"When children are in CFS we can do our job freely without worrying about them. Children were learning new things and slowly forgetting the fear of earthquake” – Mr. Baburam Maharjan, Siddipur

Child Friendly Space
(In Partnerships with Plan International Nepal)
Annual report
May to December 2015

Submitted by
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In Nepal on April 25, 2015, a devastating earthquake struck with a 7.8 magnitude that killed around 9,000, and left thousands more injured and homeless. People were unable to enter damaged and cracked houses and buildings due to series of aftershocks and terror. Most of the families have established temporary camps, where they eat and sleep together. The terrible aftershock on the May 12, 2015 thousands of families and children were forced to live in temporary shelters in the open fields of earthquake-affected areas.

The earthquake has physically and psychologically affected people, especially women and children. The two major earthquakes occurred in less than two weeks apart have adversely affected everyone. The negative impact on children has been immense, leading them to depression, anxiety and other mental illnesses, especially among those who have lost their homes and loved ones. Therefore, it is important to help these victims to cope psychosocial problems and trauma by supporting with immediate response mechanisms and effective strategies. In the time of crisis, urgent response to address the situation of children was essential.

HimRights in partnerships with Plan International Nepal has established Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) in Lubhu and Siddipur for helping children to cope up with the psychosocial problems faced by the children in post earthquake. Thousands of school buildings were destroyed, damaged and taking time to repair and rebuild. It has created uncertainty among guardians, and children who were fearful of sending their child to school. It takes time to bring the children to normal situation and to motivate them for school again. CFS has provided a safe place where children can feel sense of relief from anxiety and fear. In these spaces, the children were able to reduce their mental stress by interacting and playing with their friends and peers. By engaging the children in different activities in CFS, their parents were able to take care of other household works, returning to job, manage food and water, reconstruction of their damaged houses, re-establishing their livelihoods, assisting their neighbors and community in recovering.
HimRights has established CFSs in Town Planning of Lubhu-8 on May 5, 2015 and in Satayatol-14, Siddipur of Maha Laxmi Municipality, Lalitpur on May 19, 2015. Due to high number of children in Lubhu two CFSs were established whereas one in Siddipur.

For establishment of the CFSs, HimRights has coordinated with the local ward offices of Lubhu and Siddipur and the local stakeholders. 12 CFS volunteers were recruited to carry out various activities. On May 4, 2015, one-day basic orientation on Psychological First Aid (PFA) provided to volunteers of Lubhu and CFS objectives. Similarly, six volunteers were selected and provided the orientation on May 18, 2015 in Siddipur. The local community of Siddipur and Lubhu supported us by providing open spaces and to construct CFS. Since August 2015, in total nine volunteers were involved in CFS of Lubhu and Siddipur.

**Participants and Daily activities in CFS**

CFS was scheduled to begin from 10:00 am to 03:00 pm. CFS, volunteers arrives at least 30 minutes before the opening of the CFS in order to ensure CFS is safe and secure before the arrival of the children. Under the supervision of HimRights team, volunteers were assigned different tasks and responsibilities. Day to day registration and record keeping of the children was done. Children divided in two CFS based on their ages, 3-6 years in CFS- A and 7-14 years in CFS-B in Lubhu. Every day different activities planned so that children constantly engaged and could enjoy the variety of activities. HimRights team including volunteers discussed on the daily activities at the end of the day in the initial phase of CFS. The strengths and weaknesses analyzed and activities were designed accordingly for the next day.

After the first earthquake, government made the decision to run schools from May 15, 2015 but the aftershock on May 12, 2015 postponed the opening of schools to May 31, 2015. With the opening of Schools from May 31, 2015, CFS started regularly for 4 pm to 6 pm from June 1, 2015.
Time schedule of CFS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Locations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 5, 2015</td>
<td>10:00 am to 4:00 pm daily</td>
<td>In Lubhu and Siddipur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From May 31, 2015</td>
<td>4:00 pm to 6 pm daily</td>
<td>In Lubhu and Siddipur</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Daily schedule module:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK</th>
<th>DURATION</th>
<th>RESPONSIBLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manage CFS and ensure CFS is safe.</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>CFS Volunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration (attendance) of children</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
<td>CFS Volunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manage basic needs of CFS such as safe drinking water, toilets,</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
<td>CFS Volunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>first-aid, towels, soaps and stationeries</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparing action (activities for the whole day)</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
<td>CFS Volunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings to prioritize activities and objectives.</td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>CFS Volunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Set up the activities according to the schedule. Prepare tables,</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
<td>CFS Volunteers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>materials.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verify that all the materials are in place at the end of the day.</td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
<td>CFS Volunteers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Statistical presentation of the children

