

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2023/24



Prakriti  
Resources  
Centre

# TABLE OF CONTENT

<b>Executive Summary</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Overview of the achievements and key highlights</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Purpose of the Report</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Brief Overview of PRC's Strategic Priorities for 2021-2023</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Progress on Strategic Objectives</b>	<b>5</b>
Strategic Objective 1: Enhanced Resilience and Adaptive Capacity	5
Strategic Objective 2: Achieving Low Carbon and Sustainable Energy	7
Strategic Objective 3: Increasing Transparency and Accountability in Climate Finance	8
Strategic Objective 4: Enhancing Program Quality and Organizational Capacity	9
<b>Case Studies/Impact Stories</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>From Reluctance to Recognition: The Journey of Sahayatra Nepal in Ilam Municipality</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Performance in Financial and Operations Areas</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Staff and Organizational Development</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Human Resources Management</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Organizational Learning and Knowledge Sharing</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Partnerships and Collaborations</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Strategic and Joint Partners</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Advocacy and Learning Collaborations</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Government Agencies PRC Closely Works with</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Funding Partners and Areas of Support</b>	<b>17</b>

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## OVERVIEW OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Over the past years, Prakriti Resources Centre (PRC) has made significant progress in advancing climate resilience, gender justice, sustainable energy, and organizational excellence. Its efforts have resulted in considerable achievements in enhancing community resilience, promoting low carbon development, improving transparency in climate finance, and strengthening organizational capacity and quality of work.

**Community Empowerment and Climate Resilience:** PRC empowered five women's groups across six municipalities, providing them with the tools and platforms needed to influence local planning and budgeting processes. These efforts led to the integration of climate actions into municipal plans and secured essential budget allocations for community-led actions, ensuring that the voices of vulnerable communities are prioritized.

**Advancing Low Carbon and Sustainable Energy Initiatives:** Through the Multi-Actor Partnership (MAP) for 100% Renewable Energy project, PRC played a crucial role in mobilizing a 46-member platform, which contributed to the drafting and submission of Energy Security Action Plans (ESAPs) to the Bagmati and Gandaki provincial governments. PRC, together with its allies, contributed to shaping Nepal's second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) with a strong focus on sustainable energy.

**Promoting Transparency and Accountability in Climate Finance:** Through advocacy, including workshops, orientation sessions and budget tracking initiatives, PRC significantly raised awareness about the importance of transparency and accountability in climate finance. These efforts have encouraged grassroots organizations to demand greater transparency in the utilization of climate finance.

**Strengthening Organizational Capacity, Human Resources and Programme Quality:** PRC has prioritized staff development and governance to deliver impactful programmes. Its staff benefited from essential training and international exposure, strengthening programme leadership and strategic networking. It has updated and ensured adherence to organizational policies leading to improved management effectiveness and effective partnerships with key stakeholders.

**Knowledge Management:** PRC ensured that its publications and research are widely accessible. It improved internal and external communication, fostering stronger collaboration with partners and stakeholders, amplifying its influence in climate action.

**Financial Management and Sustainability:** PRC demonstrated sound financial management, ensuring transparency and accountability. It successfully mobilized resources to support its strategic objectives while implementing effective financial controls to safeguard assets and ensure the efficient use of funds.

**Strengthening Partnerships and Collaborations:** PRC's commitment to building and nurturing partnerships has been instrumental in achieving its strategic goals. It strengthened key partnerships enabling it to leverage diverse expertise and resources, thus amplifying the impact of its work.

# INTRODUCTION

## PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

This annual report marks the culmination of PRC’s three-year strategic period 2021-2023 and the beginning of strategic planning for 2024-2028. Therefore, without confining only to last year, it covers the last three years. This report is intended to communicate to PRC partners, allies and stakeholders, including donors, and the public, offering insights into PRC’s achievements and learning, and mobilization of resources. The report is also an attempt to build transparency, accountability, and trust, while also prepare the ground for future planning.

