



CARE NEPAL

ANNUAL REPORT **2022**

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Cover Photo: Girls from UDAAN continue their formal education. UDAAN is an accelerated learning program for out-of-school girls between 10-14 years.

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A student from UDAAN is happy to continue her formal classes.
UDAAN is an accelerated learning program for out-of-school girls between 10-14 years.



ABOUT CARE

CARE International

CARE International is a 75-year-old global confederation working to fight poverty and social injustice in the world, with a specific focus on the empowerment of women and girls. We work side-by-side with communities to understand the root causes of poverty and find innovative, locally-led solutions. CARE seeks to demonstrate the results and methodologies used in our projects to ensure transparency and accountability and advance the quality of our work. In 2021, CARE worked in 102 countries around the world, implementing 1,495 poverty-fighting development and humanitarian aid projects. We reached around 100 million people directly and 157 million people indirectly.

CARE Nepal

CARE started its operations in Nepal in 1978 and is one of the first international aid agencies to work in the country. During the last 4 decades, CARE Nepal has been working with the most vulnerable communities of Nepal to address the issues of poverty and social injustice, along with challenging harmful social practices, building capacities and empowering livelihoods. Today, CARE Nepal works to address systemic and structural causes of poverty and social injustice such as discrimination based on gender, caste, class, ethnicity or geography.

Working with our network of partners, CARE Nepal aims to demonstrate positive and **transformational change in the lives of 2.5 million women and adolescent girls by 2025**. CARE believes that if the most marginalized women and adolescent girl populations in Nepal experience increased **social and economic empowerment**, benefit from **inclusive social structures and changing social norms**, are able to exercise their **social, economic and political rights**, and build **disaster resilience**, then they will not only be able to withstand shocks but also overcome poverty and injustice. This transformational change in the lives of women and girls will in turn promote poverty reduction and inclusive justice for members of their households, immediate communities, and the wider society.

CARE NEPAL'S THEORY OF CHANGE



GOAL

By 2025, 2.5 million women and girls of Nepal have economic, social and political power and resilience to withstand shocks and overcome poverty and social injustice. They will be able to exercise their rights and effectively engage within accountable, gender-transformative and accountable governance spaces at all levels.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Women and girls attain resilient livelihoods, inclusive assets, and opportunities to exercise economic entitlements and rights.

TRANSFORMED SOCIAL NORMS, BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

Women and girls lead dignified lives free from violence and all forms of discrimination.

SOCIAL & POLITICAL POWER

Women and girls are able to exercise their rights and effectively engage within accountable, gender transformative and inclusive governance spaces at all levels.

CLIMATE AND DISASTER RESILIENCE

Women and girls have increased resilience to cope with and mitigate climate and disaster risks.



Emerging food security, nutrition, and health needs addressed in COVID context addressed.



Impact Population: Women and Girls which comprises of the following four specific groups:

1. Adolescent girls (Ages 10-19)
2. Urban and peri-urban communities
3. Women-headed households
4. Dalit and ethnic minorities in the Terai and Western Hills





THE CARE NEPAL TEAM

High-performers: As a team, we relentlessly pursue results, innovation, and effective collaboration - all in service of our impact population. We expect excellence of ourselves and each other, and reward, promote and compensate individual staff accordingly.

Diversity for Better Impact: Our team and our partners recruit and maintain top talent that reflect diversity of Nepal's people, cultures and abilities. By ensuring diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility, we also maximize our impact and sustainability while shifting power to local leaders and local voices.

Embracing Flexible Work Norms: Our staff and teams work from anywhere, at any time, in the manner required to maximize efficiency and effectiveness while reducing stress. We take our time off work to stay healthy and happy. Staff and line managers are fully empowered and accountable for results; hard work alone does not guarantee a place on this team.

Always Learning Shared Goals, Smart Decision

Making: We are guided by a clear 5-year country strategy and annual priorities for the entire CARE Nepal team. We set ambitious individual goals that include shared team goals. We share information openly, knowing that when a colleague succeeds, we succeed. We offer various internal stretch assignments and coaching cohorts to develop ourselves and our staff, leveraging "transferrable skills."

Team Skills We Are Prioritizing: Workload prioritization, facilitating restful leave, improving staff diversity, and performance coaching.

Team Behaviors We Do Not Tolerate: Arrogance, disrespect and discrimination of teammates, unkind attitudes, disinterest in learning or growing.

We have **zero tolerance** for fraud, corruption, conflict of interest, harassment or any kind of sexual abuse or exploitation of anyone, especially children or vulnerable adults.

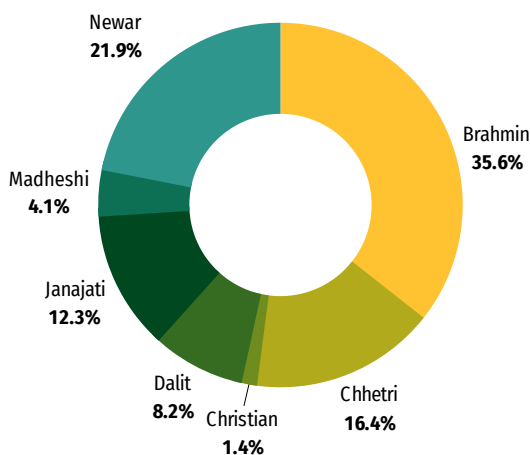


Group demonstration on staff well-being during our Annual Retreat and Quarterly Review Meeting.

