

Tipping Point Roundup June/July 2016

STAFF UPDATES

- **Elizabeth Brezovich** joined Tipping Point US team as Sr. Advisor for MEL for the Tipping Point project as of June 27. Most recently, Elizabeth worked as Gender Advisor with CARE Austria, where she supported the CARE Country offices in Nepal, Ethiopia and Uganda. Her work experience has included promoting the rights of refugee and immigrant women, women's economic empowerment, sexual and reproductive health and rights, violence against women, engaging men for gender equality, gender mainstreaming in organizations, and aid effectiveness. She has gathered her experience with numerous grassroots organizations and UN agencies (UNFPA, Unifem and UNHCR) and has experience as a trainer and facilitator on gender equality topics.
- **Nigar Sultana** left CARE Bangladesh as of June 1st. We appreciate her leadership and efforts to guide and steer as Team Leader Tipping Point Project. Nigar joined at a critical time of tipping point project in Bangladesh and helped us to ground many of the activities in the project.
- Please welcome **Shammin Sultana** who joined as Team Leader Tipping Point Project as of July 25th. Shammin comes with extensive experience on working in the field of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. She has more than 15 years of experience with NGOs, INGOs, bi-lateral projects, regional inter-governmental organization and with UN agencies including UNDP, UNFPA and UN Women. Shammin has been actively involved with UNFPA and UN Joint Program particularly in the area of violence against women and engaging men related studies.

For an updated list of Tipping Point team members and contact information click [here](#).

TIPPING POINT NEWS

• CARE Nepal Unveils its Research Report

CARE Nepal's Tipping Point (Aba Mero Palo) Project hosted **the launch of its research report on The Cultural Context of Child Marriage in Nepal and Bangladesh: Findings from CARE's Tipping Point Project, Community Participatory Analysis on the 4th of July, 2016** at Hotel Yak and Yeti in Kathmandu. (You can find the report documents [here](#).) The Chief Guest for the event was Hon'ble Chandra Prakash Mainali, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Women, Children and Social Welfare and the event was chaired by Priyanka Kumari Harijan, from Rupandehi who is the one of the adolescent champions against child marriage working with CARE's initiative. Among the invitees were people ranging from governmental bodies to civil society actors united by their desire to understand and tackle the issue of child marriage.



The event concluded with a panel discussion that comprised Dhana Kumari Chaudhary Tharu, Ramsharam Raidas and Laxmi Shrestha who have firsthand experience of conducting the research to share their experiences. The researchers from CARE's partner organizations were brought in to discuss the methodology and the findings of this participatory research report. The event proved to be a very successful one, which helped reiterate CARE's commitment to supporting the Government of Nepal's aim to end child marriage by 2030. The event also received media attention through news articles published in two leading Nepali newspapers – see links to the stories below:

- Kathmandu post: **A social scourge** on July 8, 2016 (Find the link [here](#))
- MY Republica: **Child Marriage still Rampant: Report** on July 5, 2016 (Find the link [here](#))

For Nepal specific policy brief and study summary click [here](#) and [here](#)

• mPower trainings in Nepal and Bangladesh

During the months of June and July, staff members from CARE Bangladesh, CARE Nepal, and partner organizations ASD, JASHIS, DSDC, and SSS participated in a training on the project online database. Trainers from mPower, the company that has been developing the database for the Tipping Point monitoring data, delivered the training. The main goal was to enable MEL staff from the various organizations to directly enter the monitoring data they are collecting into the online database. The development of the database builds upon the outcome mapping process that the Tipping Points teams are using for MEL. The stories that field facilitators and social mobilizers, and other staff collect can be uploaded and later sorted by different categories. After this training, soon all the information the teams are gathering for outcome mapping can be available in one place. This online database will help Tipping Point staff analyze how we are making progress towards our outcomes, so that we can learn from what is working or “change course” as needed.

• TARSHI training on sexuality in Nepal

CARE, USA invited TARSHI to conduct a training program on ‘Sexuality, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights’ in June 2016, for staff members of CARE's Tipping Point Project based in Nepal. TARSHI (Talking About Reproductive and Sexual Health Issues) is a New Delhi based non-profit organization that has been working towards expanding sexual and reproductive choices in people's lives since 1996 through publications, trainings and other outreach activities in India, and other parts of Asia. TARSHI's programs can be found at www.tarshi.net.