In total 721 children benefitted from both the CFS of Lubhu and Siddipur. Among them 485 are in Lubhu and 236 in Siddipur CFS. There were 350 female and 371 male in CFS. Similarly, 220 female and 265 male in Lubhu and in Siddipur there were 130 female and 106 male.

Every day different activities were planned so that children would not be bored and could learn different things in child friendly space. Different activities performed on daily basis as per the action plan are:

**Creative activities:** Activities such as drawing and painting were done regularly. Children made flowers, houses and animals from paper in-group and they shared different ideas to complete the structures. Through drawing and painting, they were able to portray emotions and feelings, which they have experienced during earthquake.

**Imaginative activities:** Dance programs were organized in CFS. The children also did role-play and acting with caricatures. They played musical instruments and sang regularly for entertainment. Children performed dramas to present messages on child rights and child trafficking. Children who could play musical instruments were encouraged to teach others too. Quiz contests and spelling contests were also organized weekly.

**Physical activities:** Sports and outdoor games such as football, handball, skipping, high jump and long jump and local traditional games were played. The volunteers divided the group for the games and organized competitions between the teams on different outdoor games. These kinds of games were developed for creating teamwork and cooperation.
Communicative activities: Students were asked to share stories, jokes and different acts, which has developed confidence on them. Some children asked some tricky and creative questions with friends for making sessions more interesting. The volunteers also shared different stories, jokes and questions to make the session more interesting and interactive.

Manipulative activities: Various manipulative games such as Puzzles, Chess, Chinese checkers and Ludo as indoor games were played. Some guidelines were also given to children to write a short story.

Culture and traditions: Children sang various patriotic songs and performed different traditional dances related with their culture.

Life Skills: The sessions on health, sanitation and practices to keep the environment clean organized. Children were given information on child rights, protection and trafficking. Students were motivated and influenced to share stories and jokes with friends so that they are able to improve communication skills. Students were also made aware of the emergency numbers to protect themselves in the time of emergency.

“I feel very happy while coming to CFS. One of my classmates told me that he was attending this CFS for past 6 months and helped him a lot in doing home works and other extra activities. Then I joined CFS with him. CFS helped me to improve in math and Nepali. I made new friends here and I am doing my project works by discussing with them, this was not possible at home.” – Ms. Sakscham Maharjan, CFS student, Siddipur.
### List of Activities and visiting dignitaries in CFS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Visiting dignitaries</th>
<th>Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 8, 2015</td>
<td>Visit and observation of the Child friendly Spaces</td>
<td>Mr. Glenn White, Australian Ambassador, Mr. Mattias Bryneson, Country Director with Officials</td>
<td>Australian Embassy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 12, 2015</td>
<td>Art Class</td>
<td>Mr. Rajesh Manandhar, Art teacher</td>
<td>Budhanilkanchha School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 26, 2015</td>
<td>Observation of CFS and Cultural program performed by the Children</td>
<td>Team members from Plan International Canada, Finland, Belgium, Thailand and Germany team</td>
<td>Plan International</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 27, 2015</td>
<td>Free Health camp for checking the children's health and distribution of medicines for the needy children at Sanagaun</td>
<td>KIST hospital psychosocial counselor along with health workers</td>
<td>KIST hospital, Lalitpur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 27, 2015</td>
<td>Art Class</td>
<td>Rajan Khadka, Art teacher</td>
<td>SOS, Child center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 28, 2015</td>
<td>Free Health camp for checking the children's health and distribution of medicines for the needy children</td>
<td>Dr. Prakash Raj Regmi Senior Cardiologist along with his team</td>
<td>Nepal Heart Foundation, Lalitpur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1, 2015</td>
<td>Visit and observation of the Child friendly spaces</td>
<td>Governmental and non-governmental Organization</td>
<td>Women, Children and social welfare organization, National Action and Coordinating Group (NACG), National Coalition for Children as Zone of Peace (CZOPP)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 19, 2015</td>
<td>Entertainment program for children</td>
<td>Members of Clowns without Borders from Belgium</td>
<td>Clowns without Borders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 4, 2015</td>
<td>Entertainment program for children</td>
<td>Members of Clowns without Borders from Sweden, UK and India</td>
<td>Clowns without Borders,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 15, 2015</td>
<td>Stationery (Education material) distribution</td>
<td>Stationeries (Copy, Pencil, eraser, drawing copy, color pencil, sharpener and ruler) distribution</td>
<td>On the occasion of National Children’s Day, HimRights has distributed stationeries to 90 CFS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
January 8, 2016  |  Sport material and stationeries distribution  |  Members of Satya Youth Club, SMC members of Lubhu Secondary School and HimRights representatives.  |  Sports and stationeries distributed to Lubhu Secondary School of Lubhu and Satya Youth Club.