Staff Composition

As of June 30, 2022

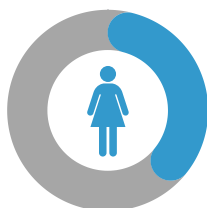
In Terms of Ethnicity



In Terms of Gender*

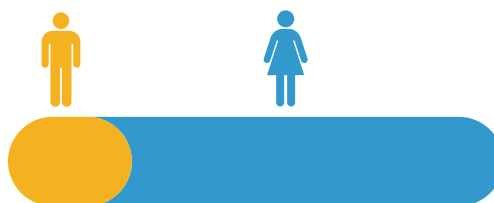


60.3%



39.7%

Senior Management Team



25%

75%

*As of November 30, 2022, CARE Nepal has improved its gender diversity, with 53% of all staff women, and 47% men.



CARE'S REACH IN FY 22

18 Projects + 49 Districts



185,292 individuals' **Right to Health** ensured



1,896,944 individuals reached with **Food, Water and Nutrition** support

8,493 women and girls reached with initiatives targeted to ensure **Women's Economic Justice**



265,826 individuals reached with **Humanitarian Assistance**



7,090 individuals reached with **Climate Justice** initiatives

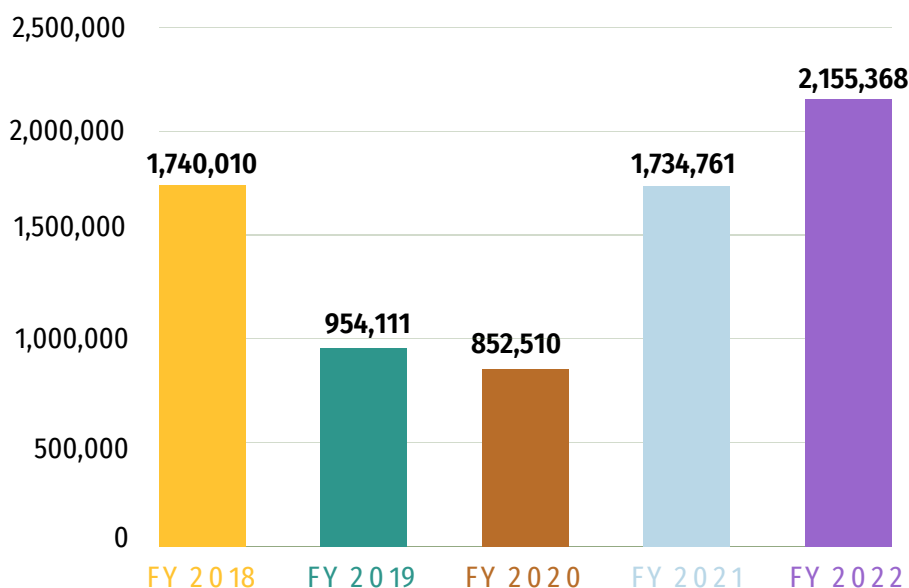


21,548 individuals reached through the initiatives on **Gender Equality**

2,255,405 individuals reached through **Life Saving Communication**



People Reached Directly through CARE's Programs (FY 2018 to 2022)



