy programs.
- Collaborate, coordinate, and network with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), the public, and private sectors, and relevant key stakeholders for policy advocacy and for ensuring the rights and dignity of survivors.
- Promote safer migration among high-risk adolescent girls and women engaging multi-stakeholders to address issues of nexus between migration and human trafficking.
- Support the target groups to empower them with skills to enable them secure employment and entrepreneurial opportunities and successful reintegration into the community.
- Prevent and mitigate human trafficking by implementing various projects in line with national and international practices.

# MAITI NEPAL Comprehensive Overview

## Date of Registration:

1993

## Registration No:

413/049/050 under Article 4 of the Institution Registration Act of 2034

## Place of Registration:

Kathmandu District Administrative Office

## AFFILIATIONS

- **Social Welfare Council, Government of Nepal;** Affiliation No. 1137
- **ECPAT International, A Global Network against the Sexual Exploitation of Children**
- **ATSEC Nepal Chapter** (Action against Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Children)
- **Special Consultative Status with the UN-ECOSOC** (United Nations Economic and Social Council)
- **Member of CAP International** (United for a world free from sexual exploitation!)

## INFRASTRUCTURES

- 2 Hospice
- 16 Transit Homes
- 1 Prevention Home
- 3 Information, and Surveillance Centers
  - 2 Women Rehabilitation Homes
  - 1 Child Protection Home
  - 2 Contact Offices
  - A school

## Map of Nepal with Geographical location



Maiti Nepal is devoted to combating human trafficking including violence against women and children. Maiti Nepal promotes human rights and provides services of protection, rescue, rehabilitation, and reintegration to the survivors. With a central office in Kathmandu, MN has been carrying out its activities in 21 districts of 6 provinces. Further, MN works by creating greater sensitivity and broader harmony among the public, government, and non-government actors in national and international arenas while addressing the needs of its target beneficiaries.

# Number Of Beneficiaries Served As Per Cases In 2023



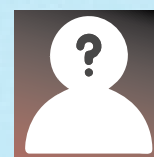
### Domestic Violence

Reported to Maiti Nepal: **1,061**  
 Mediated by Maiti Nepal: **435**  
 Referred to National Women Commission, Concerned Police Stations, and Ward offices: **626**



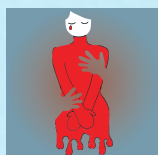
### Counselling

Psycho-Social Counselling provided by Maiti's Counsellors: **7,284**  
 Legal Counselling provided by Maiti's lawyers: **4,350**



### Missing Case

Registered at Maiti Nepal: **1,517**  
 Found by Maiti Nepal in coordination with the Police and other partner organizations: **599**



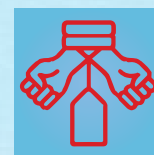
### Sexual Assault Case

Registered to Maiti Nepal: **111**  
 Case Prosecution: **101**  
 No of perpetrators (without conviction): **86**  
 No of convicted perpetrators: **2**



### Rescue

Rescued from India: **86**  
 Rescued from third countries: **15**  
 Internally rescued: **2,287**



### Human Trafficking

Reported: **45**  
 Case Prosecution: **44**  
 No of perpetrators (without conviction): **43**  
 No of convicted trafficker: **1**

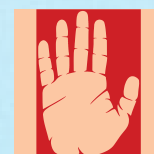


### Shelter Support

Shelter provided to Minor females: **1228**  
 Shelter provided to Major females: **1697**  
 Long term Shelter support (more than 3 months): **427**



Training/Orientations/Education/Health Facilities Provided to Women and Girls:  
 $137+255+445=$  **837**



### Number of Interceptions at Nepal-India Border

**2,766**



### Family Reunions:

**3,042**



### No. of Vehicles Inspected:

**3,71,001**



Number of people reached with information on Anti-Trafficking Issues, Unsafe Migration and Foreign Employment, and IEC Materials Distribution: **1,84,382**



### Door-to-Door Visit:

**781**

# KEY PROGRAM AREAS

- **ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS**
- **PREVENTION AND PROTECTION**
- **RESCUE AND RE-PATRIATION**
- **REHABILITATION AND REINTEGRATION**
- **PROSECUTION**
- **PARTICIPATION**





# ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS

This program is crucial in tackling and minimizing the underlying issues that lead to trafficking, such as ignorance, illiteracy, gender-based discrimination, and violence against women. Maiti Nepal's advocacy efforts are concentrated on strengthening policies and support systems, aiming to minimize the chances of children and women falling victim to trafficking. The programs primarily focus on educating adolescent girls, students, teachers, municipalities, and the entire community. The programs empower and train these individuals on measures to protect themselves from being deceived and lured by strangers who come to their villages.

Similarly, Maiti Nepal organizes mass awareness campaigns, orientations, and training sessions as part of its prevention strategy. These campaigns also include educating teachers and students on forming groups against human trafficking, establishing information and resource centers, initiating community outreach programs, conducting cross-sectoral meetings, and forming partnerships with organizations combatting human trafficking and other forms of sexual exploitation.

The programs actively address human trafficking and exploitation. The children and teenagers are educated about the potential dangers they may face if they fall prey to traffickers and are also sensitized to adopt protective measures in such circumstances.

**In 2023, eight large-scale mass awareness programs** were conducted to combat and eliminate the root causes of human trafficking. Street dramas and dances were performed in the community to portray the harsh reality of trafficking and exploitation, creating awareness and informing the community about trafficking, gender-based violence, and child marriage. The aim was to establish an early warning and support system within the community. The target audience included adolescent girls, women, students, teachers, local government officials, and the entire community.

Maiti Nepal reached **37,000** people spreading information against human trafficking, gender-based violence, and safe migration within various municipalities and districts through mass awareness.



Maiti Nepal operates various programs to prevent trafficking by spreading awareness about its risks and consequences, and by empowering vulnerable communities with the knowledge and tools to keep themselves safe.

One of the most important programs involves reaching out to communities. We collaborate with local leaders, schools, and organizations to educate people about trafficking risks and encourage safe migration practices. Training and resources are provided to help communities recognize and report potential trafficking cases.

Maiti Nepal also runs shelters offering safe housing and support services for at-risk girls and women. These shelters provide a secure environment where women can live and receive help, including counseling, education, health services, legal aid, and vocational training.

Moreover, there's a border monitoring program in place. We team up with local authorities to keep an eye on border crossings, aiming to intercept potential trafficking cases. We extend support to trafficking survivors, offering medical care, legal assistance, and rehabilitation services.

Maiti Nepal's prevention programs tackle the root causes of trafficking. By imparting knowledge and resources, we empower communities to prevent trafficking and safeguard themselves from exploitation and tortures.



# Maiti Nepal Prevention Home

Maiti Nepal operates a prevention home in Makawanpur District to stop human trafficking, especially of girls and children. Our goal is to create a world where these vulnerable groups are safe. We do this by carrying out various programs focused on preventing trafficking, providing protection services, prosecuting offenders, advocating for change, and offering opportunities for a better life.

Maiti Nepal follows the principle of fighting human trafficking by spreading awareness, creating income opportunities, and helping people develop essential life skills. Inspired by the idea of a society free from human trafficking, Maiti Nepal is actively involved in preventing, prosecuting, rescuing, rehabilitating, and reintegrating individuals affected by trafficking. We put this into action by implementing different activities.

In Makawanpur District, Maiti Nepal successfully executed the Human Trafficking Prevention Program. This involved providing shelters and organizing community-based programs, all done in collaboration with the local government, civil society organizations, school teachers and students, and community-based organizations.

Since 1997, Maiti Nepal has been running a prevention home in Hetauda, Makawanpur District. The aim is to support girls and women who are at risk of trafficking, emphasizing their commitment to making a positive impact on the lives of those vulnerable to exploitation.



# Major Achievements

Maiti Nepal trained **40** vulnerable individuals along with the survivors, split into two groups of **20** each, in **Stitching and Tailoring**.

The training included a five-day Life Skill Training covering communication, decision-making, understanding life goals, personal care, and negotiating for better opportunities, while also addressing issues like human trafficking and gender-based violence.



**5** girls underwent Advanced Tailoring training, enhancing their tailoring businesses.

**4** of them received materials valued at NPR **200,000** from the One Stop Crisis Management Center (**OCMC**).



MN prevention home provided shelters for **44 girls** referred from District/Community Police, CSOs.

**40** have been reintegrated into the family.

**4** beneficiaries are still in the prevention home.



**20** girls were rescued from various locations, including a hotel, bus park, and vehicles, who were at risk of trafficking and forced into prostitution.



**3** girls from Hotel Niharika were rescued, where they were being made to entertain guests and forced into prostitution.

**1** of the perpetrators responsible for human trafficking in this case has been convicted and sentenced to **8 years**, marking the first imprisonment for internal trafficking in Makawanpur.

**66** applications against domestic violence were registered in MN.

Out of which, **28** were successfully mediated whereas the remaining cases were referred to concerned agencies.

Similarly, the girls/women were counseled before referring to other agencies especially the police and local government for additional help.



**28** missing cases were registered at Maiti Nepal Makawanpur. Out of them, **18** were found.



**31** rape cases have been filed in the District Police Office in support of Maiti Nepal. Out of them, **29** perpetrators of rape are under custody.



Conducted **296** door-to-door visits to raise awareness about human trafficking, gender-based violence, early marriage, and other harmful practices in Makawanpur district.



Oriented over **530** students and teachers on topics such as human trafficking, child marriage, safe migration, and actions to take in case of such incidents in the community.



Rescued a girl from Makawanpur in **Silchar, India**, through coordinated efforts with Makawanpurgadhi Rural Municipality, with financial support from the municipality and technical assistance from MN.

Delivered information on safe migration and foreign employment to **4,910** individuals as part of an awareness-raising program in various locations within the Makawanpur district.

Collaborated with **RADO Nepal** to provide financial support of **NPR 20,000** and **NPR 15,000** to two rape survivors in Makawanpur district.





As a program area of Maiti Nepal's efforts for protection, the Child Protection Home is a place that takes care of children. These homes provide complete services to children belonging to underprivileged and marginalized communities, those affected by Commercial Sexual Exploitation (CSEC) and various other forms of violence and exploitation. The goal is to keep these children safe and give them every chance to grow up happy, healthy, and successful.

The Child Protection Home looks after the rights of children in every way, ensuring their survival, protection, development, and participation. Since 1993, Maiti Nepal has been running a Child Protection Home, with a capacity to provide housing to 250 children. The children find a safe and secure environment, and besides meeting their basic needs, the home offers comprehensive care and support. The aim is to help them overcome their challenging past, provide skills and training for a brighter future, and ensure they lead happy and healthy lives.

The children in the Child Protection Home, including those attending Teresa Academy, receive not only formal education but also a place to live and to receive legal support, and medical care. Through sports, recreation, and cultural and psychosocial services, they get a taste of life beyond the shelter. The home also offers daily yoga, music, dance lessons, and self-defense martial arts (taekwondo) to the children.

After completing their higher secondary education, these children are allowed to pursue higher education. Many success stories have emerged from Maiti Nepal's Child Protection Homes, with individuals thriving in various fields such as lab technicians, nurses, doctors, software engineers, dancers, and more.



# Major Achievements

**From January - December 2023,**  
**28 new children** were rescued and provided shelter.

Out of **28** children,  
**2 Children** were re-integrated with their families.  
**26 Children** are in Maiti Nepal Child Protection Home.

Out of **26** those children,  
2 children is an infant and staying in the **baby room** of **Maiti's Child Protection Home**



## As of December 2023.

**192** children received direct benefits from Maiti Nepal Child Protection Home (CPH) in the form of shelter, medical assistance, legal aid, education, food, and clothing. They were provided with the following facilities for a brighter future.

In cases of **192** children,

- **165** children are residing at Maiti Nepal Child Protection Centre.
- **27** were re-integrated with their families and communit.