“My friend Enush told me about the CFS. He told me that his aunt is working as a CFS volunteer so his aunt invited me to join CFS. Then I joined CFS. I made many new friends from different schools and played with them. At first, I was shy and nervous because I have never participated into such environment where children from 3-13 years are studying at a same room and playing together. I have never imagined that children from different school and age can sit and play together in one space. I have two younger brothers of four and five years where I am 12 years old. We three brothers could hardly sit more than half an hour at a place in a home but in CFS children of different ages are studying together in common space and this made me nervous to adjust in such environment.

Later, I realized that CFS was managed properly so the children from all the age groups could sit and study together. I improved a lot in my math and improved my writing in both Nepali and English. My mother was happy to see my progress. Before I used to go school without completing my homework now I finish all my homework in CFS and submit my school task regularly” – Mr. Bishal Giri, CFS student, Siddipur.
A team of Australians and Plan Country Director Visit.

Honorable Mr. Glenn White, Australian Ambassador and Mr. Mattias Bryneson country director from Plan Nepal and team visited CFS of Lubhu on May 8, 2015. Children of CFS welcomed them with national anthem and some cultural songs. The team watched different activities of children enthusiastically. Some of the team members interacted with the children and with volunteers to know the situation of children and of CFS. At last, they thanked HimRights team for the effort for establishing CFS for children in earthquake-affected areas.

Art classes in CFS

On May 12, 2015, HimRights organized an art class in coordination with professional art teacher Mr. Rajesh Manandhar in Lubhu. The objective of the class was to share the techniques of art in simple way and to share the importance of art to express feelings in different situations. Children were very excited to learn about the various techniques of art. He gave ideas on drawing the pictures from different shapes. Children cheerfully enjoyed the ways of techniques on art from him.

On May 27, 2015, art teacher Mr. Rajan Khadka conducted an art class to the children of CFS of Lubhu and Siddipur. Children participated enthusiastically. He facilitated how to draw pictures of animals, flowers, buildings, nature from different shapes. He made more than 50 pictures in child friendly way. Students followed the techniques as per the instruction of him. He also emphasized on the importance of linkage between art and culture in the session.
**Cultural program**

On May 26, 2015, children of CFS organized a cultural program in Lubhu on the visit of Plan international team. Children performed various traditional dances and songs to welcome International guests. Nepali cultural dances and songs, which they learned in CFS were performed. Children also performed a drama on “Child trafficking and child protection” to give message on child trafficking in the time of emergency. The drama was able to spread messages on how children become vulnerable in the time of crisis and how they could be protected. The drama was scripted and directed by the children of the CFS program. Even people from community who were sheltering in the temporary camps near CFS enjoyed the program. Plan International team members from Canada, Finland, Belgium, Thailand and Germany acknowledged the activities of CFS of HimRights/ Plan Nepal.

