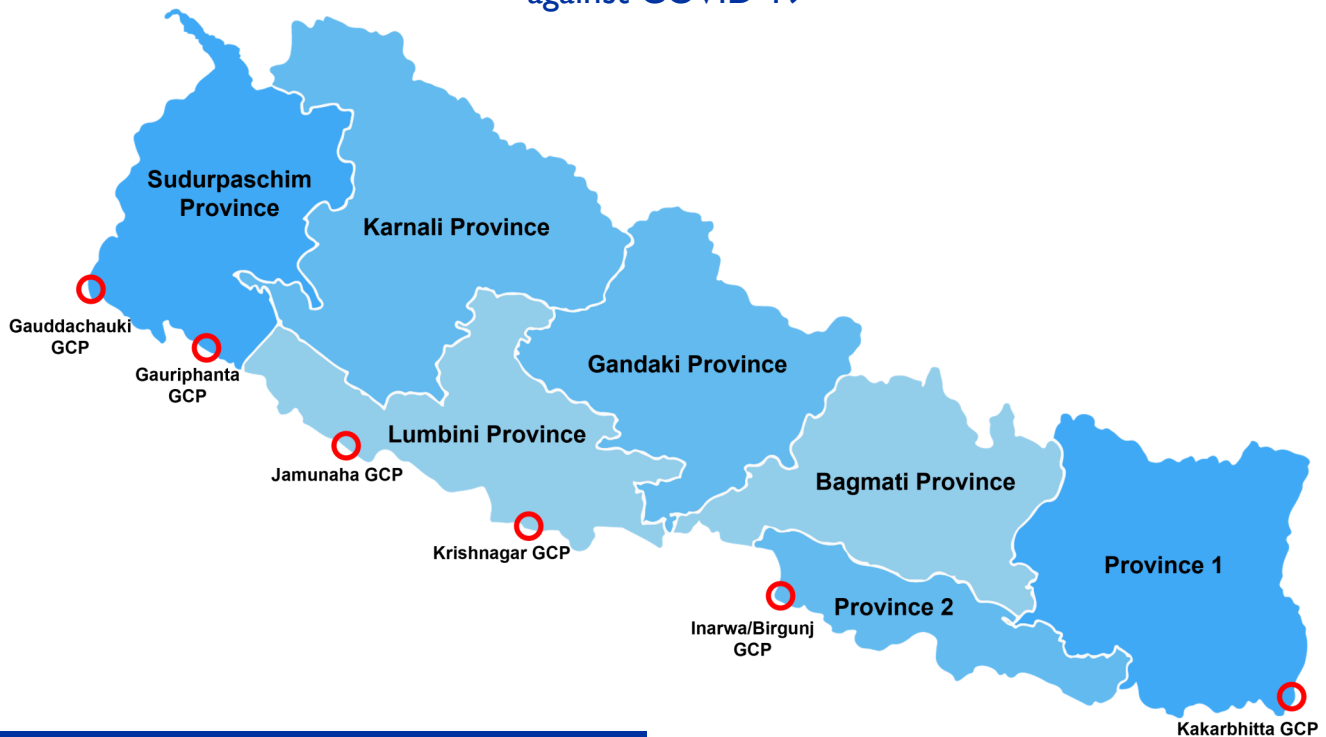


PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET

Effective case management by strengthening Isolation Centres and Ground Crossing Points (GCPs) management for Rapid Response and Preparedness against COVID-19



PROJECT BACKGROUND

Nepal shares a long and open border with India, granting citizens of both countries free cross-border movement following the Treaty of Peace and Friendship in 1950. Along the border there are numerous ground crossing points (GCPs), of which the majority are informal and 13 are formal government-designated crossing points.

In an effort to stop the spreading of the virus, the Government of Nepal, while maintaining the open GCPs, established health desks for screening migrants crossing the border.

Following the second wave in the country, a number of gaps at the GCPs were identified and raised, including low testing capacity, insufficient screening, recording and reporting of migrant movement and COVID-19 positive cases, lacking protection referral services and lacking access to isolation centres for identified positive cases.

This project targets six GCPs and six isolation centres in

each GCP with the aim to support the local and provincial governments of the targeted locations in addressing the identified gaps and concerns and strengthening the overall management at entry points. The project seeks to achieve sustainable management and preparedness for high migrant flows in each location to promote safe, orderly and dignified migration.

Donor	EU DG ECHO
Implementing Agency	IOM
Lead Partner Institutions	Save the Children
Geographic Coverage	Province 1, Province 2, Lumbini Province and Sudurpaschim Province
Target Groups	922,419 return migrants, local governments, provincial governments
Duration	September 2021 to September 2022
Budget	€ 1,500,000.00

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The objective of the project is to provide safe and regular crossing for migrants amid COVID-19 by improved capacity of isolation centers and ground crossing points.

PLANNED INTERVENTIONS

To achieve the objective as described above, the project focuses on three outcomes:

Outcome 1: Health-based facilities at six isolation centres and six GCPs are strengthened. This outcome will strengthen the overall capacity of the health-based facilities through provision of crucial equipment and human resources. The safety of migrants and personnel at GCPs and isolation centres will be ensured through provision of safety gears and medical equipment, provision of semi-permanent health desks to support health screening and testing to meet anticipated high influx of return migrants, and supporting the provincial governments in developing contingency plans for public health emergencies. Personnel will be trained on the use of safety gears, medical equipment will be provided. The project will support through provision of technical equipment including tablets and computers as well as solar panels at targeted isolation centers and GCPs to strengthen reporting and recording mechanisms, COVID-19 screening and referrals, and logistical management.

Outcome 2: WASH facilities at six isolation centres and six GCPs are improved. The project will install permanent water supply facilities by drilling tubewells, and ensure the water quality through regular testing. Permanent gender- and disability-inclusive toilets and washrooms will be constructed, and soap dispensers, soap refills and sanitizer dispensers will be provided to each location. Waste management will be strengthened through provision of biohazard bags and color-coded bins for proper waste disposal. The project will also supply all targeted locations with equipment for disinfection and cleaning. Risk Communication and Community Engagement and Accountability (RCCEA) will be included through the

development and distribution of informative infection prevention and control (IPC) posters with information on handwashing instructions, regular hand sanitizing, flushing the toilet after use, maintaining physical distancing and more.

Outcome 3: Protection mechanisms at six isolation centres and six GCPs are strengthened. The project will produce and disseminate information materials on rights and access to immediate basic protection services. The GCPs and isolation centres will have separate breastfeeding corners for lactating mothers and their children. Psychosocial counselling will be conducted through community-based psychosocial counsellors. For protection referral services, the project will coordinate with local CSOs/NGOs working in shelter/temporary accommodation, food, psychosocial counselling and basic medical assistance for proper referral. Training of Trainers will be conducted on counselling and Psychosocial First Aid with health staff and border officials through the hiring of an expert. High-speed wi-fi will be provided in GCPs and isolation centers for migrants to connect with their family and friends.

To better understand how COVID-19 affects cross-border mobility between India and Nepal and in-country mobility, the project will conduct flow monitoring through the Displacement Tracking Matrix methodology. This will enable the project to map population mobility along major formal and informal GCPs and COVID-19 hotspots near the GCPs to support government agencies, the media, partner agencies, UN agencies, civil society and humanitarian organizations to strengthen COVID-19 reporting, response and delivery of better-targeted, multi-sectoral assistance.

For more information, please contact the IOM Nepal project team:

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