## Out of **165 Children**

- **07** are infants staying in the baby room of Maiti's Child Protection Centre.
- **138** Children are attending schools.
- **11** Children are attending higher secondary level schools.
- **06** Girls are attending college.
- **03** girls dropped out of the school.



Maiti Nepal has been providing educational support to **55** girls who were staying at Maiti Nepal and now they are becoming economically self-reliant so that they can reintegrate themselves into their families and community.



# Information Desk For Promoting Safe Migration

The rising demand for foreign employment is driven by a lack of good opportunities, gender disparity, domestic violence, gender-based violence, poverty, and a quest for better livelihoods. This surge in migration, however, brings forth challenges, especially for women who are particularly vulnerable to sexual and labor exploitation throughout the migration process from departure to transportation and arrival at the destination. Nepali female migrant workers, in particular, face severe forms of exploitation abroad.

To combat the exploitation of foreign labor migrants and promote safe migration, Maiti Nepal has established three Information Desks. These desks are located at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Passport Department; Thankot, Kathmandu District; and Dhulikhel, Kavrepalanchowk District. The information provided at these desks plays a crucial role in spreading awareness about safe migration practices.

## Maiti Nepal's Information Desk at the Department of Passport, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA)

Maiti Nepal has been operating an information desk at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs dedicated to sensitizing female migrant workers about the potential risks associated with unsafe migration, and human trafficking. The dedicated staff at the information desk also works to make people aware of different types of abuse that may happen in the name of job opportunities. It is essential to clarify that the primary objective is not to discourage individuals from seeking foreign employment opportunities but rather to encourage them to pursue legal and safe avenues.

During the reporting period, Maiti Nepal's committed team provided informative sessions to a total of **21,292** individuals, with a specific focus on promoting an understanding of safe migration and the potential consequences related to foreign employment.

Notably, within this audience, **1,192 individuals fell within the age group of 16-18**. Understanding the age group is important because the team noticed more people applying for passports, which could increase the risk of trafficking. The information desk, strategically positioned at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, primarily targets young girls and women, aiming to sensitize them to the inherent risks linked with foreign migration.



## RESCUE AND REPATRIATION

As a component of Maiti Nepal’s endeavors to save and bring back survivors of trafficking, we run a program dedicated to rescue and repatriation. This program is designed to identify and rescue trafficking victims, offering them secure shelter, medical care, and various support services. Maiti Nepal collaborates closely with relevant authorities to locate and rescue victims, ensuring they receive legal assistance.

Once rescued, survivors undergo counseling and rehabilitation to overcome the trauma, stigma, and discrimination they’ve faced. Maiti Nepal actively works on reuniting survivors with their families and provides support services for their reintegration into society, helping them rebuild their lives.

Maiti Nepal’s rescue and repatriation program strives to offer comprehensive support to trafficking survivors, while also focusing on preventing future incidents by increasing awareness, promoting safe migration practices, and creating economic opportunities.

Additionally, Maiti Nepal’s contact office in Delhi collaborates with ATSEC (Action Against Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Children) member organizations, various NGOs, police, and the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) to rescue and repatriate Nepalese girls and women trafficked to India.

## CROSS-BORDER Rescue and Repatriation

Rescuing and bringing survivors back home is an integral component of Maiti Nepal’s initiatives. Most of the rescues happen in places like adult entertainment sectors within Nepal, Indian brothels, orchestras, and places where girls and women are forced into exploitation.

Once rescued, these girls and women are taken care of in transit homes and rehabilitation centers located in border cities of different districts. These districts include Ilam, Jhapa, Morang, Kavre, Kathmandu, Rasuwa, Parsa, Rupandehi, Chitwan, Banke, Bardiya, Kanchanpur, Birgunj, Sarlahi, Kailali (Dhangadhi), Kailali (Tikapur), and Sunsari. Depending on each case, some girls are also sent to Rehabilitation Homes in Kathmandu and Sunsari districts for longer-term support.

In these homes and centers, the rescued individuals receive medical care, counseling, a safe place to stay, learn important life skills, and get other types of help. Legal support is also given to make sure the perpetrators are held accountable. Additionally, the rescued girls and women are trained in various skills to help them become economically independent.

The goal of these cross-border rescue operations is to bring back girls and women who have been trafficked to India. Maiti Nepal works closely with Indian rescue teams, conducting investigations and raid operations. Since 2021, we have had a dedicated office in Delhi with a person in charge to speed up and coordinate these cross-border rescue operations. This office acts as a point of contact and a temporary shelter for the rescued individuals. Having an office in Delhi is a strategic move that helps Maiti Nepal in our rescue efforts in India.

## Major Achievements

During the cross-border rescue initiative in 2023, a total of 86 successful cross-border rescue operations took place. The survivors of human trafficking were rescued by Maiti Nepal Transit Homes in different districts, and the details are systematically outlined below

### 1. Banke:

- 12 survivors in total
  - 2 from Delhi
  - 1 from Calcutta
  - 9 from Bahraich, Uttar Pradesh

### 2. Bardiya:

- 1 survivor from Aananda Bihar, Delhi

### 3. Chitwan:

- 1 survivor from Mumbai

### 4. Dhanusha:

- 3 survivors in total
  - 2 from Odisha
  - 1 from Raxaul

### 5. Jhapa:

- 5 survivors in total
  - 1 from Jabramod, West Bengal
  - 1 from Mumbai
  - 3 from Silgudi, West Bengal

### 6. Dhangadhi:

- 1 survivor from Lakhimpur Kheri, Uttar Pradesh

### 7. Kanchanpur:

- 25 survivors in total
  - 1 from Jafrabad, Gujarat
  - 4 from Mumbai, Maharashtra
  - 3 from Delhi
  - 4 from Pune
  - 3 from Sangli, Maharashtra
  - 3 from Punjab
  - 2 from Pitaugad
  - 1 from Banbasha, Uttarakhand
  - 4 from Himachal

### 8. Makawanpur:

- 1 survivor from Silchar, Assam

### 9. Morang:

- 1 survivor from Jogbani

### 10. Parsa:

- 18 survivors in total
  - 16 from Raxaul
  - 1 from Patna
  - 1 from Palanawa, Bihar

### 11. Rupandehi:

- 3 survivors in total
  - 2 from Assam
  - 1 from Bahadurgunj, Uttar Pradesh

### 12. Sarlahi:

- 8 survivors in total
  - 6 from CWC, Mumbai
  - 2 from Hapur, Uttar Pradesh

### 13. Shelter Head Office:

- 7 survivors in total
  - 3 from Pune
  - 2 from Silchar
  - 1 from Delhi
  - 1 from Bombay

# OVERSEAS

## Rescue and Repatriation

Maiti Nepal's Overseas Rescue and Repatriation Initiative stands at the forefront of combating the scourge of overseas human trafficking, particularly the trafficking of children and women to Gulf countries and the African Continent. With a dedicated commitment to safeguarding the rights and dignity of vulnerable individuals, Maiti Nepal relentlessly pursues the rescue and repatriation of Nepali nationals entrapped in trafficking networks abroad.

Amidst the complicated challenges posed by transnational trafficking, Maiti Nepal executes a multifaceted approach that encompasses proactive prevention, swift rescue operations, and comprehensive rehabilitation efforts. By collaborating closely with governmental agencies, diplomatic channels, and international partners, Maiti Nepal strives to ensure the safe return and holistic recovery of trafficking survivors to their homeland.

## Major Achievements

In 2024, a total of 15 survivors were successfully rescued from Gulf countries. These women, who had been trafficked for perceived job opportunities, were liberated from Oman, Qatar, Kuwait, Malaysia, and Lebanon through the concerted efforts of the Nepal government.

Details of the rescues are as follows:

### 1. Maiti Nepal Head Office:

12 survivors

- 7 from Oman
- 2 from Lebanon
- 1 from Qatar
- 1 from Kuwait
- 1 from Malaysia

### 2. Chitwan:

2 survivors

- 1 from Oman
- 1 from Kuwait

### 3. Rupandehi:

1 survivor from Kuwait

These women, enticed by human resources companies, had been coerced into the sex trade. Through collaborative efforts between the Nepal government and Maiti Nepal, they were rescued from this exploitative industry. Maiti Nepal provided comprehensive shelter and subsequently facilitated the reintegration of these survivors into their communities after identifying their family members.



# DOMESTIC RESCUE AND REINTEGRATION

Within the complex landscape of human trafficking, Maiti Nepal confronts the grave issue of internal trafficking head-on through its dedicated Internal Rescue Initiative. Focused on combating the exploitation of children and women within Nepal's entertainment establishments, including massage parlors, dance bars, cabin restaurants, brick factories, carpet factories, garment factories, clubs, private apartments, and other venues, this initiative is a crucial component of Maiti Nepal's holistic approach to eliminating human trafficking in all its forms.

The insidious practice of internal trafficking within Nepal presents a formidable challenge, as victims are often ensnared in exploitative situations within the borders of their own country. Maiti Nepal's Internal Rescue Initiative is designed to address this specific menace by actively engaging in prevention, rescue operations, and comprehensive rehabilitation efforts. The organization works collaboratively with law enforcement agencies, government bodies, and local communities to dismantle trafficking networks and provide a lifeline to those trapped in exploitative situations.

- Bardiya: **305**
- Chitwan: **4**
- Dhanusha: **38**
- Illam: **302**
- Jhapa: **135**
- Kailali (Dhangadhi): **129**
- Kanchanpur: **95**
- Kavre: **595**
- Makawanpur: **20**
- Morang: **159**
- Nagdhunga: **111**
- Parsa: **192**
- Rupandehi: **1**
- Sarlahi: **89**
- Tikapur: **35**
- Maiti Nepal Head Office: **77**

Before reintegrating with their families, all the rescued girls and women received counseling services. The counseling provided by Maiti Nepal played a crucial role in empowering them to choose a different path and make positive changes in their lives.



# TRANSIT HOMES

Nepal and India have a border of about **1,850** kilometers, and there aren't many proper identification procedures in place for people on both sides. This makes it easy for children and women to be trafficked, mainly to India and then further to countries like China, Oman, Kuwait, UAE, Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Iraq, and Bahrain. Some Nepalese women and girls are even being trafficked to China by taking advantage of the 24-hour travel permission for citizens of border districts.

To tackle this issue, Maiti Nepal has set up **16 Transit Homes**. **Fourteen** are in border towns of Nepal and India, one near Nepal and China border, and one each in Kathmandu and Kavre. These homes keep a close watch on trafficking incidents through the border checkpoints. They work in coordination with the border police, deploying a Border Surveillance Team at each checkpoint to carry out border surveillance, intercept traffickers, and rescue children and women.

The Transit Homes offer immediate **shelter, protection, counseling, necessary healthcare services, and information on anti-trafficking and safe migration**. If the person needs comprehensive support, the Transit Homes refer them to the central office, where they receive extensive services, including vocational training and education. The goal is to help them reintegrate into the community, sustaining their lives socially and economically.

In addition, Transit Homes collaborate closely with local government, civil society organizations, and the public to implement various programs. These programs aim to reduce incidents of trafficking, rape, and domestic violence, maximizing the chances for women, girls, and children to lead dignified lives.

## OBJECTIVES

- **Intercept the girls and women at risk of trafficking from the border.**
- **Provide the victims/survivors with comprehensive services including legal support, counseling, and better life options.**
- **Organize awareness, advocacy, and networking activities in the district**
- **Facilitate and support legal prosecution against criminals**
- **Support the police at the border to inspect the vehicles and identify girls and women at risk of trafficking**

# 1. Transit Home at Pashupatinagar, Illam



The transit home is located at Suryodaya Municipality in Pashupatinagar, Ward No.2 in the Ilam district. The eastern hilly district of Ilam is a place of exquisite beauty. Ilam borders with Darjeeling district of the state of West Bengal, India in the North. This area is a particularly high-risk area as India and Nepal share an open border and there are different smaller routes leading to India. The open border and regular flow of people from both sides have created a conducive environment for trafficking. There are no documentation procedures and system of proper identification for nationals on both sides of the border; this has made it easy for pimps to traffic the girls. Border towns on both sides are busy markets, catering to residents from both countries.