Number of People Reached in Each Thematic Area

Gender Justice & Health
and Education Rights



Women's Economic
Empowerment & Climate
Justice

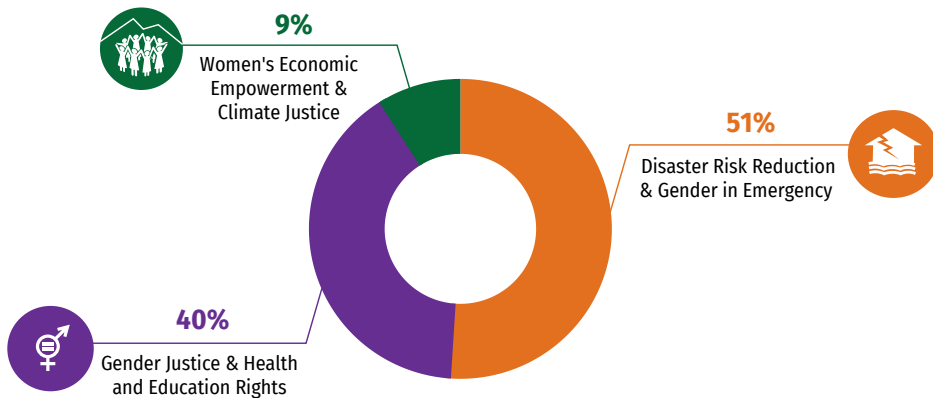


Disaster Risk Reduction
& Gender in Emergency

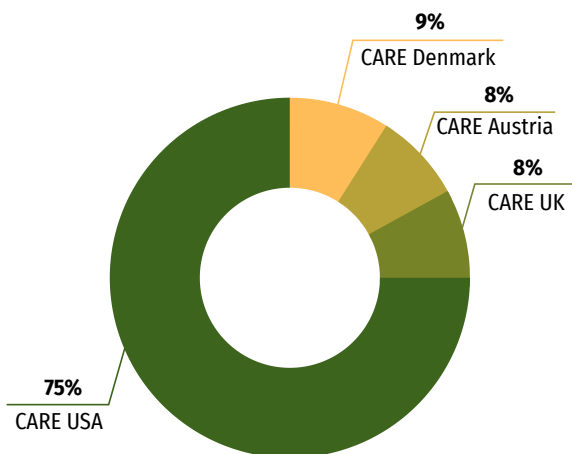


FINANCIAL STATEMENT FY 2022

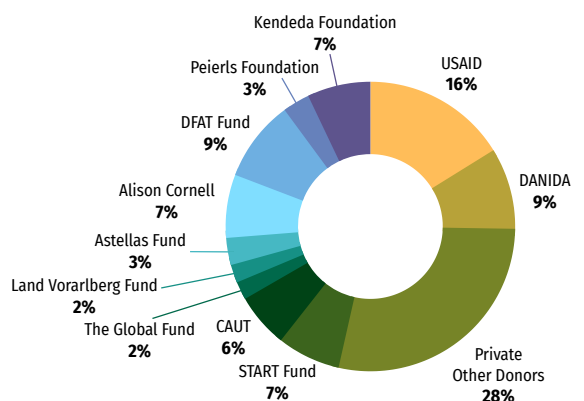
Theme Wise Expenses



Member Partner-wise Expenses



Donor-wise Expenses



Audit Report

CARE Nepal					
Income and Expenditure Statement					
for the period ended on 32 Ashad 2079					
(Corresponding to period ended on 16 July 2022)					
Particulars	Sch. no.	Current Year		Previous Year	
		NPR	USD	NPR	USD
Revenue					
Grants & Contracts Direct Revenue	10	313,219,681.11	2,634,955.31	506,306,272.70	4,341,930.85
Intra-Company Grants and Support (Restated)	11	221,855,682.78	1,855,247.23	354,027,415.15	2,964,115.61
Contributions / Grants from CI Members	12	122,848.81	1,042.21	-	-
Total		535,198,212.70	4,491,244.75	860,333,687.85	7,306,046.46
Less: Expense					
Sub-Grant Expenses	13	196,359,016.88	1,641,286.71	279,640,353.21	2,402,424.24
Personnel Expenses	14	213,144,742.91	1,791,066.08	275,297,891.44	2,364,685.72
Materials / Services and Consumables	15	72,316,266.95	608,848.96	155,473,780.20	1,331,720.50
Intra-Company Grants and Support	16	14,477,096.21	121,051.65	82,379,181.44	711,480.82
Professional Services	17	15,915,626.89	132,348.15	27,413,551.89	235,829.02
Travel and Transportation	18	15,629,048.70	130,704.97	15,043,121.37	129,456.01
Financing / Miscellaneous	19	2,360,062.24	19,743.39	2,819,668.73	24,235.12
Occupancy Related Expenses	20	5,617,725.24	47,051.26	12,511,132.30	107,357.04
Currency Translation & Exchange Gains / Losses (Restated)	21	(621,373.32)	(856.42)	9,755,007.27	(1,142.01)
Total		535,198,212.70	4,491,244.75	860,333,687.85	7,306,046.46
Surplus/(Deficit)		-	-	-	-

Significant accounting policies & other explanatory notes

22

Schedules 10 to 21 and 22 form an integral part of this Income and Expenditure Statement

This is the financial statements referred to in our report of even date


Shivan Dixit Adhikari
Assistant Country Director-
Program Support and Finance
CARE-Nepal


Rachel E. L. Wolff
Country Director
CARE-Nepal


Shashi Satyal
Partner
PKF T R Upadhyaya & Co.
Chartered Accountants

Date: 29 September 2022

Place: Kathmandu, Nepal

OUR AREA OF WORK

Geographical Coverage of CARE Nepal



Donor Partners



BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation



Alison Cornell

**Latter Day
Saint Charities (LDSC)**

The Global Fund

**Patsy Collins Trust Fund
Initiative (PCTFI)**



Implementing Partners

**Also Strategic Partners*

Beyond our trusted implementing partners listed below, CARE Nepal collaborates with long-term, **strategic partners** across sector or thematic platforms (See 'Humanitarian Partnership Platform', page 18) to drive timely **advocacy**, **scale** proven models together, and build targeted capacity for next-level impact. Our **network of partners** *elevates local leadership, promotes diverse voices, and grows sustainable organizations, while driving impactful results.*

PROVINCE 1			
Environment Conservation and Development Forum (ECDF)	Taplegunj	Clean Energy Nepal (CEN)	Kathmandu
Health, Education, Human Right, Local Development, Drinking Water and Environment Nepal (HEEHURLDE)	Bhojpur	Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC)	Kathmandu
Nepal Janauddhar Association (NJA)	Panchthar	Diyalo Pariwar	Chitwan
Shilichong Club Social Development Center (SCSDC)	Sankhuwasabha	*FECOFUN	Kathmandu
Young Star Club (YSC)	Solukhumbu	Gerkhutar Youth Club (GEYC)	Nuwakot
MADHESH PROVINCE		Humanity and Inclusion	Kathmandu
Dalit Jankalyan Yuwa Club (DJKYC)	Siraha	HomeNet	Kathmandu
*National Farmers Group Foundation	Siraha	NGO Federation Nepal	Kathmandu
National Land Rights Forum	Siraha	National Farmers Group Federation	Kathmandu
BAGMATI PROVINCE		National Land Rights Forum	Kathmandu
Action Nepal	Dhading	Nepal Mahila Ekata Samaj	Kathmandu
Action Aid	Kathmandu	Rural Development TUKI Association, (RDTA)	Dolakha
Association of Community Radio Broadcasters Nepal (ACORAB)/Community Information Center	Kathmandu	Rural Reconstruction Nepal	Kathmandu
		SAHAKARYA Nepal	Dhading
		Shanti Jana Adarsha Sewa Kendra (SJASK)	Dhulikhel
		Sustainable Enterprise & Environment Development Society (SEEDS)	Rasuwa
		Tuki Association Sunkhoshi	Sindhupalchowk
		*Women Rehabilitation Center (WOREC)	Kathmandu