## BRIEF OVERVIEW OF PRC’S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2021-2023

PRC focused on improving the resilience and adaptive capacity of poor and vulnerable communities through community-based actions and integrating gender-just climate considerations into development policies, and programmes. It also prioritized the promotion of low carbon and sustainable energy solutions focusing on renewable energy (RE) by influencing policy and law-making processes and advocating for context-specific actions at all levels of government. Transparency and accountability in climate finance was PRC’s another priority area. It worked towards increasing transparency and accountability in the mobilization and utilization of domestic and international climate finance, ensuring it aligned with the country’s low carbon and climate-resilient development goals. Meanwhile, PRC focused on enhancing the quality of programmes through systems building, personnel development, improved working methods, and knowledge building.



# PROGRESS ON STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

This section summarizes the achievements at the strategic objectives level during 2021-2023, including some learning to build on.

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1:

### ENHANCED RESILIENCE AND ADAPTIVE CAPACITY

#### Key Achievements:

- **Equipping Women’s Groups and Vulnerable Communities:**

Five women’s groups (about 1600 women), in Banepa, Ilam, Kirtipur, Maijogmai, Suryodaya and Tarakeshwar municipalities, were equipped to influence local-level planning and budgeting processes. The women successfully advocated for gender-just climate solutions and integrated climate change considerations into local development plans and budgets in their respective municipalities. They leveraged a portion of these budgets (about NPR 2,935,000) for actions designed and implemented by them, demonstrating a significant step toward gender-just climate actions. However, there is a need to reassess whether the current interventions adequately cover ‘poor and vulnerable’ communities.



- **Ensuring a Gender Lens in Adaptation Discourse:**

PRC, together with its allies and partners, advocated through various platforms for applying gender perspective in adaptation discourses. Inputs provided by them seeking inclusion of gender considerations in the National Climate Change Policy, the National Adaptation Plan, the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and the 16th periodic plan are, to some extent, reflected in the documents. Continued efforts led to the government as well as the CSOs becoming aware of GCF’s gender provision.



However, the inclusion of a gender lens in the Loss and Damage (L&D) discourse remains an area to pursue.

☛ **Active Engagement in Community-Based**

**Actions:** The women’s groups, supported by local governments, implemented several gender-just climate solutions, such as park development in Tarakeshwor Municipality, nature-based farming in Banepa, and wetland conservation in Ilam. Local governments have recognized the groups’ work and are inviting them to collaborate in community-led initiatives.



☛ **Increased Government Responsiveness:**

The efforts of PRC, its partners (women’s groups) and allies (C&D Dialogue, MAP platform) have led to increased government responsiveness at various levels. For instance, local partner Sahayatra Nepal in collaboration with Ilam Municipality developed the municipality’s Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA) with the municipal budget support. Gandaki and Bagmati provinces allocated budgets for rolling out the Energy Strategies and Action Plans (ESAPs) developed in collaboration with MAP; the 16th periodic plan included a separate chapter on climate change; and the second NDC incorporated the input from PRC and its allies. In 2023, PRC organized provincial conferences on localizing climate actions with gender-just climate solutions (GJCs) lens in Karnali and Sudurpaschchim provinces, with a plan to continue the initiative by covering other provinces. However, continued engagement with provincial governments still remains a gap that needs to be addressed strategically.

**Key Lessons Learned:**

- ☛ PRC needs to define clearly its target groups and decide, to what extent it intends to reach out to the ‘poor and vulnerable’ communities.
- ☛ PRC needs to consider inclusion of service delivery components in its programme portfolio to benefit the poor and vulnerable groups, and balance immediate/short-term benefits with long-term change.

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2:**

**ACHIEVING LOW CARBON AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY**

**Key Achievements:**

- ☛ **Multi-Stakeholder Platform for Policy Influence:** The MAP for 100% RE project mobilized a 46-member platform that successfully drafted and handed over the ESAPs to Bagmati and Gandaki provincial governments.
- ☛ Jointly led by PRC and Alternative Energy Promotion Centre (AEPC), the platform represented diverse organizations including PRC, AEPC, World Wildlife Fund (WWF), PEEDA, SNV and NMB bank.
- ☛ **Influence on NDC Revision and Implementation:** PRC’s input was crucial in the second NDC revision, focusing on sustainable energy. Additionally, PRC’s international engagements, including an RE dialogue in Nepal and COP side events, highlighted the importance of sustainable energy.