# Major Achievements

## MN Transit Home in **Pashupatinagar**

**intercepted 855** girls and women at risk of trafficking from the border.



Of them, all were provided with short-term shelter and required legal and psychosocial counseling.

Similarly, **553** women/girls at risk of trafficking were intercepted and sent home directly from the border by contacting their parents and family members.

Before sending, the border staff oriented them against human trafficking and precautions before they go on such a journey.

- **14** missing cases were reported to the Transit Home. Out of these, **12** women were found and reintegrated into family and relatives.
- **13** Domestic Violence Case Filed were filed in the transit home out of which **13** were mediated and solved.
- **1** rape case and 5 trafficking cases were filed.
- **2,866** people received the information on anti-trafficking, domestic and sexual violence, and safe migration, provided by the team.
- Shelter support was provided to **302** girls/women, where **136** females were below the age of **18** and **166** females were above the age of 18 during the year.
- **912** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in the year 2023.

**32670** vehicles were inspected at the Nepal-India Border to trace if the children/women who were migrating were at risk of trafficking.



- Mushroom farming training was given to **20** possible survivors, victims of gender-based violence, and women groups.
- Organized an orientation meeting with **30** police personnel and other stakeholders to improve coordination between border staff and police officers.
- Organized MPAC meeting with **20** project advisory committee members and discussed the overall activities conducted by Maiti Nepal.
- Successfully celebrated the 13th International Women's Day, 17th National anti-human trafficking day along with the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.
- Overall, **121** students were oriented on human trafficking in three different schools.
- **60** tea Leaves Pickers of Kanyam were oriented on Human trafficking and Safe Migration
- Successfully organized interaction meeting with **44** transport workers and members of the hotel association in Pashupatinagar and Fikal.



## 2. Transit Home Kakarvitta, Jhapa

The Kakarvitta transit home was set up in 1999 and is situated at Purano Bhansar, Suryaodayamarg, Mechi Nagar Municipality, Ward no.10 in Jhapa District. Jhapa is in the Terai Region of Nepal, part of the Mechi Zone in the Eastern Development Region. It shares borders with Ilam district to the North, Morang district to the West, the Indian state of Bihar to the South and East, and the Indian state of West Bengal to the East. Recognizing it as an area at risk for trafficking, a transit home was established in Kakarvitta to reduce the threat of Human Trafficking.

### Major Achievements

#### MN Transit Home in Jhapa

- Intercepted **171** girls/women from different risky spots preventing them from being trafficked where **36** were directly returned home from the border and **135** were internally rescued.

- **5,630** people received the information on anti-trafficking, domestic and sexual violence, and safe migration, provided by the team.

- **5** girls/women were rescued from India.

- **9,380** vehicles were inspected at the Nepal-India Border to trace if the children/women who were migrating were at risk of trafficking.

- **139** women/ girls were directly reintegrated with their families.

- **62** missing cases were reported to the Transit Home and among them, **20** were found.

- **140** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in the year 2023.

- **3** Domestic violence cases were filed in the transit home where all 3 cases were mediated and resolved.

- Shelter support was provided to **133** girls/women, where **48** females were below the age of 18 and 85 females were above the age of 18 during the year.



### 3. Transit Home Morang, Biratnagar



The Biratnagar transit home was set up in 1998 and is situated in Sainik Tole Metropolitan City, Morang district, where it's located, is in the Terai region of Koshi Province. It's close to Panchathar and Dhankuta in the North, Sunsari in the West, and Illam and Jhapa in the East. To the South, Biratnagar shares a border with the Indian state of Bihar. This area is considered risky because India and Nepal have an open border with various smaller routes leading into India. By establishing the Transit Home in Biratnagar, Maiti Nepal aims to prevent the illegal trafficking of Nepalese girls for commercial sexual exploitation, safeguarding them from harm and potential hazards.



# Major Achievements

MN Transit Home in **Biratnagar** intercepted **179** girls/women from different risky spots preventing them from being trafficked out of which **20** were directly returned home from the border and **159** were internally rescued.



- **1** survivor was rescued from India.
- **159** women/ girls were directly reintegrated with their families.

• **One** survivor of rape was provided with legal support.

• **3,738** vehicles were checked at the Nepal-India Border to trace if the children/women who were migrating were at risk of trafficking.



• **40** missing cases were reported to the Transit Home and among them, **4** were found.



• **87** Domestic violence cases were filed in the transit home, out of which **54** cases were mediated and **33** were referred.



• Shelter support was provided to **159** girls/women. **46** of them were below the age of **18** and **113** of them were above the age of 18.



- **2,905** people received the information on anti-trafficking, domestic and sexual violence, and safe migration, provided by the team.
- **118** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in the year 2023.





#### 4. Transit Home Birgunj, Parsa

The Birgunj transit home started in 1997 and is in Chhapkaiya, ward no. 2, in Birgunj Metropolitan City of Parsa District in Madhesh Pradesh. Parsa includes Bara and Makwanpur districts to the North and Makwanpur and Chitwan districts to the West.

Birgunj is right by the Indian town of Raxual in the South and Makwanpur in the North, part of the Indian state of Bihar. Birgunj is one of the busiest points for people coming in and out of Nepal and India. The free movement of people between the two countries contributes to the high cases of commercial sexual exploitation and Human Trafficking across the Nepal-India Border.



# Major Achievements

MN Transit Home in **Birgunj Parsa** Intercepted **226** girls/women from different risky spots preventing them from being trafficked. Out of which **34** were directly returned home from the border and **192** were internally rescued.



- **18** Girls/women were rescued from India.
- **301** women/ girls were directly reintegrated with their families.

• **23,219** vehicles were checked at the Nepal-India Border to trace if the children/women who were migrating were at risk of trafficking.



• **24** missing cases were reported to the Transit Home and among them, **13** were found.



• **9** Domestic violence cases were filed in the transit home out of which **7** cases were mediated and **2** were referred.



• Shelter support was provided to **264** girls/women. **93** of them were below the age of **18** and **171** of them were above the age of 18.



• **23,933** people received the information on anti-trafficking, domestic and sexual violence, and safe migration, provided by the team.



• **264** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in the year 2023.





## 5. Transit Home Bhairahwa, Rupandehi

The Bhairahwa transit home was set up in 1997 and is situated at Suryaudayamarg, Siddharth Nagar Municipality, Rupandehi District in Province No. 5 of Nepal. It shares its borders with Nawalparasi district to the East, Kapilbastu district, and Uttar Pradesh (India) to the West, Palpa district to the North, and Uttar Pradesh (India) to South.

### Major Achievements

#### MN Transit Home **Rupandehi**

Intercepted **168** girls/women out of which **167** of them were directly returned from the border and one was rescued from being trafficked internally.



- **One** case of Human Trafficking was registered.
- **172** women/ girls were directly reintegrated with their families.

- **4,026** vehicles were inspected at Nepal-India Border.



- **39** missing cases were reported to the Transit Home out of which, **19** were found and reintegrated into their



- **16** cases of domestic violence were reported to the Transit Home. Out of which **12** cases were solved in favor of applicants and **4** were referred.



- Shelter support was provided to **138** girls/women. **26** of them were below the age of **18** and **112** of them were above the age of 18.



- Maiti Nepal Staff provided information on safe migration and anti-trafficking issues to **8,545** people.



- **183** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in the year 2023.

## 6. Transit Home at Nepalgunj, Banke

The Nepalgunj transit home was founded in the year 2000 and is located at Nepalgunj Sub Metropolitan City, Ward No. 15. It covers the areas of Salyan to the North, Dang to the East, and Bardiya to the West. In the South, it shares a border with the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh.



### Major Achievements

MN Transit Home Nepalgunj **Intercepted 509** children and women and handed over them to their families from the border checkpoints.



- **2** cases of Human Trafficking case were registered at the District Court of Banke.
- **12** survivors were rescued from India.

• **2,421** vehicles were inspected at Nepal-India Border.



• **662** missing cases were reported to the Transit Home out of which, **278** were found and reintegrated into their families.



• **12** cases of domestic violence were reported to the Transit Home. Out of which **7** cases were solved in favor of applicants and **5** were referred.



• Shelter support was provided to **524** girls/women. **208** of them were below the age of 18 and **316** of them were above the age of 18 during the year.



• **2,880** migrants were provided information against gender-based violence, unsafe migration, and anti-human trafficking at the Nepal-India border.

• **529** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in the year 2022.

## 7. Transit Home Bardiya, Gulariya

The establishment of Maiti Nepal Transit home in Gulariya on July 16, 2016, aimed to address issues such as violence against women, human trafficking, and sexual violence. The facility, situated in Srijan Tol, ward no. 6 of Gulariya Municipality in Bardiya District, offers essential services including rescue, counseling, health treatment, legal assistance, rehabilitation, and more. With a maximum capacity of 10 individuals, the transit home provides support for both survivors and those affected by these challenges.

Gulariya municipality, the headquarters of Bardiya District in Lumbini Province of south-western Nepal, is located in the plains of the Terai region near the southern border with the Bahraich district, Uttar Pradesh state of India. It is 35 kilometers west of Nepalgunj and about 10 km north of Murtiha Transit or railway station, India.



## Major Achievements

### MN Transit Home **Bardiya**

Intercepted **357** girls/women out of which **52** of them were directly returned from the border and **305** of them were rescued from various risky spots.



- **28** cases of rape were reported.
- **One** case of Human Trafficking was registered.

• **1,237** vehicles were inspected at Nepal-India Border.



• **47** missing cases were reported to the Transit Home out of which, **8** were found and reintegrated into their families.



• **82** cases of domestic violence were reported to the Transit Home. Out of which **77** cases were solved in favor of applicants and **5** were referred.



• Shelter support was provided to **305** girls/women. **215** of them were below the age of **18** and **90** of them were above the age of 18.



• Maiti Nepal Staff provided information on safe migration and anti-trafficking issues to **9,650** people.



• **442** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in the year 2022.

## 8. Transit Home at Kailali, Dhangadhi

The transit home is situated in Ward No.2 of Dhangadhi sub-metropolitan area in the Kailali district. Located in the North, Kailali shares its border with the Lakhimpur district of Uttar Pradesh, India. It was founded in the year 2001 AD.



### Major Achievements

#### MN Transit Home **Dhangadi**

Intercepted **165** girls and women at risk of trafficking from the border. **36** were returned directly from the border and **129** were rescued from various risky spots.



- Successfully celebrated 13th International Women's Day, Maiti Nepal's 31st annual day celebration, 17th National anti-human trafficking day along with the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.

- **11,093** vehicles were checked at the Nepal-India Border to trace if the children/women who were migrating were at risk of trafficking.



- **170** missing cases were reported to the Transit Home. Of these, 35 women were found and reintegrated into family and relatives.



- **12** Domestic Violence Case Filed were filed in the transit home out of which **4** were mediated and **8** were referred.



- Shelter support was provided to **129** girls/women. **39** of them were below the age of **18** and **90** of them were above the age of 18.



- Maiti Nepal Staff provided information on safe migration and anti-trafficking issues to **5,884** people.



- **56** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in the year 2023.

- Organised an orientation meeting with **29** concerned stakeholders to improve coordination between border staff and police officers

- Completed **4** shelter management meetings with 7 participants.

- **One** trafficking case was reported. migrating were at risk of trafficking.

- Completed MPAC meeting on 29 December 2023, with 22 Project Advisory Committee members of Municipality and discussed the overall activities conducted by Maiti Nepal.