**Free Health Camp**

HimRights organized a free health camp for children in the CFS of Lubhu and Siddipur in coordination with Nepal Heart Foundation on May 28, 2015. In total 171 children benefited from free health check up services in the camp. 102 children from Lubhu and 69 children from Siddipur benefitted. Senior Dr. Prakash Raj Regmi (heart specialist) and his medical team provided the free medical services and distributed medicine to the infected (Heart diseases) children after the check-up. During the health check-up, two children were found to have severe problems with the infection in their chest and the Foundation provided free check-up service to free medicine through their clinic to them.
Views of parents and Children

"I got an opportunity to get involved in different activities which helped me to reduce my fear and anxieties." – Mr. Lakash Maharajan, CFS student of Siddipur.

"After joining into CFS, I am able to make new friends and enjoyed a lot by playing." – Ms. Sahara Maharjan, CFS student of Siddipur

"In CFS, I learned about child rights and enjoyed singing and dancing." – Mr. Rijan Maharajan, CFS student of Siddipur

"Before I was not serious in doing my assignments but after coming in the CFS regularly with guidelines from sir/miss I have been doing my assignments regularly." - Ms. Priya B.K, CFS student of Lubhu

"I love to come here regularly and learned many things after coming in CFS such as knowledge on Child Rights and protection, Health and sanitation. I have also improved my writing." - Ms. Susmita Pradhan, CFS student of Lubhu

"After the earthquake, CFS team did coordination with community which was the great initiation for providing a safe place for our children where they can play and enjoy". - Mr. Rabindra Maharjan, Parent Lubhu

"When children are in CFS we can do our job freely without worrying them. Children were learning new things and slowly forgetting the fear of earthquake." - Mr. Baburam Maharjan, Parent, Siddipur

"After coming in CFS our children can play and interact with friends and peers. They are learning about health and sanitation and children share what they have learned with us from here." - Mr. Rajani Maharjan, Parent, Lubhu

“I am studying in class 8. I have many experiences of CFS to share. I am able to develop my confidence to speak in front of all. Before I feel shy to speak with others frankly. Now I can easily interact with everyone in the CFS and other people as well. In the CFS, I also learned how to protect myself from the earthquake and should help other in the problems. I feel happy to become part of CFS.” - Mr. Dipu Maharjan student of Siddipur

“After joining CFS I am able to learn many things. I can ask different problems of assignments with CFS teachers. When I was at home, I was not interested in study and doing assignments. CFS has changed my habit for doing assignments regularly and in study as well. With this, I have scored good grading in the school examination. My parents are also very happy on my progress.” - Mr. Rijan Maharjan student of CFS Siddipur
“I met with new friends in CFS. I can do combine study with my friends and learn different things from the friends as well. I also shared my fear and anxiety of earthquake with my friends and teachers of CFS. With the involvement of different activities of CFS, I have reduced my fear. I feel safe here because I can do different activities freely”. Ms. Binita Sunwar, student of CFS Lubhu

“After joining in CFS I have been getting lots of support in my study from the CFS teachers. I am doing well in my study and as well, I become more serious in my study. CFS helped me to develop my confidence level to talk others and teach others as I am.” Ms. Sushmita Pradhan student of CFS Lubhu

“The main reason for me to come in CFS is that I am learning new things and have lots of fun with new friends here. I have improved in social study and science. Before I was poor in these subjects. Now I am able to score 1st position in my class.” Mr. Emirose Maharjan student of CFS Siddipur

“I am studying in government school of Lubhu. After joining CFS, I have improving my study. After the earthquake due to fear I am not interested in going school and always want to be with my mom. With the activities of CFS has helped me to reduced anxiety and fear slowly.” Mr. Sujan Tamang student of CFS Lubhu

“With the help of CFS teachers I have improved my Nepali handwriting. In my school, I always get complained on my handwriting from the teachers. Before I was in seventh position now I progressed in fifth position. This progress in my study has inspired me for being serious in my study. I have made lots of new friends and learned how to deal with small brother and sisters in the CFS.” Mr. Emon Maharjan student of CFS Siddipur

“My name is Simran and I am studying in UKG. In CFS I do all my homework. If I found difficulty, I ask with my teacher in CFS. Teachers also love me. I also learned how to keep myself neat and clean and how to wash hand before meal and after toilet as well. I love to come CFS and I can play with my lots of friends.” Ms. Simran Chaudhary student of CFS of Lubhu
Performance by Clowns without Boarders (CWB)

After the earthquake, it was difficult to overcome the fear of being hit by another big quake. Children are most vulnerable groups at in risk and disaster. To address different psychological problems faced by the children, HimRights in coordination with Clowns without Borders, Belgium organized a program to entertain the children in July 19, 2015 at Shree Lubhu Secondary School of Lubhu-8, Lalitpur. The main objective of the program conducted was to help in the healing process of the children suffering from post earthquake trauma. Joyful performances of a group of professional street and circus artists brought joy and supported to reduce the fear of the little faces. It was an entertaining show for the children who were slowly trying to recover from the trauma and lead a normal life. There were three members, Nina, Rachel and Helene. 105 students, joined by 41 teachers, locals and volunteers enjoyed the live performance.