- ↪ **Provincial and Municipal Policy Adoption:** The MAP for 100% RE project facilitated the development of ESAPs and secured provincial level budgetary allocations for their implementation. However, the formal endorsement of the ESAPs and the absence of municipal-level initiatives tailored to local contexts remains a challenge.



**Key Lessons Learned:**

- ↪ PRC along with MAP should continue to lobby and advocate for formal endorsement and honest roll out of ESAPs by the provincial governments.
- ↪ PRC should consider facilitating municipal-level engagement to develop context specific energy programmes, complementing the provincial level initiatives.

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3:**

**INCREASING TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN CLIMATE FINANCE**

**Key Achievements:**

- ↪ **Building Stakeholder Understanding on Climate Finance:** PRC’s advocacy work through workshops, publications, and technical assistance to the Ministry of Finance, budget tracking and analysis has raised awareness on the need for transparent and accountable climate finance mobilization. Various civil society and government organizations have cited PRC’s work.
- ↪ **Strengthening CSO Advocacy for Accountable Finance:** PRC supported grassroots groups and CSOs in advocating for accountable climate finance utilization, particularly in demanding transparency from local governments regarding climate actions and budgets. There is a growing trend of including climate finance as an important area in climate discourses among civil society and government stakeholders.



**Key Lessons Learned:**

- ↪ Achieving transparency and accountability in climate finance requires long-term commitment and relentless effort both at government and donor community levels.

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4:

### ENHANCING PROGRAM QUALITY AND ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

#### Key Achievements:

##### ☛ **Staff Development and Knowledge Building:**

PRC staff members have significantly improved their capacity through training in relevant skills and participation in national and international forums. The organization has been able to leverage external partner (WEDO, CWF, JWH) support for programmes and organizational development including personnel development through skills training and opportunities for exposure. Three PRC staff members received JWH grants, and one staff member was able to secure a position in the Jury Committee in JWH. The staff members have also enhanced their capacity and knowledge through training in MS Excel, CSE, English language, VAT, Tax and Financial Management, etc. However, more emphasis on reflective learning and institutional knowledge building is required.



☛ **Systems and Procedures Strengthening:** PRC has updated its organizational policies, leading to better governance and programme management. It has updated organizational policies and procedures (HR policy, Finance and Logistics Policies, GESI Policy, etc.), including software based accounting system (project wise accounting system). Strict adherence to these policies and procedures has resulted in systematic functioning of the organization and improved organizational governance.

☛ **Programme Leadership and Coordination:** PRC's growth, government responsiveness, positive public image, and strong partnerships reflect effective leadership and coordination. Constructive coordination between the Board and Management; healthy working environment, staff's efficient use of resources, etc. testify to the organizations' effective leadership. PRC also enjoyed full trust of its external partners (participated in Both ENDS strategic meeting). Even after MAP delivery, PRC has received support for continuation of the initiative. It is approached by national and international organizations for collaboration. It is working in partnership with diverse collaborators and networks at national, regional and international level (C&D, MAP, CANSA, CAN, GAGGA, GCF, L&D, JWHi). However, continuous strategic reflection is essential for sustaining this momentum.

☛ **Learning, Knowledge Sharing, and Strategic Networking:** PRC's investments in publications, knowledge products, and strategic networking have strengthened its external profiling. PRC's engagement in national, regional and international networks like C&D Dialogue, MAP for 100% RE, CANSA, GAGGA, etc.) is an added value. However, strategic thinking in content development and utilization will further enhance these efforts.

#### Key Lessons Learned:

☛ PRC needs to pay more attention to institutionalizing learning and improving strategic content utilization as part of its knowledge management effort.