## 9. Transit Home at Kanchanpur

The Mahendranagar transit home was founded in 2003 and is situated in Mahendranagar Municipality, Jantatole, Ward No. 10, Kanchanpur District. It borders the Indian states of Uttaranchal and Uttar Pradesh to the West and South. To the East, Kanchanpur district is surrounded by Kailali and Doti, and to the North by Dadeldhura District



### Major Achievements

#### MN Transit Home **Mahendranagar**

Intercepted **119** people (**43** girls under 18 years and **4** boys under 18 years) including **71** adult women from different risky spots.



- **127** survivors were safely reintegrated into their families.

- Maiti Nepal Mahendranagar rescued **25** girls/women from different parts of India.



- **4,533** vehicles were inspected at the Nepal-India Border to trace if the children/women who were migrating were at risk of trafficking.



- **171** missing cases were reported to the Transit Home. Of these, 48 women were found and reintegrated into family and relatives.



- **32** Domestic Violence Case Filed in the transit home out of which **19** cases were mediated and **13** cases were referred.



- Shelter support was provided to **105** girls/women. **53** of them were below the age of 18 and **52** of them were above the age of 18 during the year.



- **24,193** people received the information on anti-trafficking issues, domestic and sexual violence, and safe migration, provided by the team.



- **152** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in the year 2023.

- **2** cases of human trafficking were reported.

## 10. Transit Home Rasuwa, Dhunche

The trafficking of girls and women to China through the Rasuwagadhi border poses a significant threat to both government and non-government organizations engaged in anti-human trafficking efforts. These individuals are trafficked to Kerung, China, where they face exploitation in the entertainment industry, particularly in places like restaurants and dance bars.

Over the past eight years, Maiti Nepal has been actively addressing this issue in Rasuwa district. Their efforts include establishing a border surveillance booth, and transit home, and implementing various community mobilization activities since 2015 AD. Key activities involve border monitoring, providing shelter services to intercepted girls and women with legal and psychosocial support, facilitating family reunions and reintegration services, and conducting lobby and advocacy meetings with local government and district-level stakeholders to address human trafficking issues.



### Major Achievements

#### MN Transit Home **Rasuwa**

- **93** girls/women who were intercepted were reintegrated safely to their families.



- **One** missing complaint was registered.



- **1,604** people received the information on anti-trafficking issues, domestic and sexual violence, and safe migration, provided by the team.



- 93 vulnerable women and girls received shelter support and psychosocial counseling from Maiti Nepal Transit Home. 38 of them were under the age of 18 and 55 of them were above the age of 18.



- **19** applications against domestic violence/GBVs were registered at **Transit Home Rasuwa**, one of which was referred to the local government, and the other **18** were resolved after interaction with her family.



- **93** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in the year 2023.

# 11. Transit Home/ Border Surveillance/ Information Desk at Kavre

The Maiti Nepal Information Desk is situated in Ward No. 9 of Dhulikhel Municipality, Kavrepalanchok District, and was established on May 15, 2015 AD. Its primary purpose is to inspect vehicles heading towards Sindhuli and Bardiwas, offering guidance to women and girls traveling unsafely to India to prevent human trafficking. Maiti Nepal Kavre has actively conducted awareness programs addressing the underlying causes of gender-based violence (GBV) and human trafficking. Additionally, they provide comprehensive shelter services and work towards reintegrating victims with their families and relatives.



## Major Achievements

MN Transit Home **Kavre** intercepted **1217** girls and women at risk of trafficking from the border. Among them, **622** were directly returned from the border.



- Successfully celebrated 13th International Women's Day, Maiti Nepal's 31st annual day celebration, 17th National anti-human trafficking day along with the **16** Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.

- **50,460** vehicles were inspected in the year 2023.



- **28** missing cases were reported to the Transit Home. Of these, **13** women were found and reintegrated into family and relatives.



- **54** Domestic Violence Case Filed in the transit home of which **34** were mediated and solved and **20** of them were referred.



- Shelter support was provided to **129** girls/women. **39** of them were below the age of **18** and **90** of them were above the age of 18.



- **3158** people were provided with information against human trafficking and gender-based violence



- **622** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in the year 2023. .



- **31** women/ girls were directly reintegrated with their families.

- **13** rape cases were filed.

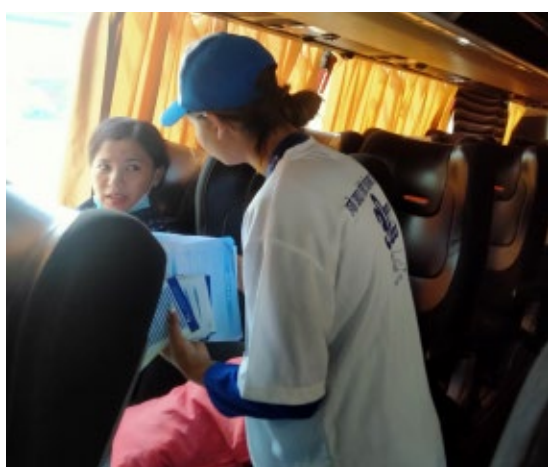
- **11** human trafficking cases were reported.

- Overall, **449** students were oriented on human trafficking in three different schools.

- Completed MPAC meeting on 27th December 2023 with **19** project advisory committee members of the Municipality and discussed the overall activities conducted by Maiti Nepal.

## 12. Transit Home/ Border Surveillance/ Information Desk at Thankot/ Nagdhunga

Established in 2001, the Transit Home in Thankot is situated at Nagdhunga in the Kathmandu district, positioned in the South-Western part of Kathmandu. Serving as the sole point of entry and exit to and from Kathmandu, it plays a crucial role due to the city's extensive public transport network connecting various rural and urban areas across Nepal. Being a major exit point, it witnesses the passage of various vehicles, including buses, trucks, and cars, enroute to different parts of the country and India's borders. This strategic location makes it a hotspot for potential trafficking incidents, with girls often transported to border towns or other destinations before being trafficked to India and other countries. The Transit Home in Thankot has effectively intercepted many potential trafficking victims.



### Major Achievements

#### Maiti Nepal Nagdhunga

inspected **2,14,225** buses/vehicles passing through the checkpoint in close coordination with Nepal Police during the year.



• **170** girls/women who were at risk of trafficking were intercepted and rescued. **59** of them were directly returned home from the border and **111** were rescued internally from various risky spots preventing them from being trafficked.



- **1** case of human trafficking was registered.
- **4** cases of domestic violence were registered and all of them were successfully mediated and resolved.

- Maiti Nepal received **44** missing applications of girls/women for support and **20** of them were found.

- Shelter support was provided to **170** girls/women, including **63** of them below the age of 18 and **107** of them above the age of 18.



• Maiti Nepal Staff provided information on safe migration and anti-trafficking issues to 17,476 during their exit from the checkpoint. Sharing of the information also helped Maiti Nepal to identify the girls/children at risk of trafficking as well.

- **170** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in the year 2023.



- **536** students have been oriented against gender-based violence, sexual exploitation, and human trafficking.

- **5,084** IEC materials were distributed to the girls/women that helped them understand the issues of human trafficking and exploitation. were provided.

- **88** women/ girls were directly reintegrated with their families.












# 13. Transit Home at Chitwan

The establishment of the Chitwan Transit Home dates back to 1998 A.D., located in Bharatpur Metropolitan City, Ward No. 2, Kshetrapur, Swastik Marga of Narayangarh in Chitwan District. Positioned on the western bank of the Narayani River, Bharatpur serves as a key commercial hub for both the Chitwan district and the central region of Nepal. The region is intersected by the Mahendra Highway, the primary east–west highway in Nepal, and the Prithvi Highway, a north–south route connecting the Indian border to Kathmandu. Narayangarh, being a significant transit point, facilitates the movement of vehicles along the east–west Mahendra Highway and serves as a crucial junction for travelers from Kathmandu, Gorkha, and Pokhara via Mugling.

## Major Achievements



Transit home **Chitwan** intercepted **257** girls/women from different risky spots preventing them from being trafficked out of which **253** were directly returned home from the border. 


- **1** survivor was rescued from India whereas **2** survivors were rescued from third countries.
- **260** girls/women were directly reintegrated with their families. 
- **5** cases of rape were reported and provided with legal support.
- **32** missing cases were reported to the Transit Home. Out of these, **27** women were found and reintegrated into family and relatives. 
- Maiti Nepal Staff provided information on safe migration and anti-trafficking issues to 17,476 during their exit from the checkpoint. Sharing of the information also helped Maiti Nepal to identify the girls/children at risk of trafficking as well. 
- **654** vehicles were checked at the Nepal-India Border to trace if the children/women who were migrating were at risk of trafficking. 
- **253** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in 2023. 
- **1,784** people received the information on anti-trafficking, domestic and sexual violence, and safe migration, provided by the team
- Shelter support was provided to **126** girls/women, including **61** of them below the age of 18 and **65** of them above the age of 18. 
- **36** Domestic Violence cases filed in the transit home. **32** of the cases were mediated and solved whereas **4** cases were referred. 
- **3** cases of human trafficking were registered. 

# 14. Transit Home at Dhanusha


Established in 2021 AD, the transit home Dhanusha is situated in Ward No.7 of Janakpurdham Sub-Metropolitan in Janakpurdha, within the Dhanusha district. Dhanusha, known for its exquisite beauty and religious significance, shares its northern border with the Madhuwani district in the state of Bihar, India. This region is considered high-risk due to the open border shared by India and Nepal, with various smaller routes leading into India.





## Major Achievements


- MN Transit Home **Dhanusha** Intercepted **120** girls/women from different risky spots preventing them from being trafficked. Among them, **82** were directly returned home from the border. 


- **123** women/ girls were directly reintegrated with their families.
- **5** cases of rape were reported and provided with legal support.

- **5,312** vehicles were checked at the Nepal-India Border to trace if the children/women traveling were at risk of trafficking. 

- **11** missing cases were reported to the Transit Home and **5** were found. 

- **10** Domestic Violence cases filed in the transit home. Among them, **7** cases were mediated and **3** cases were referred. 

- Shelter support was provided to **88** girls/women. **22** of them were below the age of 18 and **66** of them were above the age of 18 during the year. 

- **4,075** people received the information on anti-trafficking, domestic and sexual violence, and safe migration, provided by the team. 

- **327** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in the year 2023.

# 15. Transit Home at Sarlahi

Established in the year 2021, the Sarlahi transit home is positioned in Ward No. 8 of Malangwa Municipality within the Sarlahi district. Malangwa, serving as both a town and the headquarters of Sarlahi District in the Madhesh Province of Nepal. It holds the distinction of being the district’s oldest municipality in Parliamentary Constituency 2. Located 25 kilometers south of Nawalpur on the Mahendra Highway, Malangwa is a small town situated at an altitude of 79 meters (259ft), close to the Indian border at Sonbarsa. This region is considered high-risk due to the open border shared by India and Nepal, with various smaller routes leading into India.

## Major Achievements

### MN Transit Home Sarlahi

Intercepted **251** girls/women from different risky conditions preventing them from being trafficked out of which **162** were directly returned home from the border.

• **3,577** vehicles were inspected at the Nepal-India Border to trace if the children/women who were migrating were at risk of trafficking.



• **7** missing cases were reported to the Transit Home and **5** were found.



• **2,135** people received the information on anti-trafficking, domestic and sexual violence, and safe migration.

• **89** women/ girls were reintegrated with their families.



• **23** Domestic violence cases were filed in the transit home out of which **22** cases were mediated and **1** case was referred.



• Shelter support was provided to **93** girls/women, out of which **46** females were below the age of 18 and **47** females were above the age of 18.



• **3158** people were provided with information against human trafficking and gender-based violence



• **98** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in the year 2023



• **8** survivors were rescued from India.

• **2** cases of human trafficking were registered.  
• **10** cases of rape were reported.



# 16. Transit Home at Tikapur

Established in September 2022, the Maiti Nepal Transit Home in Tikapur, Kailali District, is located in Tikapur Municipality-9, Jhunga. Border surveillance checkpoint, is situated at the Khagraula border on the Southern side adjoining India. This region poses a heightened risk due to the open border shared by India and Nepal, with various smaller routes leading into India.

