

"Women as an engine for fostering and promoting democracy."

## Women for Peace and Democracy-Nepal

*Uniting passion for building a peaceful and democratic Nepal*

*Issue VIII 2020*

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### Women for Peace and Democracy Nepal



#### **1. Socioeconomic Empowerment program for women and marginalized (SEWAM 9)**

Socioeconomic Empowerment Program for Women and marginalized (SEWAM) aims to develop the capacity of the poor for more earnings that supports the improvement of their living status with the generous support of World Accord. The SEWAM Year 9 (April 2019 - March 2020) was built upon the achievements made, lessons learnt, recommendations provided by the SEWAM women groups and partners and observations made during monitoring visits by WPD – Nepal during SEWAM 8 program. The project continues to serve the marginalized and deprived 15 women groups of Chitwan, Makwanpur, Sarlahi and Dhanusha. The project activities were focused on capacity building activities on agriculture, livestock, microcredit, vocational

trainings, and awareness programs on social inclusion, gender equality, health and hygiene and environment for 387 women of the target districts.

During the one year project period 180 women were engaged in different types of income generating activities like Animal raising(116), Vegetable Farming (26), Grocery Store (11), Tailoring (7), Shop (5), Poultry Farming (3), clothing store (3), Bangles Business (2), Hotel business (2), Auto Riksha Business(2), Bamboo Busines(1),Duck raising (1), Sugarcane Farming (1), The women obtained technical and vocational trainings on poultry, goat farming, cushion, doll making, mushroom cultivation, embroidery on slippers, bangle making, detergent making and training on existing laws for women and awareness& education on climate change.



## 2. Nepal earthquake rebuilding program (NERP) - 19 Year 1



The Nepal Earthquake Rebuilding Program (NERP) was initiated with a mission of establishing a peaceful and harmonious society where women and marginalized enjoy economic opportunities. The NERP19-Year 1 program was built upon the achievements made, lessons learnt, recommendations provided by the NERP women groups and partners and observations made during monitoring visits by WPD –Nepal during NERP-16 Year 3 program. The project has been kindly supported by HOPE International Development Agency. The project was focused on serving 212 dalits and vulnerable women of 15 Women Affinity Groups of Sindhupalchowk and Nuwakot districts through socioeconomic empowerment program through

enhanced gender relations. The two districts were severely affected during the earthquake that occurred on April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 which destroyed almost all the houses and caused immense damage. The project conducted capacity building activities on agriculture, livestock, micro credit, small scale businesses and awareness and education on emerging issues in the target communities for the 212 target women. During the one-year project 99 women were engaged in different types of income generating activities like goat raising (42), pig raising (6), Buffalo raising (10), poultry farming (29), vegetable farming (5), shop (6), carpet weaving (2)



### 3. Killer Robots Campaign (KRC).

***The Campaign to Stop Killer Robot Global Meeting - Buenos Aires:*** The Killer Robots Campaign (KRC) is a coalition of non-governmental organizations who seeks to pre-emptively ban lethal autonomous weapons. WPD Nepal is one of the members of the coalition and has been working with the campaign to educate and create awareness to ban lethal autonomous weapons. Mrs. Shobha Shrestha (Executive director) WPD-Nepal visited Buenos Aires Argentina to attend global meeting organized by the campaign to stop killer robots from February 26-28, 2020



### ***The Regional Meeting on Lethal on lethal autonomous weapons system (LAWS) and International Interfaith conference- Pakistan***

The Executive Chair, Shobha Shrestha attended the regional meeting on Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS) in Islamabad, Pakistan on 9-10 December, 2019 and international interfaith conference on 11-12 December in Lahore, which was organized by the Sustainable Peace and Development Organization (SPADO) and the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots.



