1. What are the main causes/drivers of homelessness in your country?

Homelessness in Nepal is still a prevalent complex and persistent issue in Nepal, In general terms, homelessness is a growing problem in Nepal. As the nation's population grows and the economy stagnates, more and more people are forced to become homeless. According to a recent informal report of Government, an estimated 20 million people are homeless in Nepal. The main causes of homelessness in Nepal are complex and interrelated. Poverty and economic inequality are the primary culprits of homelessness. In addition, a lack of access to education, employment opportunities and limited access to health care contribute to the problem. Other key factors include gender-based discrimination, class and caste based discrimination, Climate change, COVID-19 pandemic effects, drugs addiction, Increasing Urbanization, displacement due to natural disasters, internal conflict and the country's civil war effects, as well as increase stateless children due to unsafe labor migration and unsafe physical relationships with multiple partners particularly at the Baadi community( One of the marginalized community in Nepal) is facing such kind of problem from the western Nepal.

1. Is there evidence of persons experiencing homelessness,**[1]**being exploited in contemporary forms of slavery such as forced of bonded labour, worst forms of child labour, sexual exploitation which may amount to slavery and other forms of exploitation in your country? If so, please provide details in relation to:
   1. Profiles of victims (e.g. age, sex, gender identity/sexual orientation, ethnicity, nationality, migration status, socio-economic status, race and any other features).
   2. Profiles of exploiters (e.g. criminal organizations; human traffickers; private businesses/employers, others);
   3. Methods of recruitment of persons experiencing homelessness, including children in street situations;
   4. Manifestation of exploitation (e.g. sexual exploitation and/or labour exploitation in various sectors such as agriculture, domestic work and construction, as well as criminal exploitation (e.g. forced begging, drug production/trafficking, theft, etc.)), including their gender dimensions.

Cases of sexual exploitation and bonded labor are rare in Nepal However, due to poverty and illiteracy, massively female workers deploying at foreign employment in an undocumented manner through irregular channel, labor and sexual exploitation are found in some places during the process or promotion of foreign employment. Regarding children labour, the government of Nepal is prohibiting to children for working, despite this, due to lack of poverty and illiteracy, Child labor is being used a lot in the industrial sector of brick production, in the road transport vehicle sector and hospitality sectors (Hotel, restaurant). According to the Resource and Information Centre of Child Workers in Nepal (CWIN) there are around 5000 street children all over Nepal. In Kathmandu alone, it is estimated that the number of street children is approximately 1200-1500. As reported by Superintendent of Kathmandu Metropolitan, “The metropolitan police have rescued 124 female children and 120 male children last year from the streets.

Nepal is a multi-lingual, multi-cultural, multi-ethnic nation. In this context, the Baadi community living in the western part of Nepal, the Musahar community living in the eastern part of Nepal, who are minorities community, have become homeless due to poverty, illiteracy, lack of health services and lack of employment. In this regards POURAKHI Nepal is working on the issue of women workers and many migrant women workers are left homeless due to social stigma, lack of access to property rights, labor and sexual exploitation by employers of destination countries and brokers during foreign employment. Few cases has been attached for the references.

1. **Case of Dhan Kumari Henjan**

Name: Dhan Kumari Henjan

Gender: Female

Age: 32

Cast: Dalit

Migrant status: Returnee women

Marital Status: Divorced

Dhan Kumari Henjan, aged 32 a permanent resident of Sindhuli district, went for foreign employment in Lebanon in years ago. She paid the local agent Nrs 1,00,000 to go abroad for work. She worked as a domestic worker in Lebanon. Her duties were to prepare food, cleaning, and washing clothes. She had workload, no time to rest and due to payment from the owner. Her employers were not so good, they always abused her verbally. due to this cirsumstance she decided to escaped from their thus with the help of friend she escaped and changed employer after few months one native local guy married with her and they stayed together but after few years local guy started to given torture physically and mentally, as said by Henjan she escaped and went friends shelter with her child , she was rescued by the coordination of POURAKHI Nepal and Government of Nepal, Currently, she is living with her elder sister along with the child, even still her family has not been accepted because of her migrant status. Due to this circumstance, she could not make the documents of her child As a result, depriving of the services from the state and her child deprive from the education. Mrs Dhan Kumari Henjan working as a daily basis wages. In the coordination of POURAKHI Nepal, she submitted document to the government for her child rights even POURAKHI Nepal providing Skill training and direct assistance for her empowerment.

1. Case of Sulochana Gautam

Name: Sulochana Gautam

Gender: Female

Age: 34

Cast: Braman/Chhetri

Migrant status: Returnee women

Marital Status: Divorced

At the age of 26, Sulochana Gautam went to Kuwait as a domestic worker from India by paying Nrs.50,000. Before going for foreign employment, she was separated from her husband. She used to live with her parents and elder sister. Her economic condition was poor. She decided to go to Kuwait to support her family. In Kuwait she had worked in a house where she had to serve nine peoples. She had to do all the household work and look after four children's. During her work period, the house owner’s wife treated her well for the first two months. After two months the owner son misbehaved with her and tried for sexual abuses many times. She reported it to the house owner but she could not get any support from them. She contacted the agent office to ask help to get out of the house but they did not help her. Then, she complained to the owner's wife about the son's behavior towards her but he did not listen to her and threatened her. She was physically abused by the house owner as well. She worked there for six months but she was paid only for three months. After six month she left that house with the help of her Nepali friends and lived with them illegally. As reported by Ms Gautam due to such kind of circumstances she was living with an Indian guy as undocumented way unfortunately after a few months she got pregnant. When her guy knew about her pregnancy he left her and stayed out of contact.