The Tikapur Transit Home of Maiti Nepal offers short-term services encompassing rescue, repatriation, legal support, psychosocial support, and reintegration. Additionally, the transit home conducts awareness-raising activities and activism against gender-based violence.

## Major Achievements

### • MN Transit Home **Tikapur**

Intercepted **78** girls/women from different risky situations preventing them from being trafficked out of which **43** were directly returned home from the



• **38** women/ girls were reintegrated with their families.



• **4,456** vehicles were inspected at the Nepal-India Border to trace if the children/women who were migrating were at risk of trafficking.



• **18** missing cases were reported to the Transit Home and among them, **11** were found.



• **3** Domestic violence cases were filed in the transit home out of which **1** case was mediated and **2** were referred.



• Shelter support was provided to **37** girls/women, out of which **10** females were below the age of 18 and **27** females were above the age of 18.



• **2,404** people received the information on anti-trafficking, domestic and sexual violence, and safe migration.



• **88** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in the year 2023.



# REHABILITATION AND REINTEGRATION



Maiti Nepal runs one of the key programs called Rehabilitation and Reintegration, aiming to offer extensive support to survivors of trafficking and various forms of violence, including sexual abuse, domestic violence, and exploitation.

In the rehabilitation part of the program, survivors receive medical care, counseling, education, and vocational training. Maiti Nepal provides safe shelters where survivors can stay and receive these services. The organization collaborates with survivors' families and communities to offer support and raise awareness about the consequences of trafficking and violence.

The reintegration part of the program focuses on assisting survivors in reintegrating into society and rebuilding their lives. This involves helping them find employment, secure housing, and reconnect with their families and communities. Maiti Nepal also works to ensure that survivors can access their rights and seek justice for the crimes committed against them.

As a final step towards economic empowerment and sustainability, job placement is provided for survivors. During their shelter services, Maiti Nepal evaluates their skills and knowledge. After offering job opportunities, the organization provides training tailored to their responsibilities, such as beautician courses, cookery, housekeeping, bar and barista training, etc.

In-house training, including stitching, weaving, and arts and crafts, is also provided in workshops. The survivors' artwork is then showcased on digital platforms or exhibitions for sale, promoting their hard work and empowering them. Maiti Nepal aims to make them independent, gradually eliminating the stigma and discrimination they face. Even after job placements, the organization continues to coordinate with survivors for their well-being, counseling, family reintegration, repatriation, and ongoing support.

Maiti Nepal operates two rehabilitation homes located in Kathmandu and Sunsari districts.

# WHAT WE DO IN THE REHABILITATION HOME:

• Provide rehabilitation and crisis services

• Legal and social supports

• Provide hygienic accommodation and food

• Vocational training of their interest in empowerment through economic opportunities

• Formal and non-formal education and awareness on

• Life skill development

# Rehabilitation home in Sunsari

The Itahari Rehabilitation Home in Sunsari District was established in March 2002 at Bargachhi, Ward No. 2. It is situated in the Eastern Development Region, covering the Morang and Jhapa districts. The program primarily focuses on assisting children and women at risk of being exploited or trafficked. The goal is to prevent gross human rights violations and support survivors of trafficking.

The program empowers girls and women through activities like income-generating training, leadership development, and life skills training. Additionally, informative classes on human trafficking and unsafe migration are provided. After completing the training, girls are reintegrated into their families, where they can support family members with their acquired skills. For girls without families, the program facilitates further job opportunities by sending them to the Women Rehabilitation Center of Maiti Nepal in Kathmandu.

## Major Achievements

Shelter support was provided to **28** girls/women, out of which **3** were below the age of 18 and **25** were above the age of 18. Among them, **19** women/girls were provided long-term shelter support.



• **35** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in the year 2023.

• **26** females received vocational training.



• **35** women and girls received psychosocial counseling in the year 2023.



• **7** missing cases were reported to Maiti Nepal Sunsari and among them, **5** were found



• Provided tailoring training to **14** girls/women for livelihood-earning.

• Handed over sewing machine to **5** women



• Provided Beautician training to **5** girls for their livelihood earnings.



• **2058** people received the information on anti-trafficking, domestic and sexual violence, and safe migration, provided by the team.



• Provided E-rickshaw driving training along with E-rickshaw to **3** survivors of human trafficking /domestic violence.



• Successfully celebrated the 13th International Women’s Day, Maiti Nepal’s 31st annual day program, 17th National anti-human trafficking day along with the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence.





## ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF MARGINALIZED WOMEN AND GIRLS THROUGH LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT

Maiti Nepal has a significant program dedicated to empowering marginalized women and girls economically. The focus is on providing them with the skills and resources necessary to earn a sustainable income and achieve financial independence. This involves offering vocational training, fostering entrepreneurship, and facilitating access to microfinance and financial support services. The goal is to break the cycle of poverty and exploitation, which often contributes to trafficking and violence against women and girls. Empowering these individuals economically, not only does it bring stability to their lives, but also positively impacts their communities by creating jobs and stimulating local economies.

Maiti Nepal's economic empowerment initiative is centered on promoting the rights and well-being of marginalized women and girls, providing them with opportunities for fulfilling and meaningful lives. This approach serves as a preventive measure against trafficking, working towards a more equitable and just society. As part of this effort, the Itahari rehabilitation home organized an event to distribute e-rickshaws and sewing machines to project beneficiaries from marginalized backgrounds.



## Rehabilitation home in Kathmandu

Maiti Nepal operates a well-equipped Rehabilitation Home, capable of accommodating and assisting more than 400 women and children regularly. The center caters to a diverse group of beneficiaries, ranging from rescued and intercepted women to victims of rape, domestic violence, and similar situations. The primary activities of the Rehabilitation and Crisis Home include offering shelter, providing both formal and non-formal education, conducting vocational and life skills training, facilitating medical check-ups and treatments, organizing counseling and psychotherapy sessions, filing cases against criminals, and encouraging residents to establish their enterprises for self-reliance. Additionally, the home provides employment opportunities to its residents.



The residents of the home represent a varied mix, including abandoned or lost children, survivors of domestic violence and rape, street children, and trafficked individuals. The Rehabilitation and Crisis Home serves as a secure haven for those in urgent need, especially those who have experienced physical and/or psychological trauma. The home effectively addresses the physical, psychological, and educational requirements of its members, ensuring a safe temporary shelter during their stay.



As of December 2023,

**367** children and women were in the Rehabilitation Home and received direct benefits from Maiti Nepal. **Shelter 01** (Girl's section) had **175** girls/women, and **Shelter 02** housed **192** children respectively. Adolescent girls reside in Shelter 01, and the younger children live in Shelter 02.



## In total, out of 175 girls/women in the center:

- 3** are working as a beautician at Nil David Beauty Salon, Kathmandu.
- 2** are working as clinic helpers at Maiti Nepal, Kathmandu.
- 6** are working as child caretakers in the Maiti's Children's Protection Centre
- 3** are working as kitchen helpers at Maiti Nepal, Kathmandu
- 1** is working as a canteen helper at Maiti Nepal, Kathmandu,
- 3** are working as school helpers at Teresa Academy, run by Maiti Nepal, Kathmandu.
- 2** are attending Maiti Nepal's workshop wherein women learn income-generating skills on making bead items.
- 7** are attending classes on non-formal education, income-generating skills, and life skills in Maiti Rehabilitation Home, Kathmandu,
- 148** were reintegrated into the family

From January – December 2023, there were **168** new arrivals.  
**140** were girls/women and **28** were children.

Out of **140** girls/ women:

• **23** were trafficked and rescued from various destinations



• **20** were destitute women and survivors of violence



• **15** were intercepted, girls and women



• **6** were rape survivors or survivors of sexual assault



In **23** cases of trafficking

• **13** were rescued from various trafficked destinations in **India** namely, Pune, Silchar, Himachal, Delhi, Bombay

- **7** were rescued from Oman
- **1** was rescued from Qatar
- **1** was Kuwait
- **1** was Malaysia



**Of which**

- **21** were re-integrated with their families.
- **2** are in Maiti Nepal's rehabilitation Home in Kathmandu and enrolled in life skill and leadership training



## In 15 cases of domestic violence and destitution

- 13 were re-integrated with their families.
- 1 is in Maiti Nepal's rehabilitation Home in Kathmandu and enrolled in life skill and leadership training
- 1 has been shifted to Maiti's child protection center as she wanted to receive formal education

## In 20 cases of interception

- 18 were re-integrated with their families.
- 2 are working at BST in different transit home of Maiti Nepal.

## In 6 cases of rape

- 4 were re-integrated with their families.
- 1 is in Maiti Nepal's rehabilitation Home in Kathmandu and enrolled in life skill and leadership training
- 1 has been shifted to Maiti's child protection center as she wanted to receive a formal education.

## In 76 cases of a restaurant worker

- 64 were re-integrated with their families.
- 6 are working in different sectors like as BST, Child caretaker, Canteen, and Clinic helper
- 6 have been shifted to Maiti's child protection center as she wanted to receive formal education.





Maiti Nepal places a strong emphasis on reintegrating survivors into their families, a critical aspect of our work. The program's primary goal is to locate and reunite trafficking survivors with their families, providing essential support for their successful reintegration into communities. Maiti Nepal collaborates closely with law enforcement agencies and other organizations to identify survivors, ensuring their safe return to their families. Post-reunion, survivors receive counseling and support services to aid their recovery from the traumatic experiences they endured. Maiti Nepal also focuses on empowering survivors and their families through education and skill-building initiatives, fostering economic independence, and reducing the risk of future trafficking incidents.

The Family Reunion and Reintegration Program extends its efforts to prevention, conducting community outreach and education to raise awareness about trafficking risks and promote safe migration practices. Following comprehensive shelter support, survivors receive psychosocial support, skill training, nutritious food, and healthcare before being successfully reintegrated into their communities with their families. In 2023, 105 beneficiaries received sufficient services from the Women's Rehabilitation Center and were effectively reintegrated, either reuniting with their families or other kin. The process involved thorough investigations to locate the parents of the beneficiaries.





# LEGAL AID AND PROSECUTION

Maiti Nepal has established a special legal aid division to safeguard the rights of women and children, addressing various forms of violence, abuse, and discrimination. This division plays a crucial role in advocating for and providing free legal assistance and counseling in cases involving missing persons, survivors of human trafficking, victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, psychological abuse, and harassment both within the country and for those seeking employment abroad. The legal aid section handles approximately 6 to 8 cases of domestic violence and 3 to 4 cases of missing women and children daily.

## Activities

**Legal counseling is provided to survivors of human trafficking who seek support and legal assistance.**

**Participants in Maiti Nepal's awareness campaigns are also welcome to seek legal advice.**

**Rape victims are offered assistance in terms of support and legal advice.**

**Families of missing individuals, whether referred or directly visiting the Central Office or a Branch Office, are eligible for legal counseling.**

**Survivors of domestic violence, including those facing abuse from family members, spousal violence, verbal and physical mistreatment, polygamy, sexual assault by the spouse, rape, substance abuse, and deprivation of basic necessities, can access support and legal aid.**

## Summary of the legal report

In 2023, **7,084** people were provided with legal support.  
Out of these:

• **45** human trafficking cases were filed in the different district courts throughout the country. All the cases are awaiting justice from the various courts.



• **1,061** cases of domestic violence were reported, **435** cases were resolved out of court and other cases were referred to the National Women Commission, Nepal Police's women's cell, Nepal Bar Association, local government, and other related organizations.



• **1,517** cases of missing girls, women, and boys were reported, Of which **599** were located and reunited with their families.



• **111** cases of sexual assault were filed in different district courts and are awaiting a final decision.