**Governor house Lahore, Pakistan (Dec 11-12)**



**Serena Hotel Islamabad, Pakistan (Dec 10)**

#### 4. Capacity building training



Four days training for project staff was conducted from March 3-6, 2020 at WPD Nepal office in Kathmandu to enhance skills on project management, social mobilization and creative writing. The motivators, field supervisor and WPD staffs participated in the training. The training was facilitated by Mr. Binod Upadhaya and Mr. Hari Ghimire who are affiliated with CECI



#### 5. Westland Group and Hope international visit to Nepal

The Westland Group and Hope international partner visited WPD Nepal and the target communities; Tindhara, Kuwapani and Jyamire of Sindhupalchowk district from Nov 7 to 9 to assess the situation of women supported by Hope International. The team interacted with women groups, where they shared their stories and the positive changes that have taken place in their lives after the support from Hope. The team was impressed to listen to the stories of women and their achievements.





## 6. Internship

WPD Nepal welcomed two interns this year, AnuBudhathoki and ManikaRegmi. Anu and Manika is currently studying Bachelor of Social work at Canvas International College. While they were at WPD Nepal, they were involved in different volunteering activities and assisted WPD staffs. They both worked hard and completed their internship to get experiences and enhance their knowledge about social work. They were with WPD Nepal for three months period. Both interns would like to work in the non-profit organization in future.



## 7. NERP Hero of the Year



Goma B.K, age 50, lives in Indrawati VDC,

Kuwapani, Sindhupalchowk. Her family consists of 4 members: her son, daughter in law and grandson. Her husband left her and got married to another woman. After the devastating earthquake of April 25, 2015, Goma's house was destroyed and the little food and clothes they had were all buried. They were struggling to live under the open sky with no food, until WPD-NEPAL came with emergency relief materials like tarpaulin, food, medicine with the support of Hope International Development Agency. At present, she is a member of Makhamali Women Group formed under NERP program. After joining the group, she participated in various trainings like cornerstone, poultry farming, goat raising, adult education, etc. She has realized the importance of being in the women group and about saving as well. After receiving poultry farming training, she took a loan of Rs 5000 from the trust fund and bought 60 chickens from which she earned a profit of Rs 45,000. She started growing her poultry farming business. Again, she took a loan of Rs 12,100 from the group fund and bought a goat. After paying back the loan amount, she again took a loan of Rs 15000 from the trust fund and bought another goat. The 2 goats gave birth to 4 kids. After receiving the goat raising training, she has also built j improved goat shed and at present she has been raising 14 goats in it. Moreover, she is involved in both goat raising and poultry farming business.

Goma is very happy and satisfied with her life. She is a very confident and independent woman. **Goma says "Today, I have realized my worth in my family and community. Thank you all for your help and support."**



Som Kumari, aged 45 is resident of Shivapuri -07, Nuwakot.

Her family consist 5 members, her husband, son, father-in-law and mother-in-law.

After the devastating earthquake of April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Som Kumari's house was completely destroyed and the little food and clothes they had were all buried. They were struggling to live again. Having no saving and everything was destroyed by earthquake, it was difficult for them to fulfill their basic needs. Som Kumari had lost all her hope until WPD-Nepal came with emergency relief materials (Tarpaulin, food, medicine). With the support of HOPE International Development Agency, they were also supported for shelter home. Today she and her family are happily living in the shelter home.

Today she is member of Sunakhari Women Group formed under NERP program. She has realized the importance of being in the women group and about saving. After joining the group, she has participated in the various trainings like cornerstone, goat raising, poultry training, organic farming, adult education, group management. After receiving organic farming training, she took a loan from trust fund Rs.25, 000and started ginger farming. From Ginger farming she was able gain profit Rs.30, 000. After receiving goat raising training, she has improved her goat shed. Earlier she had 5 goats but after having improved goat shed, she is now raising 12 goats.