When she admitted to the hospital for the delivery Kuwait police take her to control and after delivery handover to Nepal embassy. Nepal embassy had made the Travel document of ms Gautam and her child thus she returned back to Nepal. Currently she living alone with her child in rent. Due to poverty and migrant status her family has not been accepting so she worked as a labour in daily basis due to this circumstance, she could not make the documents of her child as a result, depriving of the services from the state and her child deprive from the education. In the coordination of POURAKHI Nepal, she submitted document to the government for her child rights even POURAKHI Nepal providing Skill training and direct assistance for her empowerment.

1. Is there evidence of homelessness being a consequence of contemporary forms of slavery in your country (i.e. domestic/foreign victims being made homeless after sexual and/or labour exploitation)?  If so, please explain further.

Nepal is recognized as a country that is a source, transit, and destination for human trafficking, with both labor and sexual exploitation being common. Nepalese citizens are also frequently trafficked to other countries for similar reasons. Those who fall victim to trafficking are often vulnerable populations, such as women, children, and marginalized communities. A number of NGOs and human rights organizations have documented instances of people being exploited and trafficked in Nepal, leading to subsequent homelessness. These reports often describe how individuals are forced to work under unsafe and exploitative conditions, and are paid insufficiently to afford stable housing. Once a person is trafficked, they may be subjected to long work hours, physical and sexual violence, lack of medical care, and prevented from leaving their workplace. These conditions can contribute to physical and mental health issues, financial instability, and ultimately, homelessness.

Furthermore, foreign victims of slavery have been brought into Nepal and exploited in industries such as construction, domestic work, and agriculture. After escaping or being rescued from their situation, many of these victims may not have a place to live, or may face discrimination and stigma that hinders their reintegration into society. Interviews with victims of contemporary slavery in Nepal have revealed that many have become homeless as a result of their exploitation. These victims may lack a place to live after escaping or may be hesitant to return home due to the possibility of retribution or lack of support from their families and society.

Nepal has limited support services for trafficking and exploitation victims, including restricted access to safe housing. As a result, victims may find it difficult to reintegrate into society and locate stable housing after leaving their situation. In addition, victims of trafficking and exploitation in Nepal may encounter discrimination and stigma from their communities, which can make it challenging to find stable housing. For instance, women who have been trafficked for sexual exploitation may be regarded as "impure" and face social ostracism.

1. Are there examples of positive measures taken by your Government to prevent persons experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, including children in street situations or discharged from child or foster care, from being subjected to contemporary forms of slavery?  If so, please provide details, which may include, but are not limited to, development/implementation of legislative, policy and institutional frameworks, material/financial support, and promotion of access to housing, education/training, decent work, health/public services, as well as justice and remedies.

We must say that the government of Nepal has develop some legislative arrangements and design many programs to prevent person experiencing homelessness and at risk of homelessness. It is crucial to effectively implement measures that address the root causes of homelessness, such as poverty, lack of education and employment opportunities, and social exclusion. However, the government of Nepal has provision to provide access to education and vocational training to these populations to acquire the skills and knowledge they need to secure decent work and become self-sufficient.

Government of Nepal has been promoting affordable housing through a combination of government subsidies, rent control measures, and social housing programs to homelessness. The existing mechanisms is strengthening child protection systems to provide support and services to children in street situations or discharged from child or foster care to prevent them from being exploited or trafficked.

Governments of Nepal in coordination with development partners are supporting for improving access to health care by providing physical and mental health care services to individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. The legal arrangements also support for prosecuting those who engage in trafficking and exploitation and providing support and protection to victims.

Civil society organization are actively working for raising awareness to educate the public, especially vulnerable populations, about the risks of trafficking and exploitation and how to avoid becoming a victim. Addressing the root causes of homelessness and strengthening vulnerable population protection systems can help prevent individuals from being subjected to contemporary forms of slavery.

In Nepal, the government has taken some steps to address the these issues;

Nepal has enacted laws such as the Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act, 2064, and the Foreign Employment Act, 2064, which provide a legal framework for combating human trafficking and exploitation. These laws prescribe severe penalties for traffickers and provide support and protection to victims. Nepal has established institutions such as the National Human Rights Commission, the Central Investigation Bureau, and the National Women's Commission, which are responsible for investigating and prosecuting cases of human trafficking and exploitation. The government has also established a Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare, which is responsible for protecting the rights of women and children.