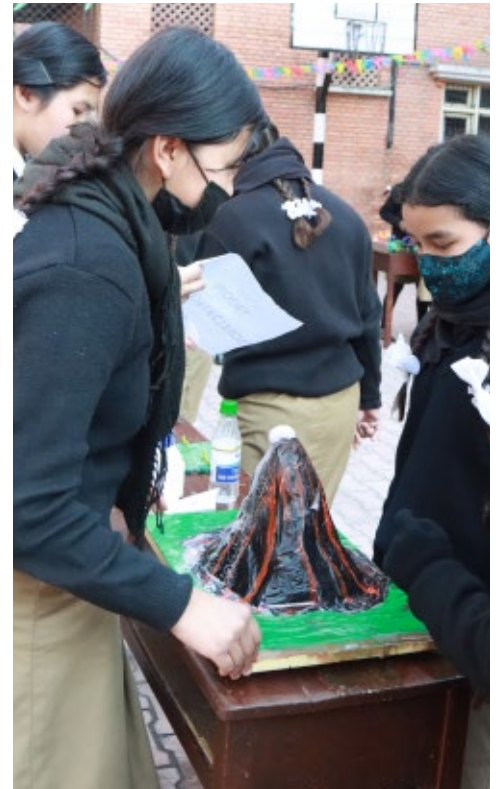
• **4,350** individuals sought legal counsel. (Through phone, physical counseling, and e-mail)





As part of Maiti Nepal’s mission to support and empower women and girls, the organization runs a program that encourages their active involvement in society. This program focuses on providing education and skills to girls and women, especially those at risk of trafficking or those rescued from such situations. It includes various activities like literacy classes, skill training, and support for starting businesses.

Moreover, the program aims to enhance the participation of girls and women in decision-making processes, making them more aware of their rights and opportunities. Maiti Nepal collaborates with local leaders and organizations to advocate for gender equality and women’s empowerment, emphasizing the significance of women’s contributions to society.



By offering tools and resources through this program, Maiti Nepal helps girls and women become valuable members of their communities, achieve economic independence, and lead fulfilling lives. This empowerment not only reduces their vulnerability to trafficking but also contributes to building a fair and just society.



Maiti Nepal ensures active engagement and participation of children and beneficiaries in the framework of child rights through the following activities:

Education Support

Vocational Training

Job Placement

Recreational therapy (Music, Dance, Yoga)

Self Defense Training (Taekwondo)

Excursion visits

Involvement in peer groups and clubs

And other various intellectually guided activities for the holistic growth of the children such as essay competitions, Science fairs, and quizzes.



## World Children's Prize for the Rights of the Child

The World's Children Prize (WCP) program, established in 2000, is the largest annual initiative worldwide for educating children about rights and democracy. It specifically aims to empower children as advocates for equality. This program emphasizes that every child has rights, and it is the responsibility of the government to ensure these rights are accessible to every child. The WCP program brings children together from various backgrounds to learn about their rights and understand how to exercise them in different aspects of their lives.

Maiti Nepal, under this program, focuses on promoting child rights, particularly emphasizing girls' rights and combating child sex trafficking. In the year 2023, the project was implemented in merely Kathmandu Valley with the following programs:



- For this year's WCP program, Teresa Academy, Babylon National School, Satya Sai Secondary School, and Shambhavi School were selected.
- A total of 423 students participated, with 226 being girls, and they were accompanied by 13 teachers from their respective schools.
- 20 new Child Rights Ambassadors were appointed including 8 from Teresa Academy and 4 each from the respective selected school.
- To ensure high-quality implementation of the WCP program, orientation sessions were held at Maiti Nepal's venue. During these sessions, ambassadors, WCPRC members, and teachers discussed the WCP, its global significance, child rights, and democracy.
- The children from the selected schools actively participated in the "Round the Globe for the Better World" activity which involved students carrying out actions to promote child rights in their local communities. They organized rallies, awareness campaigns, and other initiatives to effect positive change.
- Organized events and activities on Change Maker Day to raise awareness about child rights and advocate for the rights of children, both locally and globally.
- Got a 15-year-old Nepali child ambassador represented in a global vote in Sweden where Cindy Blackstock, an advocate for indigenous children's rights, was chosen for the WCP on October 4, 2023. The ambassador from Maiti Nepal assisted in presenting the prize.

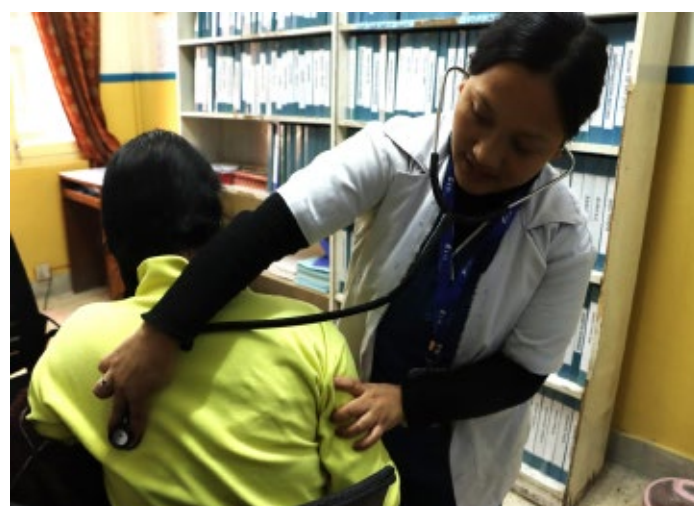


*Courageous whispers  
and laughter rings,  
In the melody that equality brings.  
With open hearts  
we take our stand,  
For every child, in every land.*

Written by **Kabya**

(Child Rights Ambassador from Babylon National School)

## Primary Health Care Center-Clinic (SONJA JEEVAN KENDRA)



Maiti Nepal established Sonja Jeevan Kendra (clinic) in 2001 which is a safe haven for all the girls/women and children who were once traumatized, tortured, bruised, and battered in the course of trafficking and other forms of crimes. The primary health care center provides comprehensive medical services including referral services for complicated cases.

It provides general and routine health checkups, lab testing services, and medicines and invites visiting doctors regularly for intensive care and examination. The beneficiaries of the Primary Health center are children and women residing at Maiti Nepal, survivors of trafficking, and other forms of abuse and exploitation. Medical doctors and staff nurses regularly provide services in the center. It provides services not only to the women and girls rescued from trafficking conditions but also to survivors of rape, and domestic violence, and regular residents (children and women) of Maiti Nepal. Annually over 400 of them receive such services from Maiti Nepal's clinic.

The clinic at present has 38 beds supervised by a Medical Doctor. The doctor is supported by 3 staff Nurses and 3 clinic helpers. The clinic is moderately equipped to treat basic illnesses. It has a medical laboratory examination room, medicine room, and comfortable patient beds also an entertainment room (T.V. room) where patients go & get entertainment by watching T.V.

## Major Achievements

Sonja Jeevan Primary Health Care Center (Clinic) has actively participated in various health-related initiatives, including:

### Patient Visits:

- **188** patients sought medical attention based on diagnosis and treatment protocols.
- Out of these, **175** were treated for minor cases, while **13** required hospitalizations.

### HPV Vaccination:

- **9** girls received the HPV vaccine at Thapathali Hospital on 2080/5/28.

### Albendazole Administration:

- Regular administration of Albendazole took place every **6** months in the Baby room, CPC, and WRC.

### Immunization Collaboration:

- Collaborated with Ramghat PHC to provide immunization for children under **5** according to the government EPI Schedule.

### Tetani-Toxoid Vaccine:

- Administered TT (Tetani-Toxoid vaccine) to patients with dog bites, cut injuries, or injuries from sharp objects.

### Health Camp:

- Conducted a health camp at Maiti Nepal, offering eye, skin, and blood tests in coordination with Matrika Eye Hospital and Frontline Hospital.

### Mother Baby Care:

- Managed a total of **9** new and old babies in the baby room.
- Rescued **3** newborns from Bharat Maitri Hospital.

### ARV Services and Reporting:

- Administered ARV (antiretroviral therapy) services and counseling to clients taking medicine from the organization.
- Sent monthly reports to NCASC and bi-monthly reports to Logistics.
- Conducted yearly Viral Load tests as per government protocols.
- Maintained daily recording and reporting for ART clients in accordance with NCASC and HMIS protocols.

### Daily Clinic Activities:

- Conducted regular temperature (T), pulse (P), respiration (R), blood pressure (BP), and medication (M) checks.
- Performed anthropometric measurements on all babies monthly.
- Conducted psychiatric follow-ups and general body check-ups every 6 months as per doctor's advice.
- Provided health education to both in and outpatients on various topics.
- Distributed daily medications to regular patients as per doctor's advice.
- Offered ART medicine to HIV-positive inpatients daily and to outpatients monthly.
- Provided first aid and symptomatic treatment based on patient needs.
- Participated in programs and training organized by NCASC and EPIC related to HIV-AIDS programs.



# HOSPICE, Gokarna



Sonja Kill Memorial Hospice, established on January 19, 2006, is located in the northern part of Kathmandu, Gokarna. It serves as a caring place for survivors of trafficking who are affected by various transmitted diseases like HIV AIDS, Tuberculosis, Hepatitis, and others, as well as those who are mentally disturbed due to various challenging circumstances, violence, and abuse in their lives.

The hospice was created to bring peace and dignity to survivors of trafficking and gender violence who are in poor health. It provides complete care, meeting their basic needs like shelter, meals, clothing, and medical attention. The goal is to offer them companionship and affection so they can live their remaining days with dignity and serenity. Moving from Sattighatta, residents now enjoy a beautiful open area of almost 3690 square meters. The hospice's proximity to excellent emergency hospital care and skilled medical professionals in Kathmandu ensures an upgrade in the quality of care. Modern facilities include 24-hour medical support, a balanced diet, and anti-retroviral treatment with regular viral load and CD4 cell testing.

Currently, the hospice accommodates 28 residents, including 8 with HIV/AIDS and 22 with psychological challenges. Beyond medical care, residents engage in vocational handicraft classes, growing seasonal vegetables for their consumption. Recreational activities like singing, dancing, painting, sports, yoga, and meditation are regular occurrences. Exposure visits help reduce stress, and psychosocial counseling has led to improvements in self-esteem and increased self-dependence among the women in the hospice.

## Major Activities

- Successful reintegration of one of the patients at Hospice with her family.
- **January 15** : Maghe Sangrati was marked with the enjoyment of Teel Ladoos, Chaku, Ghee, and sweet potatoes.
- **January 19**: Hospice's Annual Day was celebrated with a cultural program by hospice women, followed by a feast for the girls and women.
- **March 6**: Holi, the festival of colors, was celebrated at the hospice with vibrant festivities and delicious food for the girls and women.
- **March 8**: International Women's Day was observed at the hospice, involving women/girls and staff from the head office in Gokarna.
- **May 30**: Residents were taken to Gokarneshwor Temple for an exposure visit.
- **June 16**: Women, including hospice staff, were engaged in rice planting in the hospice compound.
- **August 15**: Shrawan 15 was celebrated with rice pudding (Khir).
- **August 31**: Rakshya Bandhan was celebrated with the consumption of mixed bean soup.
- **September 18**: The Teej festival was celebrated by women at the hospice.
- **October 20**: Shelter staff from the head office visited the hospice, distributing Dashain Clothes.
- **October 24**: All hospice women visited Gaushala, Maiti Nepal head office for tika from Dijju on the occasion of Vijaya Dashami.
- **November 13**: Deepawali (Festival of Lights) was celebrated with joy and festivities.
- **November 18**: Ms. Marianne Steneholm, a significant contributor to our cause at Maiti Nepal, came to the hospice and handed out presents to all the women.