Children as Zones of Peace National Campaign (CZOP)	Kathmandu
South Asian Women in Media (SAWM)	Kathmandu
*Samunnat Nepal	Kathmandu
Rural Education and Environment Development Center (REED) Nepal	Kathmandu
Nepal Development Initiative (NEDI)	Kathmandu
*National Society for Earthquake Technology Nepal (NSET)	Kathmandu
*National Campaign for Education Nepal (NCE Nepal)	Kathmandu
Community Impact Nepal (CIN)	Kathmandu
AIESEC Nepal	Kathmandu
*Federation of Women Entrepreneurs' Associations of Nepal (FWEAN)	Kathmandu
Center for Research on Environment Health and Population Activities (CREHPA)	Kathmandu
Institute of Himalayan Risk Reduction (IHRR)	Kathmandu
*National Association of Rural Municipalities in Nepal (NARMIN)	Kathmandu
GANDAKI PROVINCE	
Baunenelek CFUG	Pokhara
Bhageri Khola Sub-watershed Conservation Committee	Pokhara
Diyalo	Syanja
Good Neighbour Service Association (GONESA)	Pokhara
Khaltu CFUG	Pokhara

Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD),	Pokhara
Multidisciplinary Institute for Livelihood Enhancement and Natural Resource Management (MILAN)	Myagdi
Mountain Tanahun Samudayik Bel Tatha Falful Prasodhan Udhyog	Tanahun
Nepal Gaja Development Foundation (NGDF)	Baglung
Rural Community Development Center (RCDC)	Lamjung
Sirjanshil Kanthmala Samuha Tanahu Shree Swanra Integrated Development Center (SSICDC)	Gorkha
System Development Service Center (SDSC)	Gorkha
Backwardness Eradication Society (BES)	Palpa & Nawalparasi
LUMBINI PROVINCE	
Backward Society Education (BASE)	Dang
*Bheri Environmental Excellence Group (BEE)	Banke
Dalit Social Development Center (DSDC)	Kapilvastu
*Federation of Nepal Cottage and Small Industry (FNCSI)	Banke
Integrated Rural Development Society (IRDS)	Gulmi
Jana Jagaran Mahila Sangh (JJMS)	Bardiya
Kalika Self Reliance Social Center Nepal (KSSC)	Kapilvastu
*Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj (KMJS) Nepal	Bardiya
Lumbini Social Development Centre (LSDC)	Arghakhanchi

Mallarani Rural Development Concern Center (MRDCC)	Pyuthan
Rukumeli Social Development Centre (RSDC)	Rukum
Rural Development & Awareness Society Nepal (RUDAS)	Rolpa
Siddhartha Social Development Centre (SSDC)	Kapilvastu
Unity for Sustainable Community Development (USCD)	Rupandehi

KARNALI PROVINCE

Dalit Bikash Samaj (DDS)	Salyan
Everest Club (EC)	Dailekh
Hilly Region Development Campaign (HRDC)	Jajarkot
Karnali Integrated Rural Development Centre (KIRDARC)	Kalikot
Social Awareness Center (SAC) Nepal	Surkhet

SUDURPASCHIM PROVINCE

Community Rural Development Society (CRDS)	Darchula
*Conscious Society for Social Development (CSSD)	Kailali
Chure Mahila Sarkshan Saving and Credit Cooperative Lamki Chuha	Kailali
Forum for Awareness and Youth Activities (FAYA)	Kailali
Groups for Social and Technical Development Service (GSTDS),	Bajhang

Kalyan Krishak Samuha Kanchanpur Nepal National Social Welfare Association (NNSWA)	Kanchanpur
*National Empowerment and Equity Development Society (NEEDS)	Kanchanpur
Rural Women's Development and Unity Center (RUWDUC)	Dadeldhura
Social Development and Awareness Society (SODEAS)	Baitadi
Social Empowerment Building and Accessibility Center Nepal (SEBAC Nepal)	Achham
Society for Environmental and Human Resource Development Nepal (SOURCE)	Doti
WAC Nepal Achham Women Development Forum (WDF)	Bajura

OTHER STRATEGIC PARTNERS

National Alliance of Women Human Right Defender (NAWHRD)	Kathmandu
Kathmandu University School of Management (KUSOM)/ Public Policy and Management	Kathmandu
Girls Not Bride Network (GNB) Nepal	Kathmandu
Center for Education and Human Resource Development (CEHRD)	Kathmandu
Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST)	Kathmandu



GENDER JUSTICE & HEALTH AND EDUCATION RIGHTS

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) remains at the heart of CARE's programmatic objectives and targets, together with the right to health, education and social justice - three basic services essential for women and girls' well-being and that of their families and communities. This theme focuses on **working with families, communities and authorities to promote gender equality while ensuring that women and girls have access to quality essential services**. With various proven tools and approaches, stakeholders at all levels are enabled to understand and tackle the economic, social, political and cultural barriers that keep women and girls vulnerable.

