

AIN hands over medical assistance package to Ministry of Health and Population



The Association of International NGOs in Nepal (AIN) in collaboration with Social Welfare Council (SWC) handed over medical equipment worth NPR 9,80,26,659.53 to the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP), to curb the spread of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This assistance is a joint procurement initiation led by AIN with a participation of 13 organizations.

AIN had called its members to contribute to the joint procurement initiative. To this call, 13 INGOs namely ActionAid, CARE Nepal, CRS, FAIRMED, GNHA, Lutheran World Federation, Marie Stopes Nepal, One Heart Worldwide, Plan International, Practical Action, PSI Nepal, UMN, Welt Hunger Hilfe responded and made financial contributions for the medical equipment purchased.

The medical assistance package include: Oxygen Concentrators, Oxygen Cylinders, hand held and spot check Oximeters, High flow Nasal Cannula, BiPAP, CPAP, ICU beds with mattresses, Venturi Face masks, Reservoir Bag masks, Antigen Kits, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) sets which included surgical masks, gloves, disposable gloves, surgical gloves, N95 masks, Full PPE set, Reusable gown, Disposable gown, Hand Sanitizers, face shields, safety goggles, heavy duty gloves, shoe covers, surgical caps, gumboots, hospital beds with mattresses, body bags, Thermometers, Ambu bags, Nebulizers, handwashing liquid, home isolation kit set were provided to cater to the needs of the hospitals and frontline health workers. Apart from this, primary medicines, supplements and essential food and ration were also provided. This AIN joint procurement was led by CARE Nepal with Technical support from One Heart Worldwide.



The handover took place at MoHP premise on June 23, 2021 where Member Secretary of SWC Puskhar Khati and AIN chairperson Dr Sushil Koirala handed over the assistance to Dr Roshan Pokhrel, Chief Specialist of the Ministry of Health and Population. The program was organized thoroughly abiding by the social distancing measures based on WHO and GoN guidelines and had participation of key government delegates, AIN members, and press.

During the program, Dr Roshan Pokhrel appreciated AIN for coming together as a consortium for the noble cause. He requested more INGOs to join hands for Covid response and support since there is more need. Dr Pokhrel added that INGOs could bring in the covid assistance medical package directly to MOHP for distribution or they could channel through their own process.

Speaking on the occasion, SWC Member Secretary acknowledged the AIN's humanitarian effort and contribution since the onset of the pandemic. He stated that more than 50 -60% of funds have come from the INGO sector as Covid response support. AIN members contribution has been well reflected in the weekly digital portal of SWC. AIN member INGOs have been able to reach 200,000 beneficiaries through their meaningful engagement. He remarked that INGOs have been implementing the response work through their NGO partners in the various affected districts all over the country.

Likewise, AIN Chair Dr. Sushil Koirala and Steering Committee Member Surya Bhatta expressed their further commitment to reach out to more AIN member INGOs with request to extend possible assistance for Covid response. In his remarks, Chairperson Dr Sushil Koirala thanked all the participating 13 AIN Member INGOs for their remarkable contribution and concerted initiative under the umbrella of AIN. He further expressed his gratefulness towards CARE Nepal and One Heart World wide's efficient team, without whom the Joint procurement process would not have been possible. Surya Bhatta emphasized that AIN Members have strictly followed the MOHP list while doing the procurement of Covid assistance items.

Present in the symbolic handover event were representatives from the various contributing INGOs and AIN Secretariat Staff. Dr Samir Kumar Adhikari from MOHP and President of NGO Federation Jit Ram Lama was also present in the occasion to show solidarity.