# TERESA ACADEMY

A School run by Maiti Nepal for Underprivileged Children

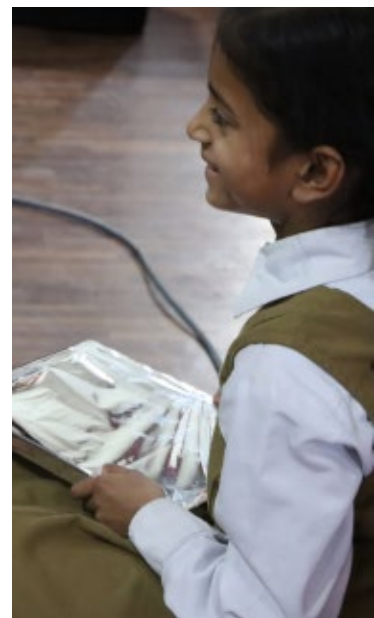
Maiti Nepal initiated the Teresa Academy to support the comprehensive development and educational opportunities for vulnerable children, particularly girls, who are orphans, abandoned, economically disadvantaged, and face the risk of trafficking.

## Current Status Of the School

Teresa Academy, established on April 2, 1998, initially began with Nursery, Kindergarten, and Grade 1 classes, accommodating 45 students. The school's primary goal is to foster the overall development and improvement of orphans, semi-orphans, underprivileged, and vulnerable children who are at high risk of being trafficked. These children face challenges in accessing education, care, protection, and rehabilitation. The focus, especially, is on economically disadvantaged girls who are susceptible to being sold in their villages.

Currently, Teresa Academy has 344 students, with 90% being girls and 10% boys. Most of the students reside in Maiti Nepal's Child Protection Center, while others come from nearby areas. These children have challenging pasts and uncertain futures, caught in a cycle of poverty, making quality education their key to breaking free. The school is dedicated to producing educated girls who can overcome their circumstances.

The school ensures quality education with a qualified, trained, and dedicated team of teachers who work hard to provide enriching learning experiences. Teresa Academy is committed to creating an intellectually stimulating learning environment through various activities, recognizing that proper nurturing is crucial for achieving positive outcomes.



## Major Achievements

### SEE Graduates' Success:

- Teresa Academy SEE graduates consistently achieve excellent results, maintaining a hundred percent success rate with grades **A**, **B+**, and **B**.
- The 2023 SEE graduates are pursuing higher studies, and many continued to Grade XI in our school as the second batch of Higher Secondary.

### Basketball Achievements:

- Basketball is a major sport at Teresa Academy, with both girls' and boys' teams. The girls' team won first place in an interschool tournament, while the boys' team secured second runner-up in another interschool tournament.

### Taekwondo Excellence:

- Teresa Academy's Taekwondo team is one of the best in the country, securing top positions in various competitions, including second place in an Inter-school Taekwondo competition and all three positions in the 4th Valley Jyapu Samaj Friendship Taekwondo Championship 2023.

### Chahari Class Success:

- Chahari Class, initiated in 2013, successfully reintegrates young girls who had dropped out or never attended formal school, contributing significantly to their mainstream education.
- The program has been a remarkable success, sharing inspiring stories of girls overcoming educational challenges.

### Monthly Casual Day:

- On the last Friday of each month, Teresa Academy observes a "No Bag" day where students attend school without bags and uniforms.
- On this day, children are encouraged to wear casual dress, and various vocational training activities are organized, including stitching, gardening, painting, and more.



# EDUCATION SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

**Help a child reach her dreams; give her wings to fly to a better, brighter place.**

Maiti Nepal tirelessly battles against human trafficking and exploitation, ensuring education for children stands out as a key priority. Education opens the door to a fulfilling life for these children.

Currently, Maiti Nepal provides a home for about 250 children from diverse backgrounds at its Rehabilitation and Child Protection Home.

The Education Sponsorship Program, a vital initiative of Maiti Nepal, catalyzes youngsters toward constructive paths in their lives. Thanks to the support of various donors and sponsors, Maiti Nepal offers educational scholarships to its beneficiaries and underprivileged children, enabling them to pursue higher education in various academic institutions. This program has empowered more than 200 students to engage in school-level education up to bachelor's degree programs in fields like Hotel Management, Computer Science, Journalism, Medicine, and Engineering across different institutions in Nepal and India.

In 2023, the Education Sponsorship Program directly supported **212** beneficiaries under the care of Maiti Nepal.

Among the **212** beneficiaries,

**51** are pursuing their Bachelor's degree.

- Bachelors Business Studies- **23**
- Bachelors in Arts- **4**
- Bachelors in Social Work- **18**
- Bachelor of Arts in Social Work- **4**
- Bachelors in Public Health- **1**
- Bachelors in Information Technology- **1**

**6** beneficiaries are pursuing their diploma

- Diploma in Hotel Management- **1**
- Diploma in Civil Engineering- Architecture- **1**
- Diploma in Electrical Engineering- **1**
- Diploma in Physiotherapy- **1**
- Diploma in Fashion Designing- **1**
- Diploma in Agricultural in Animal Science- **1**

**14** are pursuing their higher secondary degree from different colleges in Nepal.

**139** beneficiaries are studying at their school level from Teresa Academy.



**2** beneficiaries are pursuing their Master's degree

- Masters in Business Administration- **1**
- Masters in Gender Studies- **1**

## CHARLES DARWIN UNIVERSITY (CDU) SPONSORSHIP PROJECT

*Charles Darwin University supports Maiti Nepal, fostering cultural exchange and education for the empowerment of survivors and orphaned children*

Maiti Nepal and Charles Darwin University (CDU) of Australia teamed up to create a better future for survivors and orphans in Maiti Nepal. CDU supported Maiti Nepal in providing opportunities and better education for women and children facing limited options. This collaboration aimed to empower them with vocational training like tailoring, beauty parlor, and computer courses, fostering independence and stability. CDU also extended support for the education of undergraduate and postgraduate children. Notably, CDU granted full scholarships for two Maiti Nepal beneficiaries pursuing master's degrees in Australia. This initiative facilitates cultural exchange and knowledge-sharing, enriching the lives of Maiti Nepal's children and contributing to the organization's goals. The CDU-Sponsorship Project strives to cultivate future employees and students dedicated to Maiti Nepal's cause, setting a positive example for all children involved.



### Major Achievements

- Five students are enrolled in higher and secondary education.
- Two students are pursuing Master's degrees at CDU.
- Four students completed a one-and-a-half-month course in nail art and mehendi, showcasing skills that led to opportunities for facial and haircut training.
- Currently, two students are engaged in a six-month internship at Neel David International.
- Four women successfully finished a three-month advanced tailoring course.
- Women who received tailoring training are now earning income through sewing skills, attracting local customers through word-of-mouth.
- Nine students have completed their computer course training.
- These students are contributing to keeping others informed within the Maiti premises.

## MOTHER BABY PROJECT

### Services to Mothers and Babies at risk

Today's societies are deeply concerned about the well-being of women, especially those living in rural parts of Nepal. Economic struggles often make them vulnerable to crimes like rape, trafficking, and gender-based violence. Unfortunately, Nepali society tends to stigmatize and discriminate against survivors of these traumatic experiences, leading many victims to keep their ordeals a secret due to concerns about prestige and dignity.

Survivors of rape often face curses and abandonment from family, friends, and neighbors, leaving them in difficult circumstances. Some women and girls in these situations contemplate giving up on life, while others express a desire to live if they are offered respect and opportunities.

To address these challenges, a project was initiated to provide comprehensive care to mothers and babies at risk, specifically focusing on survivors of trafficking, rape, and gender violence, along with their newborns. Maiti Nepal aims to ensure that young mothers residing in its Shelter Home can lead happy and healthy lives, overcoming traumatic experiences. The shelter services include counseling, healing therapies, meditation, yoga, and nutritious food to promote their well-being. Pregnant women are initially housed in Maiti Nepal's primary health center under medical observation, and after giving birth and recovering, they are transferred to the Women's Rehabilitation Center.

The project emphasizes instilling a positive outlook on life for these survivors, connecting them with life skills and leadership development programs to support their journey toward economically sustainable lives.

In 2023 itself, Maiti Nepal was successful in providing rehabilitation to **10** new girls/women and **10** babies. There were eight pregnant girls/women out of the **10** girls/women who were new additions in 2023. Out of the eight pregnant women, seven pregnant women gave birth to healthy babies. Likewise, out of the **10** babies, we also have one baby who was rescued from the dumpster and brought to Maiti Nepal for shelter, however, his family could not be identified.

Currently, out of the total 18 mothers and their babies, **11** mothers along with their babies have been reintegrated into their families after counseling and coordination with the family while five mothers are still residing in Maiti Nepal along with their babies.

## Major Achievements

- Maiti Nepal has provided rehabilitation to **18 mothers** in 2023 including one mother from 2019, **2 mothers** from 2020, **2 mothers** from 2021, **2 mothers** from 2022, and **11 mothers** from 2023.

- Out of the total **18** mothers and their babies, **11 mothers** along with their babies have been reintegrated into their families after counseling and coordination with the family in 2023, while **7 mothers** are still residing in Maiti Nepal along with their babies.

- Similarly, Maiti Nepal has provided rehabilitation to **19 babies** in 2023 including one baby from 2019, **2 babies** from 2020, **2 babies** from 2021, **2 babies** from 2022, and **12 babies** from 2023.

- **2** children have passed their 10th grade and are preparing for their high



# COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION PROJECT

## Preventing Human Trafficking and Empowering Local Government



The initiative to “Prevent human trafficking through community mobilization and capacity enhancement of local government” is a significant project funded by the Australian Government, Department of Foreign Trade and Affairs. This crucial undertaking is aimed at addressing and mitigating the alarming issue of human trafficking in specific regions of Nepal. The primary focus areas include Kavrepalanchowk, Sindhuli, and Ramechhap districts in the Bagmati Province, along with the Kailali district in the Sudurpaschim Province, where a Transit Home has been established. Maiti Nepal, a renowned non-governmental organization with a proven track record in combating human trafficking, forefronts this initiative. Their expertise in the field, coupled with a commitment to the cause, positions them as a key player in the successful execution of the project.



## Major Achievements

- Established a **Transit Home** in Tikapur, Kailali District, Tikapur Municipality-9, Jhunga.
- Conducted **13** semi-annual interactions with judicial committees, addressing laws and policies in Sindhuli, Ramechhap, and Kavre Districts.
- Held a workshop on Access to Justice for Human Trafficking Survivors in Kathmandu, attended by key figures from 10 districts, coordinated with Attorney General Nepal and Nepal Police.
- Organized **27 events**, including Formation and Semi-Annual meetings with LCCHT, focusing on districts like Sindhuli, Ramechhap, and Kavre.
- Facilitated a two-day Inter-Municipal Coordination meeting in Kathmandu with participants from **15 municipalities** across Kavre, Ramechhap, and Sindhuli Districts.
- Launched a music video, "**Hidha Maya Hidha**," by Maiti Nepal with renowned artists to raise awareness about human trafficking.
- Produced PSAs/jingles against human trafficking, broadcasted on local radio/FM stations in Kailali, Kavre, Ramechhap, and Sindhuli Districts.
- Conducted three-day Training of Trainers for Maiti Nepal Human Rights Volunteers in Kathmandu.
- Developed and distributed **54,000** copies of IEC materials against GBV during mass awareness campaigns in more than **10 districts** including project districts.
- Celebrated **30 events** in Sindhuli, Kavre, and Ramechhap Districts on the national anti-human trafficking day and during the **16-day campaign** against GBVs.
- Organized **13** Municipality Project Advisory Committee (MPAC) Meetings in Ramechhap, Kavre, Sindhuli, and Kailali Districts to share program details and feedback from local governments.



## INTEGRATED FARMING, AGRICULTURAL TRAINING, AND AGRO-TOURISM PROJECT

Maiti Nepal in partnership with Coca-Cola Foundation has been implementing the “Integrated Farming and Agriculture Training Project” to empower rural women economically and contribute to the minimization of trafficking in persons. The project envisions creating a model farm and training center where survivors, rural women, and girls vulnerable to trafficking can learn skills for a sustainable livelihood.