One of our priority issues remains improving access to maternal health services as well as child health and nutrition. **To reduce the number of home deliveries and maternal deaths from obstetric complications in hard to reach areas**, two fully capacitated birthing centers were constructed in Jajarkot in collaboration with local governments. Additionally, two women friendly toilets were established in two schools of Jajarkot to promote improved Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) behavior.

Highlights

Mentorship approach where an older peer mentors out-of-school girls on accelerated learning course

Collaboration with the government for Curriculum development for out of school children to align with changes in formal school curriculum

Self-Applied Technique for Quality Health tool to identify and assess the gaps and challenges in maternal and child health

Engagement of men in betterment of health and nutrition status of women and children

System strengthening in Nutrition at federal, municipal and local levels



1,863,252 people directly reached

1,727,467 women and girls directly reached



135,785 men and boys directly reached

Capacity building support, community engagement and equipment support were also provided to increase the effectiveness of tele-medicine services.

Counselling services to **269,916** “1000 days” mothers; **25,479** monthly meetings with Health Mothers Groups (HMGs) and applying CARE’s proven Self Applied Technique for Quality Health (SATH) model with 4,648 HMGs have helped enhance their knowledge on maternal and child health and nutrition. We were also able to support 336 local governments to implement Equity and Access Program in line with SATH model. Over 6,000 community members were reached through Community Health Score Board review while 4,580 fathers and key family decision influencers were reached through group discussions on maternal and child health, nutrition and gender equality.

Our priority issues also include ensuring access to education for vulnerable girls and end of child marriage in Nepal. We continued to engage with communities in western Terai to help out-of-school adolescent girls to return to schools. This fiscal year, we enrolled **417 out-of-**

school marginalized adolescent girls in accelerated learning model UDAAN, of which 378 adolescent girls transitioned to formal schools. Advocacy efforts to scale up UDAAN accelerated learning model at national level remains our priority. A total of 248 girls received mobile phones for easy communication with teachers for additional learning support. We also engaged with local governments and schools to create a more gender-responsive and child-friendly learning environment. CARE Nepal also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the government’s Centre for Education and Human Resource Development (CEHRD) for creating an accelerated learning curriculum for out of school children.

We continue to work with Girls Right Forums (GRF) of Rupandehi and Kapilvastu to amplify girls’ voices to end child marriage and increase their access to basic services. GRFs will be provided with continuous mentoring support to build them into young feminist leaders and by connecting them with **different feminist movements and Child and Early Forced Marriage ending platforms**.

*"I would like to thank CARE Nepal for their continued support in uplifting vulnerable women and girls and helping them reach their full potential. I will always work towards ensuring the rights of adolescent girls, including right to health and education, so they become capable enough to break barriers of gender inequality. The work being done by **Girls Rights Forums** with support from CARE in raising awareness on the issues pertaining to adolescent girls is commendable."*



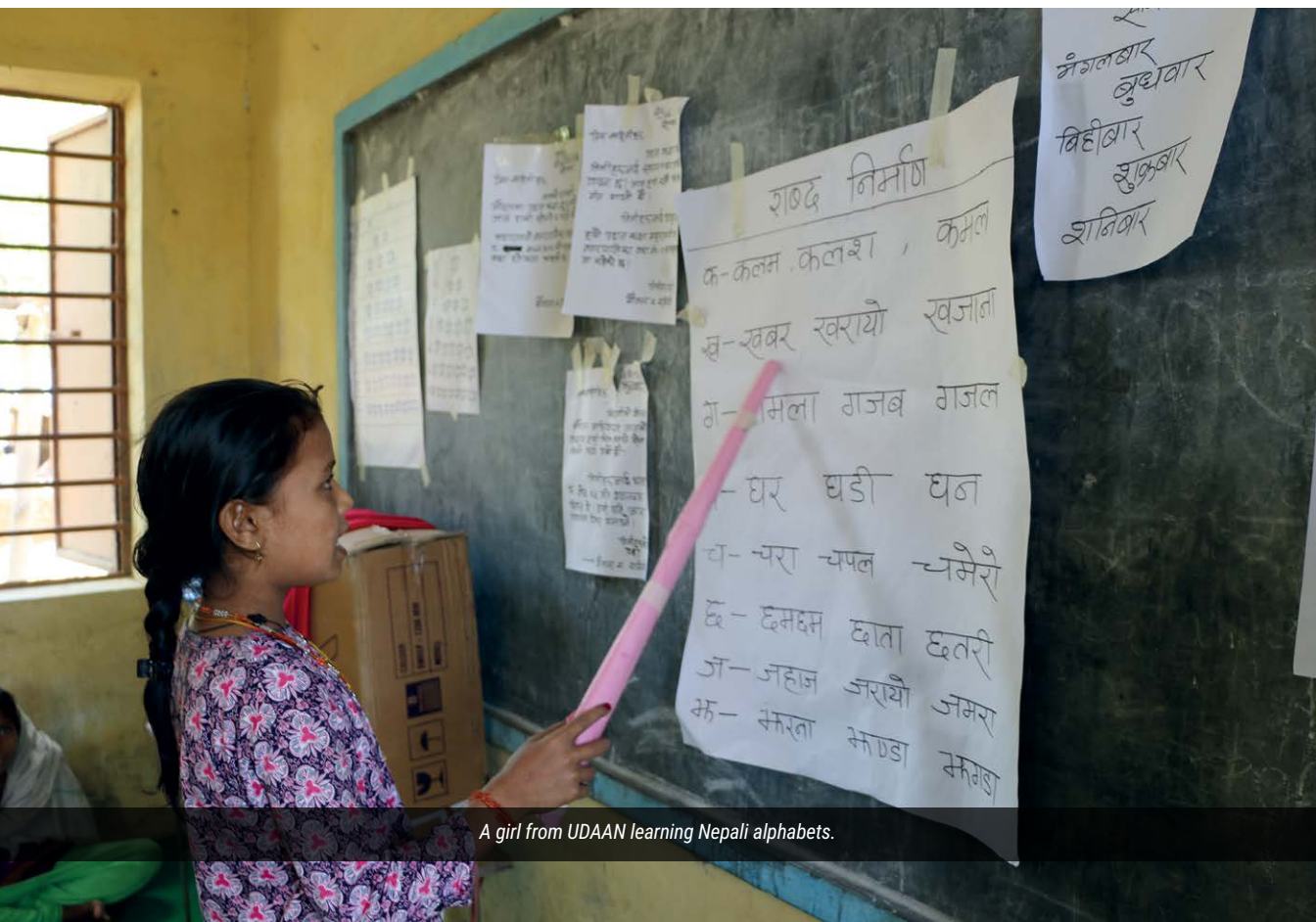
*Laxmi Gupta, Deputy Mayor,
Kapilvastu Municipality*