# CASE STUDIES/IMPACT STORIES

## FROM RELUCTANCE TO RECOGNITION: THE JOURNEY OF SAHAYATRA NEPAL IN ILAM MUNICIPALITY

For years, Ilam municipality ignored climate change as an esoteric and irrelevant issue. Gender stereotypes ran deep, and the municipality was unwilling to hear from women's groups like Sahayatra Nepal, who were advocating for climate action. A representative from the municipality even jeered at their efforts, stating, *"If these women are able to do such work, I will cut off my ear."*

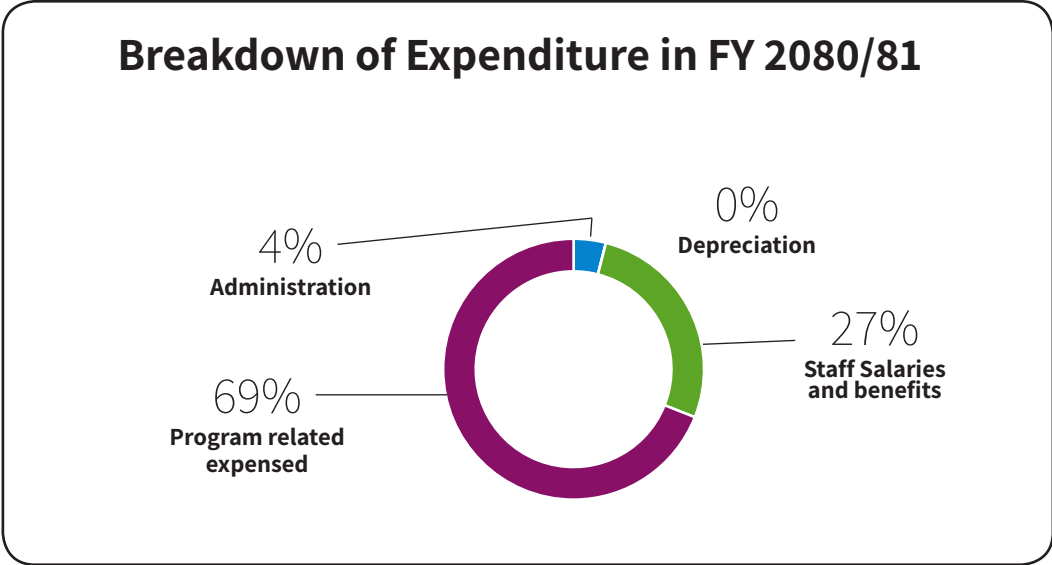
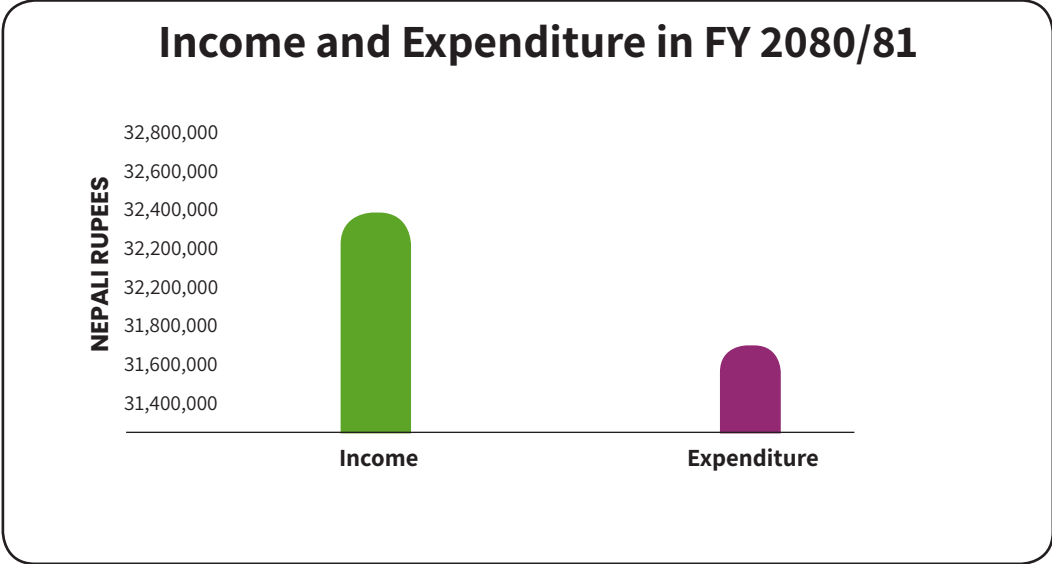
Sahayatra Nepal, a PRC's partner in climate work, however, pressed on with unwavering motivation and commitment. In consultation with PRC, it decided to adopt a new strategy: creating a multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) for collective effort. PRC supported Sahayatra Nepal to develop a strategy for the MSP bringing together community members, local leaders, NGOs, and other stakeholders to build pressure on the municipality. It facilitated regular interaction among the MSP members, and organized capacity building events for the partners, MSP and Municipality representatives.

