CEO'S CORNER

Dear Readers,

Welcome to March 2019 issue of 'Swabalamban'- a monthly newsletter of SWBBL!

Perfect management information system is essential for timely decision making and correction of any discrepancies in time. MIS could be simple manual to very complex computer based centralized system. To run a financial institution computer based centralized Core Banking System with alternative delivery channels is must.

SWBBL is using decentralized CBS with limited flexibility and scalability. Recently, it has entered into contract with M/S InfoDevelopers and Sanje JV to have centralized CBS with alternative delivery channels as well. The new CBS is expected to have real time information system and report consolidation so that it could make timely decisions. The alternative distribution channels like tablet banking, mobile banking, SMS alert could enhance value added services to clients. Microfinance clients will be served in more smart manner. This will enhance institutional visibility, productivity and profitability thereby strengthening institutional sustainability. SWBBL is excitedly investing on the timely implementation of new CBS so as to have better impact at the client level.

-Bhoj Raj Bashyal

LOOK a short takes of SWBBL

As on mid March 2019 (Falgun end 2075)

Amount in NPR'000'

Total Loan Disbursed	NPR	9,01,04,336
Loan Outstanding	NPR	1,27,97,507
Savings	NPR	67,78,227
No. of Active Clients	No.	2,32,738
No. of Borrowers	No.	1,55,772
No. of Centres	No.	11,210
No. of Staff (incl. trainees)	No.	619
No. of Female Staff	No.	95
No. of Branch Offices	No.	128
Working Districts	No.	57
No. of Area Offices		9
Currency Conversion		USD 1.00=NPR 111.56

Ms. Taibun Nesa Khatun, a client of Bindabasini branch of Parsa district, is engaged in the vegetable farming by taking of NRs.200 thousand as general loan from the branch. She is earning about NRs.20 thousands per month.

SWBBL and InfoDevelopers Signed an Agreement to implement MF Software

An agreement was signed between Swabalamban Laghubitta Bittiya Sanstha Ltd. and Info Developers Pvt. Ltd. for supply, installation, implementation, support and maintenance of web-based core banking (microfinance) system with integrated technologies and latest services. Mr. Bhojraj Bashyal, CEO of SWBBL and Mr. Umesh Raghubansi, CEO of InfoDevelopers signed the contract papers amid a function organized on March 28, 2019.

SWBBL aims to provide its services more fast and reliable with effective MIS to its clients through the purchase of software. Mr. Ram Kumar Shrestha, Chairman, Mr. Ram Prasad Pandey and Mr. Bishnu Prasad Tripathi, Directors of Board of Directors, Staff of SWBBL and Staff members of InfoDevelopers Pvt. Ltd. including Executive Directors were presented the function.

Chairman Mr. Ram Kumar Shrestha expressed that the contract would be a milestone for delivering microfinance services more efficient to the clients. "Both parties should be concentrated on effective work for installation and implementation of software." He added.

Mr. Bashyal believed that the software developed by InfoDevelopers would come up with more factual with latest functionalities. The software company was selected as best among the national and international vendors who participated on bidding process. Mr. Raghubansi committed for better and on-time services through EMPOWER, a core microfinance banking system developed by InfoDevelopers Pvt. Ltd JV of Srilankan company Sanje Pvt Ltd.

Branch office Krishnapur and Chuchepati Organized Financial Literacy Program

Participants of financial literacy program organized in Krishnapur

Branch Office Krishnapur of Kanchanpur district organized financial literacy program in and around of Krishnapur municipality on March 3, 2019.

The program aimed to provide general knowledge on banking and financial system to the members, guardians and community people. There were about three hundred participants in the program.

Addressing the closing program, Mr. Karna Bahadur Hamal, Mayor of Krishnapur municipality said, "The contribution of microfinance to reduce poverty through its microloan and saving for betterment of livelihood of the low-income people is highly appreciated. Such a financial awareness programs impart the knowledge on financial management". Mr. Asha Ram Chaudhari, chairman of ward No. 5 of the same municipality added that the campaign would help to aware people about bad consequences of multiple banking and misuse of loan. He also requested to maintain financial discipline and promote entrepreneurship in the society.

The program was organized with the slogan 'Swatcha Laghubitta, Hamro Abhiyan' (Fair Microfinance, Our Campaign) and participated by the clients, guardians, local people, Area and Branch officials.

Likewise, Branch Office Chuchepati of Kathmandu district organized one day financial literacy program in Budhanilakantha on March 11, 2019. A total number of 200 participants including members, guardians and local people from in and around of Budhanilakantha municipality participated the program.

Putting the views, the chief guest Mr. Uddav Prasad Kharel, Mayor of Budhanilakantha municipality admired the services provided by the institution for the betterment of income level of deprived sector. "Municipality would assist and coordinate for the better and separate places to conduct monthly meeting for saving and credit operation." He added. Mr. Balkrishna Shrestha, chairman of ward No. 3 of same municipality suggested to the participants for setting up micro-enterprises after taking loan from financial institution. He extended greetings for success to SWBBL.

Mr. Bhoj Raj Bashyal, CEO, remarked about the roles and responsibility of members for the better services delivery. He also added that the institution introduce its products timely for betterment of clients. So, everyone must be sincere for the proper utilization of loan. The program highly emphasized on awareness campaign on financial education to the existing members and guardians as well as potential clients and local people. Participants raised their questions and facilitators from Area and Branch offices addressed the issues raised by them during the program. ◼

Participants of financial literacy program organized in Budhanilakantha

Birtamod Branch Organized an Exposure Visit to the Members

Branch office Birtamod of Jhapa district organized a one day exposure visit to 44 members in different centres of Dharan branch of Sunsari District. Members from different centre of Birtamod branch visited Centre No. 2 and 9 of Branch office Dharan and visited outstanding projects of the same Centre.

Aiming to build the capacity of potential entrepreneurs, branch office arranged an exposure visit to observe well-organized centre meeting and selected projects operated by women member.

Members expressed their eagerness to carry on the better projects after visiting the centres and projects. They extended thanks to the branch for giving an opportunity to learn and share knowledge of different centres and community to each other.

Branch Office Ghorahi Conducted Bee-Keeping Training to the Members

Branch Office Ghorahi of Dang district has conducted one day basic bee-keeping training for 40 members for different centres on March 16, 2019.

The resource person of the training was Mr. Deepak Kumar Shrestha, central vice-chairperson of Nepal Honey Bee-Keepers Association. He imparted knowledge on best practiced bee-keeping process and management.

Addressing the closing ceremony of the training, chief guest Mr. Bhim Bahadur Sarki, Chairman of Ghorahi Sub-metropolitan city ward No.4 said that the initiation of Swabalamban to strengthen the capacity and knowledge on bee-keeping process and management would keep a meaningful way forward to the farmers. He added that Swabalamban's microcredit together with skill development program have been helping the farmers to promote the enterprise in local level.

The participants of the training seemed quite happy after receiving comprehensive training. They said that the training would be milestone to promote their business more scientifically. The program was attended by the officials and also from branch office. Branch manager Mr. Krishna Khanal coordinated and facilitated the program. ◼