OUR INITIATIVES

Adolescent Reproductive Health: Funded by USAID, this brand new project works with the Government of Nepal, private sector, relevant stakeholders and young people to support adolescents in Nepal to reach their full capacity by choosing and practicing healthy reproductive behaviors. It works in 11 districts of 3 provinces (Madhesh, Lumbini and Karnali) to reach adolescent boys and girls in 60 municipalities. The project is implemented by a consortium of five organizations - CARE, Howard Delafield International (HDI), Jhpiego, Association of Youth Organizations Nepal (AYON), and Nepal Contraceptive Retail Sales (CRS) Company with CARE as lead.

UDAAN III: This 18-months initiative funded by the Austrian State Government works with adolescent girls from poor and marginalized communities in Sammarimai, Omsatiya and Susta Rural Municipalities in Lumbini Province of Nepal to improve their access to quality education. This project reached 275 out-of-school adolescent girls, their parents, municipal and provincial governments, school stakeholders and community leaders through 11 Udaan centers.

EXCEL: Expanding Access to Education and Life Opportunities (EXCEL) is an educational initiative aiming to provide access to basic education for marginalized adolescent girls through accelerated



A girl from UDAAN learning Nepali alphabets.



Girls from UDAAN continue their formal education.

learning program known as “UDAAN” in Nawalparasi (west) of Lumbini Province. This initiative works with out-of-school girls aged between 10-14 years, their parents, community leaders, local government officials, and schools for creating a conducive learning environment for girls in school, homes, and communities.

Tele-Teaching: This Tsaddik foundation funded initiative supports UDAAN enrolled adolescent girls of Rupandehi and Nawalparasi districts with increased access to information technology. This initiative aims to support 250 UDAAN graduated girls with mobile handsets and sim cards for learning support from teachers during school holidays to ease their transition back to formal schooling along with regular home visits and interaction with parents and school authorities.

UDAAN Scale Up: The Patsy Collins Trust Fund Initiatives (PCTFI) UDAAN scale-up aims to expand the UDAAN model to other provinces of Nepal through federal governments to improve the access to education for marginalized girls. This

initiative also focuses on piloting the mentorship approach in Karnali Province for marginalized girls likely to drop out from schools, through accelerated learning program, remedial learning and life skill support.

Increasing Access to Maternal Health at Remote Communities: This Allison Cornell/CARE USA funded initiative works with women and school adolescents in Jajarkot District of Nepal with an aim to increasing institutional childbirth and improved WASH and menstrual hygiene behaviors among school adolescents through the construction of birthing centers and female-friendly toilets.

SUAHARA II: CARE implements the health, integrated adolescent approach, GESI, and resilience components of the program for this USAID-funded consortium. The project works with “1,000 days” women, children under 5 years of age, and adolescents in 42 districts and 389 local governments to improve the nutritional status of women and children.



Karuna with her newborn child at Ghumthang birthing center.

Birthing Center Ensures Maternal Care in Remote Communities

“I was unaware of the risks of delivering a baby at home during my first pregnancy. I decided to visit the community birthing center for my second delivery and was very happy with the care I received there. The staff at the birthing center treated me very well, which helped erase my pain during delivery.” These are the words of Karuna, a Ghumthang local, who gave birth to her second child at a local birthing center constructed with the support from CARE Nepal.

The situation, however, was not always this simple. Ghumthang is one of the remote communities in Barhabise Municipality in Sindhupalchowk District that has a high population of marginalized groups. The nearest Health Center is 22 km from the community. Traveling such a distance in this hilly terrain to access prenatal, birthing and postnatal care was impractical and impossible for many women resulting in more than 80% delivering their infants at home.