Som Kumari says, ***“After being involved in the group, I am able to realize my worth in my family and community. I am also happy to help my family financially. Thank you all for your help and support.”***



## 8. SEWAM Hero of Year



Darshan Chaudhary age 42 is a member of Makhmali Women Group. Her family consists of 5 members, husband, two daughters and one son. Before being involved in Makhmali Women Group her condition was not good (both economically and with family). She was a victim of domestic violence. She used to work as laborer in others field. Her family life was really struggling. There would be no sufficient food if she did not work for a day. After becoming a member of Makhmali Women Group, she participated in various trainings. After taking trainings she started doing vegetable business. She was supported with a bicycle which helped her to sell the vegetables easily in the market. After two years working continuously in vegetable selling business (getting from the whole sellers and selling as a retailer) Darshan has bought a piece of land in Haripur. Now Darshan grows vegetables in her own land and sells vegetables carrying it in her bicycle in the market.

Darshan saves from Rs.25, 000 to 28,000 monthly and her saving vary according to the season. Darshan Chaudhary shares, *"I am grateful to our supporters World Accord and WPD-Nepal for helping me to become what I am today"*



Romi Chaudhary, age 33 is motivator and member of Kanchanjunga and Gaule women group. Her family consist of 3 members her husband and daughter. Currently her husband is in abroad. Before being involved in group Romi had no knowledge about women group and doing saving. She used to feel uncomfortable to speak Infront of people. It's been 7 years she has been involved in group formed by the WPD Nepal. Before she was just a member of Kanchanjuga women group.

After being involved in Kanchanjunga women group she participated in various training like animal husbandry, mushroom farming, basket making, bamboo stool making (*Muda*), *KhanijDhikka*, awareness on health, awareness on climate change, training against gender-based violence, Handmade macramé (jhumar) Training. After receiving various training, she took Rs 18000 for goat raising and again she took loan of Rs.10, 000 for goat raising. After receiving handmade macramé(jhumar) training, she took loan of Rs. 8000 to buy materials. She has made 5 macramé mirrors, 3 macramé (jhumar) and 8 macramé pot holder. She sells each macramé (jhumar) at Rs. 1500 to Rs.2000 from which she makes profit of Rs. 500 to Rs.600. Similarly, by macramé pot holder she is able to make profit of Rs.200 to 250. Till now she has made Rs. 8,000 profit. She has good knowledge on handmade macramé jhumar. She saves Rs, 200 in group saving

Romi Chaudhary says, after being involved in the group a lot of positive changed has happened. From just a member of one group to motivator of two groups, save money, able to meet the expenses of my family, enhanced skills.” She thanks World Accord and WPD-Nepal for all the support.

**Vision:** A Just Society where Nepalese people can live in Peace and Prosperity.

### Missions

Promote equitable access to resources and economic opportunities to end poverty and hunger (SDGs) and ensure that all targeted communities can fulfill their potential in dignity and equality in a healthy and secure environment.

Ensure all women and marginalized can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives and that economic, social, and technological progress occurs peacefully.

Promote sustainable consumption and production, manage natural resources sustainably, and reduce the effects of climate change.

Advocate for peaceful, just, and inclusive society, which is free from human rights violations and armed violence.

### Objectives

Empower women and marginalized to improve their own wellbeing by enhancing their access to resources and livelihood skills.

Promote economic opportunities for the women and marginalized which enhance their capacities and consider their needs and aspirations.

Strengthen the capacities of women and marginalized so they may participate in peace building measures actively and constructively.

Lobby with the key stakeholders to use the resources effectively and efficiently for the enhancement of security within the society.

Contact information:

Women for Peace and Democracy- Nepal (WPD-Nepal)

Central office:

Post box:20297, Lainchaur , Kathmandu, Nepal, Tel: +977-1-4024099, Fax: +977-1-40244100

E-mail: [info@wpdnepal.org.np](mailto:info@wpdnepal.org.np), [shresthashobha@gmail.com](mailto:shresthashobha@gmail.com)

Website: [www.wpdnepal.org.np](http://www.wpdnepal.org.np) , Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/WPDNEPAL](https://www.facebook.com/WPDNEPAL)