Initially, the multi-stakeholder platform led by Sahayatra Nepal made inroads into the municipal planning process with collective demand for integration of community needs related to water source preservation, drinking water management, etc., and secured funding for them. By using this success and gradually improving working relationship with the local government as an entry point, Sahayatra Nepal started intensifying advocacy for a Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA). The series of capacity-building and interaction programmes improved the local government representatives' knowledge on climate change, and understanding of the importance of mainstreaming climate considerations in planning, and the roles and responsibilities of the municipality.

Relentless advocacy finally led to the municipality agreeing to include the LAPA development programme in 2022/23 plan. In 2023/24, it allocated a budget for its development, with technical support from Sahayatra Nepal and PRC. Sahayatra Nepal and PRC jointly developed and handed over the LAPA to the municipality. The mayor and chief administrative officer of Ilam Municipality publicly committed to executing these adaptation plans through their annual planning and budgeting. In what seems as a shift in power and gender relations, they pledged to continue collaborating with Sahayatra Nepal and other stakeholders for the LAPA's successful implementation. Once dismissed and disrespected Sahayatra Nepal is now recognized by the local government as a valuable partner in climate action.

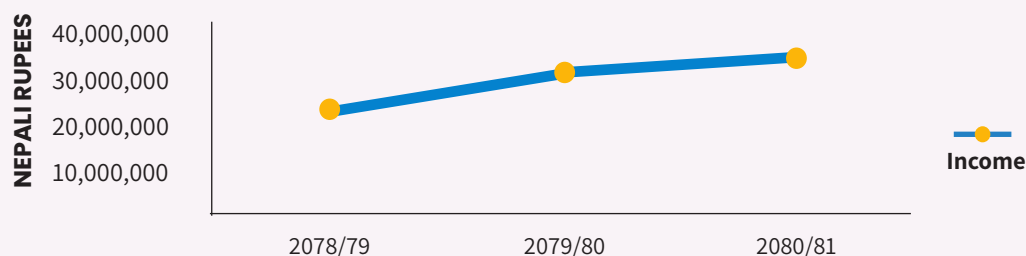
**The learning is:** Collective and sustained advocacy and persistence gradually influence even the most reluctant institutions. Empowered women can lead meaningful change in their communities as active agents in addressing climate change, leading to more inclusive and effective outcomes.

# PERFORMANCE IN FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONS AREAS

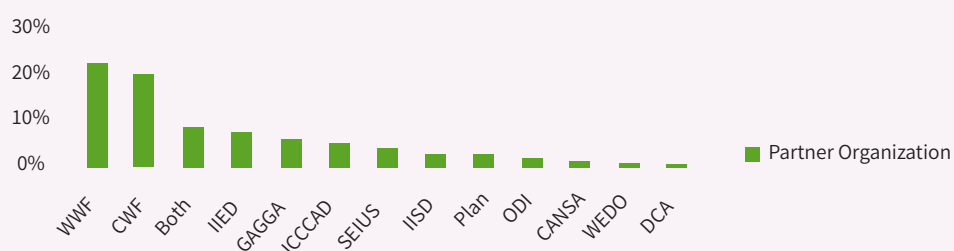


In Fiscal Year 2080/81, PRC’s total income was NPR 32,550,023 (three crore twenty-five lakh fifty thousand and twenty-three rupees). Out of this amount received from 10 different funding partners, the total expenditure was NPR 31,836,619 (three crore eighteen lakh thirty six thousand and nineteen rupees): 69% was programme related expenses, 27% staff salaries and benefits, and only 4% office administration.