Lack of a birthing center or any health facility in close proximity also meant that many women in Ghumthang struggled to safely deliver their babies and have access to other maternal health services. While distance was one major factor, poverty and social norms also played a role in women choosing to deliver their babies at home. Women sought services at the health center only when complications arose during childbirth, which led to increased risk of maternal and infant mortality in the community.

CARE Nepal, in dialogue with local women, community leaders, and government, agreed it was critical to construct and supply a birthing center in Ghumthang. However, even with a well-equipped birthing center with trained staff, the project found that most of the locals were still hesitant to utilize the services due to entrenched social practices.

To tackle this, CARE Nepal engaged with these rural communities to transform social norms and health seeking practices through proven social behavior change approaches—actively collaborating with mothers’ groups, female community health volunteers, schools, and local radio stations.

The community members are now happy to have an accessible maternal health service for women here and have expressed that they will continue prioritizing maternal health.

With activities focused in gender equality and access to health services including reproductive health in its project areas, CARE Nepal has successfully reached 898 women and girls ensuring access to essential maternal health services. This has successfully contributed towards decline in maternal and infant mortality. Likewise, CARE Nepal's continued advocacy for accelerated learning programs has kept 2,455 vulnerable adolescent girls in school.



A happy mother with her newborn child during a health check-up.



WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT & CLIMATE JUSTICE

CARE Nepal is committed to ending hunger and malnutrition. The continuing environmental degradation, climate change, power imbalances, and the rising economic crisis raised by COVID-19 and Russia-Ukraine War, makes this effort more challenging than ever. To combat these challenges, we have been working with our target communities under this theme to achieve improved and diversified food and nutritional security, equitable natural resources management, safe and dignified workplaces, just economic opportunities, and resilience against the impacts of climate change.

We aim to reach **0.44 million** affected people to improve their food and nutrition security, climate change resilience, and equitable access to dignified economic possibilities. We have influenced policymaking in Nepal by helping 50 **local governments develop comprehensive climate resilient agriculture laws**. Additionally, we worked with local governments to increase the use of categorization-based **farmer ID cards**; **agricultural insurance** programs; **access to land** for farming; **nutrition gardening**; community-based land management practices; Identification, Verification and Registration (IVR) of landless and informal settlers; including land probable for

Highlights

Integrated Nutrition Model for smallholder women farmers for nutrition and behavior improvement

Supported local government to develop category based Farmer's Identity Card for equity

Tailor-made enterprise learning package for business and financial literacy

Women empowerment through Farmer's Field and Business School

Developed smallholder and women farmer responsive climate resilient land and agriculture models



9,063 people directly reached

5,123 women and girls directly reached



3,940 men and boys directly reached

distribution; nutrition diversity models; and agro-vet advisory services aimed at strengthening the resilience of people vulnerable to climate change.

We have developed new models for Enterprise Learning Centers (ELCs) and Access to Finance (A2F) and scaled the tested approaches. We have worked with governments at all levels to reform policies and promote effective practices by leveraging resources to sustainably impact the lives and livelihoods of our target population.

We continued our partnership and strategic collaboration with people's movements and civil society organizations such as National Land Rights Forum (NLRF), National Farmer Groups' Federation (NFGF), Federation of Community Forest Users Nepal (FECOFUN), Nepal Development Initiative (NEDI) Nepal Mahila Ekata Samaj (NMES), and Federation of Home-Based Workers to sustainably accelerate and scale our work. Additionally, we engaged with academic institutions, research organizations, municipal, provincial, and federal governments, and corporate entities, including strategic

alliances with the Kathmandu University School of Management, National Association of Rural Municipalities in Nepal (NARMIN) and the Federation of Women Entrepreneurs Association of Nepal (FWEAN) to add value to our work.

We will continue to advocate for equitable access of women, landless and marginalized people providing economic opportunities and resources for sustainable economic development, natural resource management and its just distribution together with the provision of dignified workplace for women and its impact in informal sectors, and climate adaptation to address differential impacts of vulnerable communities. In line with SDG zero hunger objective, CARE Nepal will continue its efforts towards increasing food and nutrition security through production, dietary diversity, and nutritional behavior change. Similarly, CARE Nepal will prioritize developing and testing a differential impact assessment approach, mainstreaming Farmers Field Business School (FFBS) model, and scaling up climate-resilient land and agricultural models.

"Thanks to CARE Nepal's assistance, landless Musahar households, most notably the women, were able to establish a sustained agriculture-based livelihood in the municipality. Support for climate-smart agriculture practices that included diversified nutrition gardening and nutritional behavior has helped them radically improve their nutrition and way of life."



*Kedar Nath Yadav, Chairperson,
Sakhuwanankarkatti Rural Municipality*

OUR INITIATIVES

SAMARTHYA: This CARE Denmark-funded project entitled “*Promoting Inclusive Governance and Resilience for the Right to Food*” aims to expand people's organizations, strengthen system and mobilize for policy influence in Agriculture, Land, Climate Change and Food Security sectors. The project focuses on developing climate resilient scalable models in land and agriculture sectors across the country with specific focus on vulnerable population, landless and small holder farmers.

Made by Women: CARE Nepal has been implementing Made by Women (MbW) initiative since 2018 with an aim to contribute to CARE's over-all framework of “dignified work” for women working in informal sectors. MbW focuses advocacy on ILO 190 C ratification and supports the government to harmonize the national acts in-line with the convention. The project also supports creation of economic opportunities for poor and marginalized women.