The performance of CWB was remarkably entertaining. Their costumes of clown with makeup, red noses, and dresses were very joyful. Their umbrella dance, the Waki-Waki song, juggling act of handkerchief and slapstick were cheerful performance to the children. CWB were able to create excitement for children as well as other viewers. This program was able to spread an optimistic message that life is full of happiness and sadness, and that no misery is permanent.

These kinds of programs are a necessity in disaster-hit areas in order to make the children mentally and physically strong to overcome their fear and be prepared for such situation in the future.

“Establishment of CFS in our community has benefitted a lot to the women of our community especially to those who send their children in CFS. In our community, caring of the children is the responsibility of women, and male normally they do not support. When children arrive home after school we need to give time for them and as well need to do household job together. Therefore, after the establishment of the children the work load has been decreased for us in our community due to which we are being able to work freely.” - Ms. Saraswati Shrestha
Performance by Clowns without Border

To address different psychological problems faced by children, HimRights in collaboration with clowns without border organized a program to entertain the children on September 4, 2014. The program performed at Mahalaxmi High School, Lubhu and Siddimangal Higher Secondary School, Siddipur, Lalitpur. CWB a group of professional artists from Sweden, UK and India performed their show among 450 school children and teachers. The performance aims to reduce the fear of earthquake and bring playful and joyful experience to the children and bursting laughter on their faces.

HimRights did coordination with School Management Committee (SMC) in Lubhu and Siddipur and shared about the objective of the program and its importance. There were five performers for the show. School Management Committee and Children welcomed the clowns' team. Performers in clown costumes amused the children and it was eye-catching for them. Opening of the show with live music made this program more interesting. Performance of the clowns in an interactive way with children has created lots of excitement in the crowd and among the children. Creative performances with magic tricks and acts amazed the children.

The performance was able to grab the attention of the children easily. The live performance was ended up with positive messages to reduce pain, sharing is important which helps to bring joy and happiness in further life and pain does not exist for long time.
Outcome

With the establishment of CFSs in Lubhu and Siddipur of Mahalaxmi Municipality, Lalitpur district in total 721 children were benefited. Children were provided with a safe place to play, participate in various activities, and learn about their rights and protection. Most of the children seemed to be terrified due to the aftershocks. CFS has helped them to cope with their situation, and minimize their anxiety and stress. It was the place where children can share their problems and feelings of fear with their friends and peers. Not only the children, but also parents were benefited. Most of the parents who visited CFSs have gladly shared that “with the establishment of CFS our children are now in safe places and we are getting time to work freely without worrying about them.”

In CFS, children are involved in different activities such as painting, drawing, and coloring, playing games, singing and playing music as well as many other activities. Children got knowledge on child rights and trafficking as well. Children performed short plays on child rights and trafficking to spread awareness in emergencies. During the session, children had opportunity to learn different things. Volunteers organized quizzes, speech, word art contests and spelling contests to provide information on general knowledge and to make them more competitive. Dance classes were also organized occasionally. To give an idea on art and drawing techniques, art teachers were invited. The students were given knowledge on health and sanitation as well.