## Income trend of last 3 Fiscal Years



## Partnerwise fund received in last 3 fiscal years (in%)



During the last three fiscal years, PRC maintained a steady growth in its income and turnover. On an average, the income increased by 25% during the period. WWF Nepal, ClimateWorks Foundation and Both Ends were PRC's major funding partners during those years.

**Operational Efficiency and Effectiveness:** In keeping with its organizational growth, PRC continued timely improvement in its operations, systems and procedures. It upgraded its accounting and financial systems, human resources management and office administration, ensuring effective programme delivery adhering to both the government and the donor compliances. Key accomplishments during the last three years include:

- Application of cloud-based accounting software (Saralbooks), which greatly facilitated efficient and effective bookkeeping, data storage and analysis, and reports generation.
- Timely completion of statutory audit and organizational renewable process ensuring tax compliance.
- Revision and adoption by the General Assembly of policies on human resources management, financial and logistics management, and gender and social inclusion.
- Revision of the organization's organogram and payrolls keeping pace with the growth of the organization.

# STAFF AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

**Recruitment and Staffing Updates:** PRC currently employs 10 staff members. Between 1 Shrawan 2080 and 31 Ashad 2081, three new hires were made: a Programme Manager, a Research Coordinator, and a Research Officer. PRC has successfully achieved overall gender parity in fixed-term appointments, with 60% of these positions held by women and 40% by men.

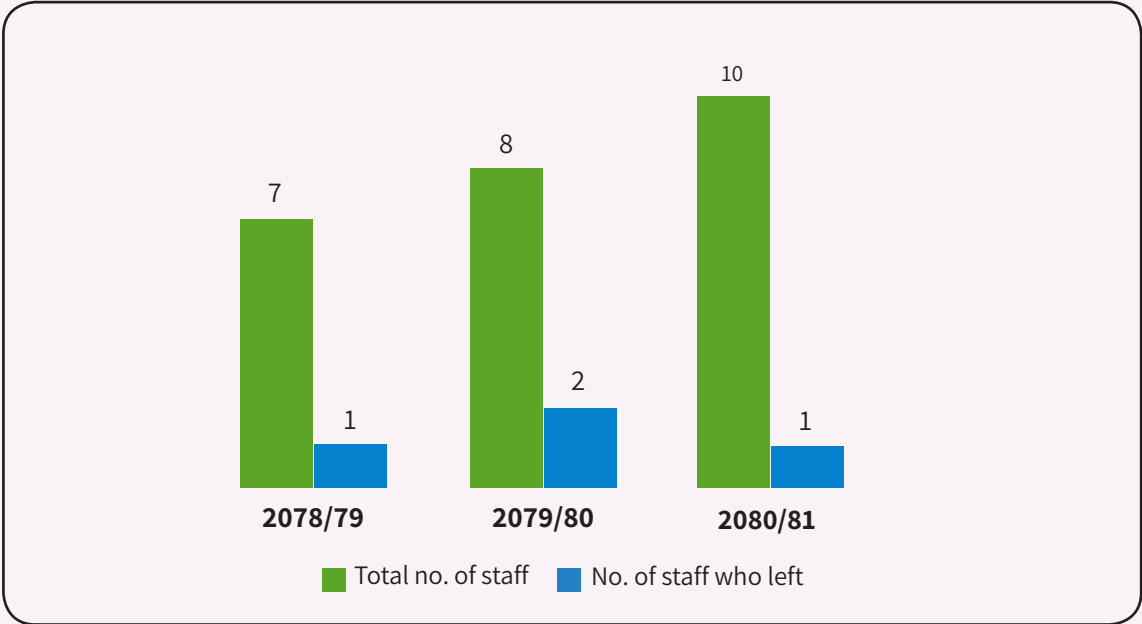
**Career Progression and Professional Growth:** PRC is dedicated to fostering a culture of continuous learning. Capacity building is part of personnel development effort, with staff members receiving training in areas such as Advanced Excel, Nepal Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations, and Income Tax and VAT Management for 2080/81. The organization supported staff participation in national and international forums, enabling them to stay updated on new developments, contribute to dialogues, and build networks. PRC also prioritized internal career progression. For example, it promoted two staff members based on performance evaluations—one from Officer to Coordinator and another from Coordinator to Manager. These promotions have motivated employees to embrace new challenges and responsibilities.