The collaboration between CARE and TARSHI was aimed at training and strengthening staff capacity on sexuality and sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR) related topics. There were 42 participants from three different organizations – CARE Nepal, Siddhartha Social Development Center (SSDC) and Dalit Social Development Center (DSDC).



- **Department of Youth Development in Bangladesh provided sports material to fun center adolescents**

On 21 June Upazila Nirbahi, the Chief Executive of Derai Upazila revisited the Dattagram Fun Center to keep his promise. Earlier in February this year Two high level officials named Mr. Harun-Ar Rashid Khan, Deputy Director of Youth Development Department and Mr. Mahafuzur Rahman, Upazila Youth Development officer visited the Dattagram Fun Center during the training and promised to provide some sports materials to the fun center.

(Photo: Derai Upazila handing over one carom board and one football for adolescents of this fun center)



- **Community dialogue at the village level in Bangladesh**

Community dialogues/talk shows were held at the village level by both partner organizations. These community shows were aimed to sensitize community people regarding social norms approach as well as to share positive practices and experiences. Participants included representatives from government officials, UP members and chairmen, teachers, members from different NGO's, elite people from the community, Marriage registers, parents, ERAW forum members and adolescent girls and boys from the community.

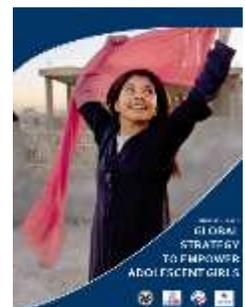


- **Attended Enabling Environment for Child Rights project meeting in Bangladesh**

The Ministry of Women and Children Affairs in Bangladesh is implementing Enabling Environment for Child Rights (EECR) project and the National Adolescent Strategy will be developed under this project. The Ministry has formed an advisory committee to get strategic direction in developing **National Adolescent Strategy and Action Framework**. **CARE Bangladesh** has been nominated as one of the **advisory group members**. The first meeting of this group was organized on 29 May, 2016. The Director of Women and Girls Empowerment and Technical Coordinator-Advocacy and Communication participated.

- **Transition with next US administration**

Gayatri Patel, Senior Policy Advocate (CARE USA) in DC had meetings with key members of staff of Global Women's Issues Office of the **US State Department** where she was informed that the next US Administration will **continue to prioritize implementation of the new US Government Adolescent Girl Strategy (See right)**. CARE US is working with Girls Not Brides (GNB) USA coalition to develop a memo for the next President of the United States outlining our top priorities for CEFM/adolescent girls.



RESOURCES & NEWS

- **The Summit - The United State of Women on June 14, 2016**

The first United State of Women summit, organized by the White House took place in Washington, D.C. on June 14 and brought together thousands of participants for discussions about the status of women's and girls' in the US and globally. Some of the high profile speakers at the summit included President Barack Obama, First Lady Michelle Obama, and Vice President Joe Biden. CARE staff participated as speakers (Joyce Adolwa, Director, Girls' Empowerment & Adolescent Programming team) as well as attendees. The key topics for discussion during the summit included as following: Economic Empowerment, Health & Wellness, Educational Opportunity, Violence Against Women, Entrepreneurship & Innovation, Leadership & Civic Engagement.



During the summit, Michelle Obama recognized CARE for its new commitment on girls' education under Let Girls Learn (You can watch it online: [here](#)). You can find more information and watch the summit recording online at the following link: [here](#)

- **Gender 360 Summit to focus on engaging adolescent girls and boys in achieving gender equality on June 15 -16, 2016**

The fourth annual gender summit organized by FHI 360 and its partners was held on June 15-16 and designated as an official side event to the White House United State of Women Summit. The summit focused on important development issues affecting adolescent girls and boys. Speakers from around the world — including adolescent girls and boys, youth activists and development experts — convened to support adolescents' empowerment and leadership, addressing core obstacles such as gender-based violence, and coming up with tangible solutions to help advance gender equality.