Most of the parents were supporting the CFS by sending regularly their children. The fear and trauma of earthquake has been able to reduce from their mind. As an Impact of the CFS activities, following achievements are mentioned herewith.
Achievements

- On December 27, 2015, ward office of Lubhu has allocated the budget Rs. 1,00,000 for the continuation of CFS in Lubhu.
- Freedom Youth Club, Lubhu will continue the CFS for children in Chhatrapal Bhajan Mandal and planning meeting will be conducted soon. Community people have fully supported us to continuation of the CFS.
- Freedom Youth Club of Lubhu has prioritized the child protection issue as a main agenda.
- On December 27, 2015, Seven Member Child Protection Committee (Child club) has been formed in coordination with Citizen Ward Forum as being part of Satya Youth Club and all the volunteers of Siddipur are members of this committee.
- Satya Youth Club is continuing child friendly space in coordination with local women groups and Citizen Ward Forum from January 10, 2016.
- CFS children have formed Child Club, which is a part of Citizen Ward Forum (CWF). CWF will support this child club for the registration and to receive the budget from ward office for children of Siddipur.
- Women groups of Siddipur started Montessori School influenced by the CFS. Some of the women participants of awareness programs initiated the Montessori by realizing child friendly environment and protection.
- As stated by the parents of CFS children, after joining the CFS children has improved in their grading in school assessment test.
- Participation of the children in the CFS has helped them for socialization within peer groups.
- With influence of CFS children has started doing their assignments regularly in their home.
- At home, children used to play on the roadside, which has increased the chances of accident. CFS has provided safe space to children for play.
- Parents of Lubhu are planning to continue CFS on their own initiation.
- Most of the Parents of CFS children are uneducated and do not have educated members in their family for guiding their children in their homeworks but after joining CFS this problem has been solved.
- Children have become more active and obedient after joining the CFS.
- After the school, children directly used to come CFS because most of the parents were busy in their job and they return home at late evening. During this period, children were safe in the CFS.
- Enhanced the skills, knowledge and confidence of CFS volunteers of Lubhu and Siddipur through the CFS activites.
Lesson Learned from CFS

- If there is an occurrence of any disaster, the first priority should be given to children to address the problems they face.
- Addressing the problems faced by children is only possible through the establishment of Child Friendly Space.
- Child Friendly Space should be established in a safe, open and accessible places.
- Understanding of children's behavior is very difficult to know the psychological problems faced by the children. It is important to learn their psychology to create various activities in CFS.
- Not only the children but also the community can be benefitted by CFS in post disaster situations.

Challenges

- Due to the high number of children in CFSs, it was difficult to conduct the activities effectively.
- It was difficult to deal the children with different ages from different socio-cultural background and status.
- It was difficult to handle the children in the time of aftershocks where every child was in fear.
- It was a challenge to influence/ convince community people to send their children in CFS in earlier days because they thought that their children would remain safer when they are with them.
- It was difficult to protect CFS in open spaces due to rainy and winter season.
- It was difficult to manage safe drinking water and toilets for children.
- It was difficult to protect CFS structure at night due to the establishment in open places nearby temporary camps of earthquake victims.
- Training for CFS volunteers on CFS operation guidelines hosted by Plan Nepal was lately (after two months of CFS establishment in Lubhu and Siddipur ) organised.
“I study in grade four. I love to come here every day. CFS is one of my best place and its environment is better than school. Activities in CFS are more enjoyable and knowledgeable and teachers are very helpful and friendly to me. Distribution of stationeries like pencil, eraser, sharpener, copy and other sports materials encourages me to do my assignments and to do many interesting things. I do not feel and imagine about earthquake because CFS has made my life interesting and entertaining.” - Ms. Ashmi Limbu, 10 years

“When I joined CFS for the first time, I was so excited and was felt a bit shy. After chatting with new friends, plying in a group, talking with CFS teachers I felt comfortable. I am closely attached with CFS even after the re-open of my school. I was very weak in optional math. Now, I can solve the difficult problems of optional math with the help of CFS teachers. I am confidence to solve all difficulties of my assignments. Our teachers of CFS also involved in different activities with us such as drawing, dancing, singing etc. It makes more fun for us in CFS. I feel free to do everything that is why I like CFS. I know that CFS will not run for the long time but I like it to be continued. If it will be closed it will be very hard for me to spend my days.” - Mr. Nitesh Thakur, 13 years
Focus group discussion with the parents CFSs children

During the earthquake on April 25, 2015 in Nepal, HimRights in collaboration with Plan International Nepal has immediately set up CFS for children of various ages including under 18. To know about the strength, weakness, opportunity and challenges about CFS, HimRights has discussed some parents of CFS children.