The government provides financial support to NGOs and civil society organizations that work to prevent human trafficking and provide support and protection to victims. The government has also established a fund for victims of human trafficking, which provides financial assistance for their rehabilitation and reintegration. The government provides access to education and vocational training programs to help individuals acquire the skills and knowledge they need to secure decent work and become self-sufficient. The government also promotes the development of industries and sectors that provide decent work opportunities.

The government provides access to health care services to individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, including victims of human trafficking and exploitation. The government has also established a hotline for reporting cases of human trafficking and exploitation. The government has established special courts to hear cases of human trafficking and exploitation. The government provides support and protection to victims, including legal assistance and rehabilitation services.

1. Are there examples of positive measures implemented by civil society Organizations or other non-governmental stakeholders in protecting and promoting the rights of persons experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness and in preventing them from being victimized in contemporary forms of slavery?  If so, please provide details.

There are multiple examples of civil society organizations and other non-governmental stakeholders in Nepal taking positive measures to protect and promote the rights of individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness and prevent them from being victimized by contemporary forms of slavery.

Several organizations in Nepal engage in advocacy and awareness-raising campaigns to prevent contemporary forms of slavery and promote the rights of vulnerable populations, such as those experiencing homelessness. They conduct workshops, seminars, and training programs to educate individuals about the dangers of trafficking and exploitation and inform them about available support services. Capacity building initiatives are also provided by some organizations to enhance the skills and knowledge of vulnerable populations. Vocational training programs and other capacity building initiatives are offered to help individuals earn a sustainable livelihood and avoid exploitative situations. Additionally, some non-governmental organizations provide shelter and rehabilitation services to those who have been trafficked or exploited. They provide safe housing, medical care, and psychological support to help individuals recover from their traumatic experiences and reintegrate into society.

Legal aid and advocacy services are provided by several organizations to victims of contemporary forms of slavery, assisting them in accessing justice and remedies, including filing cases against traffickers and perpetrators of exploitation. Community-based initiatives are also undertaken by some organizations to prevent trafficking and exploitation. They work with local communities to raise awareness, identify vulnerable populations, and promote community-led initiatives to address the root causes of trafficking. Some organizations provide district-level assistance such as medical support, psychosocial counseling, in-kind support for income-generating activities, and assistance in family reunions and re-integration

1. What are remaining challenges – in law and practice - in preventing persons experiencing homelessness from being subjected to contemporary forms of slavery and to prevent and eliminate homelessness in accordance with Sustainable Development Goal 11.1 and international human rights law?

Despite efforts by the government and civil society organizations, Nepal still faces several challenges in preventing persons experiencing homelessness from being subjected to contemporary forms of slavery and in eliminating homelessness in accordance with Sustainable Development Goal 11.1 and international human rights law.

1. It is noted that addressing the challenges facing persons experiencing homelessness and preventing contemporary forms of slavery may not always be a priority for governments, policymakers and bureaucracy. Moreover, there may be a lack of sufficient political will to allocate the necessary resources and take the bold actions required to overcome these challenges.
2. One of the key challenges is the ineffective implementation and enforcement of laws and policies related to preventing contemporary forms of slavery and promoting the rights of vulnerable populations.
3. Limited access to emergency shelter home and provision of long-term shelter home for vulnerable populations, including persons experiencing homelessness, is another significant challenge.
4. Lack of access to education and vocational training opportunities, which limits the ability of vulnerable populations to access decent work and earn a sustainable livelihood.
5. Social stigma and discrimination faced by victims of trafficking and exploitation also pose a significant challenge.
6. Despite the several provision made by government of Nepal such as positive discrimination, reservation to the vulnerable population, these opportunities have been assessed and controlled by the elite of these group of population.
7. Lastly, the COVID-19 pandemic has led to increased unemployment, economic insecurity, and limited access to essential services, which has further increased the vulnerability of these populations to exploitation and trafficking.
8. What practical recommendations would you propose to overcome these ongoing challenges?

Here are some practical recommendations that could help overcome the ongoing challenges;

* 1. Allocation of sufficient resources and provide necessary training to law enforcement agencies to improve implementation and enforcement of laws and policies related to preventing contemporary forms of slavery and promoting the rights of vulnerable populations.
  2. Increase investments in shelter support programs, particularly in urban areas to vulnerable populations, including persons experiencing homelessness.
  3. Civil society organizations can provide education and vocational training opportunities to vulnerable populations to enhance their skills and knowledge, which can increase their ability to access decent work and earn a sustainable livelihood.
  4. The government and civil society organizations should work to combat social stigma and discrimination faced by victims of trafficking and exploitation through awareness-raising campaigns, community engagement, and advocacy.
  5. Enhance support services for victims of trafficking and exploitation, including legal aid, medical care, psychological support, and rehabilitation services.
  6. The government and civil society organizations should develop and implement measures to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on vulnerable populations, including persons experiencing homelessness by providing emergency housing assistance, economic support, and access to essential services.
  7. The government and civil society organizations should work with local communities to develop and promote community-led initiatives to prevent trafficking and exploitation by identifying and addressing the root causes of trafficking, such as poverty and lack of opportunities, and promoting community resilience.