The agenda of the summit can be found at the following link: [here](#)

- **5 Minutes of Inspiration: How Including Teenagers in Businesses is Preventing Child Marriage in Burundi posted by Emily Janoch, CARE USA on July 6**

Income and the strength of businesses is going up, but there are also impressive changes on the ability to cope with emergencies, reduction in child marriage, and girls staying in school. By focusing specifically on the needs, concerns, and barriers of teenage girls, the program can design to solve the problems that they face now and in the future. Check out the project's [rolling baseline](#) from November 2015. The program is funded through the MasterCard Foundation from 2014-2018.

- **Bangladesh Teens Stop Child Marriage June 30 - Women & Girls Hub**

Adolescent girls in Bangladesh face severe threats to their health: Two-thirds marry by age 18, and a third of girls are mothers before age 20. A national network of teen girls called Shornokishoree aims to improve girls' health through peer-to-peer advocacy. - See more: [here](#)



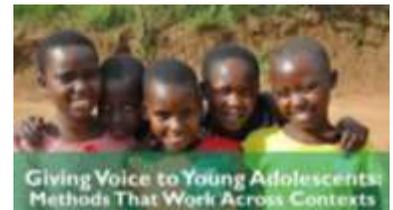
- **CARE's adolescent Working Group Brownbag: Engaging adolescent boys for gender equality on June 27, 2016**

Crownover from the CARE Balkans team shared lessons learned about engaging adolescent and youth boys using school and community approaches in the Balkans.

- You can watch the brownbag recording at the following link ([here](#) 55 min 32 sec)
- VIDEO: Balkan boys challenge post-war machismo ([here](#))

- **USAID Session on "Giving Voice to Adolescents: Methods that Work Across Contexts" on June 20, 2016**

The [Passages Project](#)'s Very Young Adolescent Task Team had a presentation and discussion on methods of the team's work in engaging adolescents as research partners and competent informants on issues critical to positive youth development. Speakers shared experiences in developing and testing participatory methods and tools to engage adolescents, the 10-14 age group in Uganda, Nepal, and Rwanda. Refer to the slide file attached in your mail for the summary of the discussions from the meeting.



- **School children in India stop their classmate's child marriage June 15**



Breakthrough India documents the story of 14 school children and their successful attempt to stop the child marriage of a friend. Watch here: [Breakthrough India](#)

- **Insightful blog highlighting some new research on women's decision-making at local level in rural Bangladesh posted on June 16**

You can find the relevant link [here](#).



- **Bangladesh's floating schools posted on June 16**



1/3 of Bangladesh is submerged during the monsoon season. Now floating schools - complete with computers and internet - are helping children learn year-round. You can find the relevant link [here](#).

- **Early brides by Afroza Mahzabeen Anannya on June 9 -DhakaTribune**

International Conference on Child Marriage – “Strength in Unity, Girls are not Brides – A Global Youth Partnership to End Child Marriage” was held in Melaka, Malaysia from 19 May to 23 May 2016, hosted by World Youth Foundation, an international organisation who engage, educate and empower youth worldwide. The conference gave insight on the present status of the issue of child marriage and the overall situation in other countries. This conference not only focused on child marriage but also provided the participants with in-depth knowledge regarding sexual exploitation, children rights, gender equality, online harassment etc. - See more: [here](#)

Brides – A Global Youth



- **Child marriage in Nepal: 'A girl is a girl, not a wife' -The Guardian, June 7**

Dialogue is the only way to change entrenched attitudes to girls in rural Nepal, says Rachana Sunar who is working to stop child marriage. You can find the relevant link [here](#).



- **Banished: Why menstruation can mean exile - Aljazeera**

Believed to be impure, some menstruating women in Nepal are forced from their homes - with sometimes deadly consequences. You can find the relevant link [here](#).



- **Nepal hopes anti-child-marriage plan will make a difference June - Lancet**

Child marriage is common in Nepal but the government hopes a new, multipronged strategy can end the practice by 2030. Sophie Cousins reports from Kathmandu, Nepal. – See more: [here](#)

If you have any materials that should be on the **Tipping Point Website** please email Hyun-Shin Kwack: hyun.kwack@care.org