Mr. Ram Thakur, father of Nitesh Thakur said that CFS is being a safe place for our children. It has helped my children to reduce fear and trauma of earthquake. They do their homework in CFS and take help from the volunteers whenever they found any difficulties.

Ms. Santoshi Sharma mother of Prerna Sharma said that CFS protects her children from danger and any kinds of problems. They are involving in different activities to learn about music, dance, art and games. CFS helps my children forget their trouble. We are very happy about it and thankful to the friends of HimRights.

Ms. Sarita Rajthala, “CFS is very effective for children to reduce their trauma of earthquake. Children enjoying in CFS to sing, draw and express their feeling about what they have seen and experienced.”

Ms. Asmita Limbu mother of Ashmi Limbu said that her daughter was very afraid from the little shock of earthquake before. In CFS, her trauma from earthquake has been reduced because she play and enjoy with her friends. She is very happy to be here and loves to play with her friends. CFS volunteers are also helping our children on their homework and they are leanings different things like health and sanitation, cleanliness etc.

Ms. Jamuna Maharjan mother of Reshma Maharjan said that CFS is very fruitful for my child. Her drawing skill was poor and her handwriting was not good. With the help of CFS, I found her writing and drawing skills improved. Distribution of stationeries at CFS on National Children’s Day, has influenced her to be more focused on study and actively participated in CFS activities.

Ms. Matina Maharjan, mother of Subham Maharjan, “It is a safe place for our children, it has also helped us to do our household works freely. CFS has assured us that it is a safe place for children.”
Monitoring of CFS program

Monitoring with CFS children including their parents was done. CFS volunteers and HimRights Staff did interaction with children and their parents to know the impacts of it. Parents are very thankful to the HimRights and plan to initiate for CFS. CFS has realized them for the child friendly spaces in their community. Children in CFS shared that they found CFS as one of the best place for them where they can do different activities freely and can enjoy themselves by doing different activities. Parents shared that CFS have become very helpful to them and to their children. They also shared that they are planning for the continuation of CFS.

Views of the member of Chhatrapal Bhajan Mandal

On December 3, 2015 meeting was organized with member of Chhatrapal Bahajan Mandal to know the impact of CFS. It has supported us by providing hall for running CFS since August 2015.

Mr. Kancha Rajthala, Lubhu, Chairperson

Working class people from the community of Lubhu were being benefitted from this Child Friendly Space. Most of the parents of CFS children go outside for daily earning until late of evening. There will be no one to take care of their children after arriving from the school. CFS became a safe place for those children whose parents are working. CFS has helped a lot to uneducated family who cannot support their children in their assignments. Children are doing assignments with the help volunteers. Distribution of stationeries and snacks were motivating factors for the children to come in CFS regularly. After school, they directly come to CFS without changing their dresses.

Mr. Gangalal Rajthala, Lubhu, Treasurer

It is sad to hear that CFS is going to end in December. Most the parents were worried when they knew about its closing. They are expecting for its continuation. According to the parents, “In the absence of CFS there will be no one to care and support their children at home. Children cannot complete their assignments by themselves and there is no one for them to guide, we cannot afford tuitions for their extra study”. Parents also shared that, after joining in CFS the behavior of children also have been changed. It means children have become obedient and serious on their study.
Handover of the CFS

On January 28, 2015 CFS, materials received from Plan International and sports materials have been handed over to Lubhu Secondary School of Lubhu and Satya Youth Club of Siddipur. From Lubhu Secondary School, there were numbers of students involved regularly in CFS. We have conducted child rights awareness program focusing on child rights and protection in this school on August 2015. Some entertainment programs also have been organized in this school in during this project period. An awareness program for schools teacher on child protection in disaster was also organized in December 27, 2015.

Similarly, In Siddipur, Satya Youth Club has been providing their space for CFS from July 2015 and supporting us for various community level programs. Satya Youth Club has also formed the child protection committee to response the issues of children of Siddipur. Our CFS volunteers are a member of this committee. Likewise, we organized an awareness program focusing the members of this youth club on child protection on December 28, 2015. Satya Youth Club will continue the CFS after December for the children of Siddipur.

Members of Satya Youth Club of Siddipur and SMC members thanked HimRights and the activities conducted on the protection issues and support materials.