**Employee Satisfaction and Retention:** PRC is committed to creating a safe and inclusive work environment where all employees are treated with dignity, courtesy, and respect. The organization's Code of Conduct outlines expected behavior standards, and HR and Sexual Harassment policies detail measures to prevent and address workplace misconduct. Staff satisfaction is influenced by professional growth opportunities, positive workplace culture, work-life balance, and benefits comparable to similar organizations. PRC's efforts have contributed to employee retention and satisfaction.

Menuka Acharya, PRC's Finance Manager, shared, *"I have been working with PRC for four years and have had the opportunity to participate in several training programmes, including Tax/VAT Rules and Regulation, Advanced Excel, and Financial Management. The new skills have directly supported both my professional development and the organization by enhancing my knowledge of taxation rules, financial management, and simplifying tasks like report preparation and salary management."*

Similarly, Programme Coordinator Pragya Shrechan remarked, *"After joining PRC, my international exposures, starting with COP26 at UNFCCC in Glasgow, UK, have been useful in my career growth and contribution to the organization. As I come from Mustang, a district severely affected by climate change, I'm passionate about this sector. The exposures have allowed me to witness how global agendas are discussed, identify key stakeholders, and find where I can contribute. The*

trust and opportunities given by PRC have deepened my understanding of various climate change dimensions, boosted my confidence, and enabled me to engage in networks such as GAGGA, JWHI, GCF, CSOs, and WGC, as well as other national and international forums. This engagement has helped align our work with broader issues and integrate them into our projects.”



Over the last three years, the number of staff members continued to grow (from 7 to 10) with some of them leaving the organization for better opportunities and new challenges. One person left PRC in 2078-2079, two in 2079-2080 and one in 2080-2081.

**ORGANIZATIONAL LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING**

**Knowledge Management Initiatives:** In its effort to promote a culture of continuous learning and effective information sharing, PRC has enhanced its knowledge management initiatives by strengthening internal communication and expanding the reach of its knowledge products through various mediums.

PRC ensures that knowledge products are accessible both physically and online via reports, newsletters, blogs, social media, and website updates. Its publications, research findings, and training materials are regularly updated to ensure stakeholders, partners, donors, community leaders, practitioners, students, and the public have access to the latest insights. PRC is an active member of diverse networks (see in the section below). In collaboration with these networks and government bodies, it organizes workshops, seminars, webinars, and other programmes to extend the reach of its knowledge products and strengthen partnerships.

PRC’s organizational structure, which includes Research, Programme, and Administration and Finance units, facilitates shared understanding across all teams. Programme and research

teams convene every three months to review achievements, discuss challenges and plan for the future. Weekly and quarterly cross-team meetings further enhance inter-unit collaboration. PRC encourages one-on-one discussions and brainstorming sessions, which foster problem-solving and innovative thinking. Informal networking and casual communication are valued for building stronger interpersonal relationships. Staff feedback is sought to identify areas for improving information flow within and outside the organization.

