

Together for NEPAL

A Joint Initiative of the Civil Society COVID Crisis Management Group

Nepal is facing an emergency situation as COVID-19 cases accelerate massively due to the open borders with India, reflecting and surpassing the situation in neighboring India. The Government of Nepal has declared the strict lockdown since 29th of April 2021 in Nepal. Despite the lockdown, the highly infectious variants and the difficulties of isolating people living in crowded conditions, means that the rate of new COVID infections has increased by more than 50 times since beginning of April; and the positivity rate at 46.7% is the highest in the world.

The sudden and rapid spread of COVID has overwhelmed the already poor health infrastructure; and the hospitals in Nepal are running out of bed, with very limited supply of medicines, medical equipment, oxygen cylinders, oxygen concentrators and other necessities support for the COVID affected people. Many deaths till now are due to lack of oxygen and ventilators and could have been avoided. Additional supplies of oxygen, oxygen concentrators, medicines and vaccines are urgently required. Meanwhile, with the epidemic and lock down, the people are having problems to manage their basic need like food and public health facilities. The situation is very dire in rural areas affected by COVID, as lack of health facilities is aggravated by absence of basic needs, including food.

To meet this urgent emergency, the Federation of community Forestry Users Nepal (FECOFUN) along with sister federations, movements, and other civil society organization, is launching a "Together for Nepal" COVID Crisis Management Initiative center to address and mitigate the COVID emergency. While realizing that the major responsibility of addressing the crisis lies with the federal, provincial, and local government; FECOFUN and its allies will leverage their huge networks and capacities across the country to support COVID crisis management. FECOFUN itself has 8.5 million people located in 22000 communities across countries; and as a national Federation of Community Forestry, played a crucial role in the first phase of COVID epidemic, primarily using its internal resources of FECOFUN and its member Community Forestry User Groups. These included setting up 1400 quarantine centers, providing relief and supporting livelihoods activities through its vast network of volunteers in CFUGs, local federations and state federations. FECOFUN and allied CSOs have worked in close collaboration with local Municipal Governments and coordinated with provincial and federal government.

A large group of local communities and their members are affiliated with FECOFUN and allied organizations and are looking to FECOFUN to cope with the challenges generated from second wave of COVID-19. This 2nd wave of COVID is far more serious than the first one, and the situation is out of hand. FECOFUN and allies have been trying to meet this challenge through internal resources, but the scale and speed of the crisis has overwhelmed us.

We, the undersigned organizations, have created "Together for Nepal Initiative" to address this existential crisis. Our goal is to protect peoples' lives through using all our capacities to address the shortage of oxygen and other required supplies; co-ordinate with governments and provide them support of civil society to address COVID; create awareness and provide support to communities and provide support for livelihoods and relief in this disaster. The "Together for Nepal Initiative" will work closely with the Municipal Governments; and co-ordinate with provincial and national government to complement their programs. We have developed a COVID response plan; for example, we are

mobilizing CFUGs across the country to provide support to the COVID affected household and poor households using their own community funds. However, the magnitude of the task is too much, and we need help, both financial and material. Thus, we would like to appeal all the individuals, organizations, and funding agencies to support "Together for Nepal" Initiative for fighting against the COVID-19 pandemic in Nepal.

You can join and support for the **Together for NEPAL** campaign by making donations at the given account details. We will publish on **Together for NEPAL** webpage the name of the donors and the amount supported; and will provide a weekly accounting of how the funds were spent. We are also trying to set up online donation portal and would be happy to talk to donors and philanthropic organizations seeking to support the "Together for Nepal" Campaign.

The details of your donations will be saved and kept secured as per our data protection policy. You can always ask about the use of your donations through email or by accessing it in our data portal.

For all donors, please email at: info@fecofun.org.np your name, mailing address and donated amount so that we can track easily for our records; and are able to send receipts of donations to you.

Due to restriction on funds transfer to Civil Society in Nepal, in unlikely case you plan to donate more than US \$10,000 (or Nepali RS 1,000,000), please do write directly to us before sending the donation, as we would need to get prior permission from Government of Nepal for the same. Unfortunately, it is difficult to send money through Pay Pal or other online methods to Nepal, so *we will request you to use wire transfers only*. We are trying to link up with online donations platform which will allow you to make payments online and will update this appeal as soon as we have the system set up.

A/C holders name : Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal (FECOFUN)

Bank name : Bank of Kathmandu Limited

Bank Address : Newbaneshwor, Kathmandu, Nepal

A/C No. : 032300002568524

A/C Type : Current A/C

Swift Code : BOKLNPKA

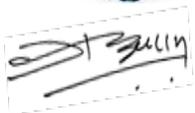



Bharati Pathak
Chairperson
MUAN

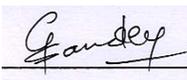



Mr. Ashok Byanju
Chairperson
NEFIN




Mr. Jagat Bahadur Baram
Chairperson
GFN




Mr. Ghanshyam Pandey
Chairperson
CIPRED




Ms. Dr. Pasang Sherpa
Chairperson
FECOFUN

Federation of Community Forestry User Group Nepal ([FECOFUN](#)): FECOFN represents 22,000 Community Forestry User Groups spread across Nepal with 8.5 million community forestry user members.

Municipal Association of Nepal ([MuAN](#)): MuAN is representative organizations of the Municipalities of Nepal and represents 293 municipalities including metropolitan and sub-Metropolitan cities.

Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities ([NEFIN](#)) is an autonomous and representative umbrella organization of the 59 indigenous nationalities or peoples.

Center for Indigenous Peoples' Research and Development ([CIPRED](#)) is a non-profit, non-governmental devoted to serve the needs of the Indigenous peoples, local communities and women of Nepal.

[Green Foundation Nepal](#) is a non-profit social entrepreneurship organization in Nepal