In the future, the project aims to set up an agro-tourism center, providing training and employment opportunities for many girls and women. The plan for the first year includes training at least 30 women in agriculture, constructing an office building with a hostel, building a cowshed, and acquiring 10 cows. The organization will also plant grass for long-term use, enhance the landscape, and create a detailed plan to ensure everything aligns with its goals.



### Major Achievements

- Local government and Social Welfare Council (SWC) have approved the project, starting activities from May 2023 and aiming for completion by February 2024.
- The land has been carefully demarcated with the involvement of authorized government personnel.
- The preliminary DPR report, crucial to the project, is ready and under review, emphasizing its significance.
- Collaborative efforts with local and provincial governments have secured additional support. Locations for the office, cowshed, tunnel, and hostel have been finalized.
- A comprehensive DPR covering all aspects of the project, including greenhouses, horticulture, office buildings, and animal farms, has been completed.
- The Chief Minister of Bagmati Province, Honorable Shalik Ram Jammakatel, laid the foundation stone for the project. The ceremony included representatives from Coca-Cola, Maiti Nepal, local government, journalists, and locals.

# MAITI NEPAL FOUNDATION

Maiti Nepal Foundation (MNF) is a nonprofit organization established in 2011 to support Maiti Nepal's vision. MNF focuses on providing employment opportunities to survivors of trafficking and gender-based violence, contributing to the sustainability of Maiti Nepal. The foundation is dedicated to developing entrepreneurship skills and self-reliance among these survivors, operating with high ethical standards and compliance with laws.

The programs offered by MNF aim to equip rescued women with skills and knowledge for self-sufficiency and independent living. Practical skills like tailoring, cooking, handicrafts, and agriculture are emphasized. Conducted in a safe environment, the informal education and training programs are tailored to individual needs, offering counseling and support to help overcome trauma.

Maiti Foundation Nepal's efforts empower women, breaking the cycle of poverty and exploitation, and allowing them to take control of their lives. The organization's work contributes to creating a more just and equitable society in Nepal, where women can live with dignity and respect.

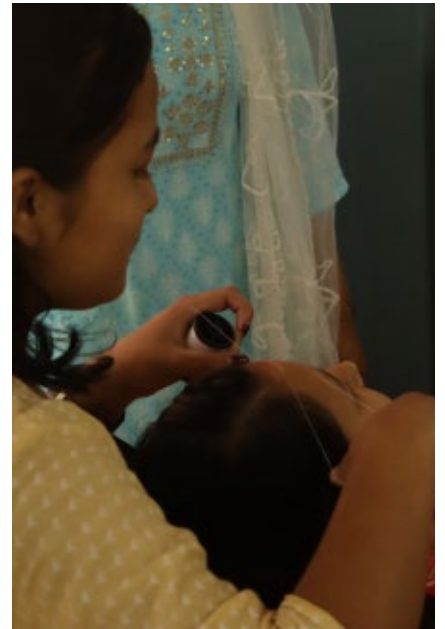
## MAITI'S WORKSHOP by Maiti Foundation

The artisans at Maiti Nepal's workshop showcase exceptional skills in producing stunning handicrafts.



## Major Achievements

- Artisans from Maiti Nepal Workshop showcased their handicrafts at events like Teej Mela at the World Trade Center, Annapurna Hotel, and Maiti Nepal premises.
- Handmade items produced by the girls included beaded clutches, tea coasters, table mats, tissue boxes, and various other products.
- The women at the workshop engaged in large-scale tailoring of baby clothes and cushion covers.
- The Workshop received orders for handmade products from Spain, Germany, and the US, highlighting its global reach and demand.



# Testimonials of **Resilience**

# # 1

## Overcoming The Adversities of Life

Samjhana (name changed), at the tender age of 20, has faced an incredibly challenging path. She left her education in ninth grade and entered into marriage at the age of 14 which quickly became a nightmare. Her husband, Ajay (name changed), battled addiction and treated her abusively. With great courage, she made the painful decision to leave her daughter and husband, returning to her family in Dhankuta.

Reaching Kathmandu, Samjhana sought employment and found solace in her job at a hotel near the bustling New Buspark. There, she crossed paths with Sagar (name changed), and their relationship blossomed. They created a life together, sharing a rented room in Kalanki. However, when Samjhana became pregnant and attempted to reunite with her husband, she faced rejection and discrimination. Incidentally, the Gangobu police intervened, providing her with protection and ultimately guiding her to Maiti Nepal for her safety and family reconnection.

As Samjhana was eight months pregnant, her husband's promise to visit her at Maiti Nepal remains unfulfilled. It was a cruel disappointment to her when he failed to show up, leaving her with a switched-off phone. This prompted the secretary of Dhankuta Ward No. 4, to step in and help locate Samjhana's parents.

Despite facing adversities, Samjhana gave birth to a healthy baby boy in September. Having received compassionate pre-natal as well as post-birth care at Maiti Nepal, her heartfelt desire was to return with her family's embrace. She has been sent to Maiti Nepal rehabilitation home at Sunsari to reintegrate back with her family.

## # 2

### **A woman's traumatic 35-day ordeal of torture after being sold in Oman**

A 27-year-old woman from Dang, who went abroad with the hope of earning money, returned home after 35 days with physical and mental injuries that will not be forgotten for the rest of her life. She had to go abroad to fulfill her family responsibilities. Even though she went to Kuwait, she reached Oman after being tricked by an agent.

They took her passport and documents while reaching the office in Oman. Contrary to her expectations, she was assigned household chores, working tirelessly from 5 in the morning until 11 at night. After realizing that she was sold off, she was tormented in her workplace physically and mentally. She said that she was fed stale food, and even food with blackworms. She endured physical abuse whenever she tried to rest, and the quality of her meals was far from satisfactory.

After enduring this ordeal, she seized an opportunity to escape while the owner of the house was asleep. She made her way to the nearby Nepali embassy where she patiently waited until morning when the embassy opened. There, she recounted her journey from her arrival in Oman to her daring escape.

Deeply concerned for her safety, the Omani embassy contacted Maiti Nepal. Through their collaborative efforts, she was safely repatriated to Nepal on October 9th, 2023. With Maiti Nepal's support, she is determined to file a case against the individual who deceived her and took her to Oman. She expresses profound gratitude to the Omani embassy and the Maiti Nepal team for their steadfast support and dedication to her rescue.

## # 3

### Rescued from an Infernal Deception

Krishna Rai (name changed), a 14-year-old girl from Nuwakot, Nepal, studied in grade 9 at Mahindra Secondary School. She is an older sister of a younger brother. Her father is retired army currently working in solar security and farming at home with her mother.

One day, at the end of October 2022, she left home without going to her school. She did not return for being scared that her father would hit her. She took along a buffalo and Rs. 1500. She left the buffalo on the way and decided to go to Kathmandu to her grandmother's residence. She got on a bus and talked to an unknown middle-aged person who asked her about her family details. They got off at the Kakarvitta bus stop to have food. The person gave her Momo. She started to feel dizzy after a while.

The unknown person handed Krishna to a lady named Asmita (name changed) in exchange for some money. Asmita told Krishna that now she will work in a clothes business in India. Asmita changed Krishna's name to Fulmaya Pun (name changed) to create a new birth certificate for the border pass.

Krishna was brought to the Silchar Brothel area to work as a sex worker. Asmita hit her while refusing to work. Additionally, she was forcefully given alcohol and tablets for intoxication. Three to four people came to her for sexual exploitation per day, and Asmita handled all the money.

After 7-8 days, a person called Bhumi (name changed) questioned and hit Asmita for keeping a minor girl with her. Asmita immediately shifted Krishna to her friend Prasa's (name changed) house in Tarapur. After three months, Prasa got tipped off by the information of the arrival of the Police. Krishna was left on the way while being shifted to Prasa's friend's residence at Meherpur.

On 1st February 2023, the Police and Ujjawala staff rescued Krishna and brought her to Maiti Nepal's shelter home.

## # 4

### Brief Temptation Left a Trauma for Life

Rosy (name changed), 22, a resident of Sorakhutte, Kathmandu, lived with her family and worked in a garment factory. She met Shyam (name changed) on Facebook, who offered her a job in India with a higher salary. Rosy agreed and they secretly left. Shyam also instructed her to tell that she was going to meet her relatives in India if anyone asked. After crossing the India-Nepal border, Shyam left her at a house in Pune, where she realized she was among other Nepali women and forced into sexual encounters with strangers.

Back in Nepal, Rosy's family alerted Maiti Nepal about her disappearance. Maiti Nepal staff personally traveled to Pune to rescue her. Using the information from the missing case filed at Maiti Nepal, they tracked her down to a brothel where she had been trafficked. Working together with the police, Maiti Nepal conducted a successful raid on the brothel, liberating Rosy from captivity. She was safely brought back to the Pune Police Station and later transferred to a secure hostel with the assistance of Pune Police, Maiti Nepal, and her mother.

Currently, Rosy is under the protection of Maiti Nepal in Kathmandu. An FIR registration of the case has already been reported to Anti Human Trafficking Bureau Nepal, and investigations are ongoing to identify Shyam, the real culprit responsible for the trafficking. Rosy is determined to testify in court when the case goes to trial at the Kathmandu District Court.

## # 5

### A Journey of Hope: Srijana's Path to Rebuilding

Once a dreamer aspiring to be a model, 16-year-old Srijana (name changed) faced harsh realities in poverty-stricken Jumla. Desperate to escape, she resorted to stealing money for cosmetics, enduring beatings as a consequence. Determined for a better life, Srijana ventured to Nepalgunj to meet her grandmother and pursue beauty. There, she met Suraj (name changed), a public vehicle assistant, and they embarked on a romantic journey starting from exchanging numbers. Unaware of Suraj's troubled background and addictions, their relationship turned violent.

Unable to bear Suraj's brutality, Srijana returned home after four tumultuous months, only to discover her pregnancy. Facing societal stigma, her parents hesitated to provide shelter, leaving her feeling unwelcome. Seeking solace, she turned to her elder sister, but the situation became burdensome. With only Rs 5000, Srijana was forced to go to Kathmandu in search of work.

However, misfortune struck again as her money was stolen upon arrival. Left destitute, she sought help at the nearest police station and was handed over to Maiti Nepal. Now residing in Maiti Nepal's shelter, Srijana focuses on safely delivering her baby and rebuilding her life with our support.

Srijana's story showcases resilience in the face of adversity. With Maiti Nepal's compassionate aid, she aspires to overcome her struggles, embracing hope for a brighter future for herself and her child.

According to Nepal Police estimates, crimes against women and girls have alarmingly increased, with 21,568 cases reported between July 2021 and July 2022. If you or someone you know is experiencing gender-based or sexual violence, please contact the nearest police station or Maiti Nepal's office. Your small effort can save lives and help create a society free of domestic violence.

## # 6

### **Surviving Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking: Sunita's Story**

Sunita (name changed) faced economic hardships and family circumstances, limiting her education to class 3. Working as a farmer, she supported her mother while her brother and sister had their own homes. Her father, a habitual drinker, subjected her mother to violence and eventually committed suicide.

Sunita met Prakash (name changed), a mason, at a fair and they became a couple, but she discovered his abusive nature. Enduring domestic violence during her pregnancy, she sought refuge in her childhood home and gave birth to their child. Despite ongoing abuse, she divorced Prakash and returned to her parent's home with her son.

Struggling to provide for her child's education, Sunita worked as a laborer. Through Facebook, she connected with Shankar (name changed), who promised her a job in Kathmandu. However, she ended up being forced into prostitution in an unfamiliar house in Delhi after traveling there. The COVID-19 lockdown worsened her situation, but she managed to stay in touch with her son through video calls.

Eventually, Sunita and her son were rescued from the brothel with the help of Maiti Nepal's rescue foundation team. She resided at Maiti Nepal's Women Rehabilitation Centre, where her son was taken care of. Sunita has now reintegrated with her family in the hopes of starting her store with the skills she received at Maiti Nepal.

*Thank You*