**Internal and External Communication:** Effective communication is central to PRC's operations, ensuring transparency, collaboration, and strong engagement with stakeholders, donors, and partners. Internally, it prioritizes breaking silos among units by using a variety of mediums such as official WhatsApp groups, emails, and in-person meetings. These methods, both formal and informal, foster team cohesion and knowledge sharing across the organization.

Externally, PRC maintains transparent and proactive communication with partners, donors, and stakeholders, contributing to its reputation as a reliable partner. This is reflected in the continued support and extended projects from long-standing collaborators like Both ENDS, GAGGA, IIED, CANSA, and IDRC. PRC provides regular updates through detailed reports, briefs, online meetings, phone calls, emails, social media, and in-person visits, ensuring that stakeholders are well-informed about programme/project progress, financial status, and strategies.

PRC maintains open communication lines through WhatsApp, Telegram, Signal, and Skype. These tools, particularly useful during international gatherings like COP, help maintain informal and transparent communication, building trust and long-term collaboration. This approach encourages donors and partners to visit PRC areas in Nepal for familiarization and engagement with PRC work.

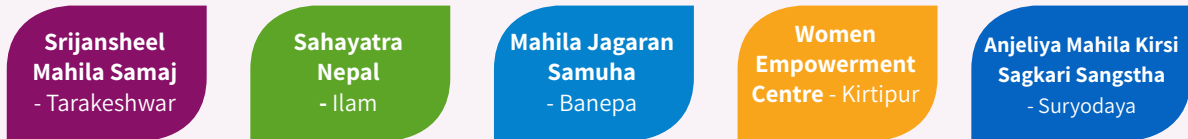
PRC's expanding network of partners demonstrates the effectiveness of its communication strategies. In 2023 alone, it welcomed new partners such as ICCCAD, IFSD, WEDO, Plan International Nepal, ClimateWorks Foundation, and the Climate Emergency Collaboration Group. It testifies to the PRC's growing influence and the positive impact of its initiatives.

# PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

PRC is actively engaged in national, regional, and global civil society networks, focusing on climate change advocacy, policy dialogues, research, and capacity-building. These partnerships have been carefully chosen to align with PRC's strategic objectives, including resilience and adaptation, low carbon development, climate finance, and loss and damage. Through these collaborations, PRC continues to expand its influence and impact on climate action.

## IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS:

Community-based women's groups are essential in localizing climate knowledge into practice:



## STRATEGIC AND JOINT PARTNERS:

- **Tewa:** Tewa and PRC work together for climate and gender justice, combining PRC's climate expertise with TEWA's community engagement.
- **Plan International Nepal:** PRC's partnership with Plan focuses on strengthening youth leadership in climate actions and advocacy.
- **WWF Nepal:** PRC and WWF jointly implemented the "Multi-Actor Partnership for Implementing Nationally Determined Contributions with 100% Renewable Energy for all in the Global South".

## ADVOCACY AND LEARNING COLLABORATIONS:

- **Climate and Development Dialogue (C&D):** A civil society network of 12 organizations, including PRC, focusing on policy intervention in Nepal.
- **MAP for 100% Renewable Energy Platform:** A 46-member platform working on just transitions to 100% Renewable Energy.
- **Climate Action Network South Asia (CANSAs) - Nepal:** A regional network representing South Asian perspectives on climate action.
- **Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action (GAGGA):** With GAGGA's support, PRC leads advocacy efforts linked to gender and climate justice.

## GOVERNMENT AGENCIES PRC CLOSELY WORKS WITH:

PRC collaborates with federal, provincial and local governments to promote the cause of climate justice:



## FUNDING PARTNERS AND AREAS OF SUPPORT:

- ☛ **ClimateWorks Foundation:** climate advocacy.
- ☛ **Both ENDS, GAGGA, Fondo Centroamericano de Mujeres (FCAM):** gender and climate justice.
- ☛ **IIED:** climate negotiations
- ☛ **Brot für die Welt, World Future Council, BMZ:** 100% RE
- ☛ **International Centre for Climate Change Development:** Bangladesh, Institute for Study and Development Worldwide – Australia: loss and damage.