Access to Finance: CARE Nepal initiated Access to Finance (A2F) initiatives for women working in the informal sector and smallholder farmers. The project supports enrollment of women in enterprise learning groups providing a series of financial literacy and entrepreneurship education. The learning groups also support the participants in preparation of viable business plans, and linking women entrepreneurs with financial services from financial institutions.

UN Food System: CARE Nepal is involved in UN Food System dialogues at the local, provincial and national levels to collect voices related to sustainable food system. CARE Nepal also advocated with relevant stakeholders to localize various land and agriculture related policies in partnership with the people's organizations. Additionally, CARE Nepal supported the National Planning Commission to formulate six action track plans on food system.



A member of women's farmer group receives appreciation letter from Mona Sherpa, Deputy Country Director- Program Quality, CARE Nepal.



Amirkala Devi raised 900 chickens through the support she received from the SAMARTHYA project.

Dreams Come True for a Mother of Four: From Landless to an Entrepreneur

"It all seems like a dream. From a family living hand to mouth, we have come so far. I have become an entrepreneur! It feels good when people come to me asking about the secret of my success," Amirkala Devi Ram shared reflecting on her dream journey.

Just a couple of years ago, life seemed quite bleak for Amirkala, a landless tenant from Inerwa in Siraha District, a part of Madhesh Province. Taking care of a family of six was a struggle for her. Every day she faced not being able to afford nutritious meals for her family because of her low income.

The year 2018 came with a turning point for Amirkala when she was invited to join a local **savings and nutritional garden group**. She came in contact with CARE Nepal's trusted partner, the National Farmers Group Federation (NFGF), where she found out about various opportunities she could access. With renewed hope of improving her family's economic situation, Amirkala eagerly joined the group.

Initially, Amirkala received input support of eleven ducklings and a cage for nutrition gardening to improve the nutritional status of her family. *"I also received access to the public pond for the ducks as well as fishing, thanks to the project's facilitation with the local government,"* Amirkala shared. Through the

group, Amirkala was also encouraged to venture into small scale business. *"While initially the ducks were given to us to improve the nutritional status of our children, I was also able to earn NPR 30,000 (approx. 250 USD) in a year by selling duck eggs,"* she added.

A year after she joined the group, Amirkala was able to access additional capital from a local credit group to scale her duck farming into a full-fledged poultry business. She invested NPR 400,000 (Approx. 3,000 USD) to raise 900 chickens and 100 ducks. She now earns anywhere between NPR 70,000 (Approx 535 USD) to NPR 90,000 (Approx. 690 USD) a month from her farm. Her son, who had to migrate to find work outside Nepal, now has the option of rejoining his family to help Amirkala manage her farm.

The success Amirkala has achieved in her business venture is also due to the classes she joined at one of the project's Business Learning Centers (BLC). She learned about financial literacy and entrepreneurship along with business planning, marketing, and access to finance, which helped her further develop her business. She feels confident that the change brought about in her life by the group is permanent and the life skills she has learnt will help her grow as an entrepreneur in future as well.



DISASTER RISK REDUCTION & GENDER IN EMERGENCIES

The Disaster Risk Reduction & Gender in Emergencies (DRR&GiE) program of CARE Nepal engages with the communities by leveraging local knowledge, resources, and institutions, blended with integrated and risk-informed programming to reduce disaster and climate risks. In addition, the program has been successful in empowering local institutions, communities, and individuals, especially women and girls, to anticipate and transform climatic and disaster vulnerabilities and reduce related risks. It has and effectively adapted and responded to the climatic and disaster-related shocks and stresses through preparedness, immediate response, recovery, reconstruction, and risk informed gender-responsive long-term development. The program has a comprehensive approach for long-term disaster risk reduction that includes gender-responsive preparedness and response planning, community engagement, education, livelihood and advocacy.

Highlights

CARE has a long-term MoU with National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA) and actively engages with National humanitarian clusters.

Co-lead of Government of Nepal's Early Recovery Cluster with UNDP

Member of Nepal's Humanitarian Country Team Operations group as ERC co-lead

Promotion of localization efforts along with women's voice and leadership in emergency response.

Since 2019, CARE has convened Humanitarian Partnership Platform (HPP) to localize DRR and humanitarian response for effective, efficient and coordinated action.

CARE hosts the FCDO-funded START Fund Nepal, a national platform of the global START Network.



283,053 people
directly reached

150,591 women and girls
directly reached



132,462 men and boys
directly reached

CARE Nepal has continued work with Jugal and Panchpokhari Thangpal Rural Municipalities of Sindhupalchowk in mainstreaming risk-sensitive land use plans into sectoral and annual local development plans. In partnership with the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority (NDRRMA), CARE Nepal with local implementing partner CSRC supported the local government of Jugal and Pachpokhari Thangpal in mapping georeferenced multi-hazard risks and visualized it through a BIPAD portal devolved by NDRRMA.

Similarly, CARE has established and supported local response platform named **Humanitarian Partnership Platform (HPP)** at cluster levels in western Terai (Lumbini and Sudurpaschim Province), which are highly prone to recurrent floods. The HPP initiative facilitated in building capacities of local partners in Banke, Bardiya, Kailali, and Kanchanpur with a concrete emergency preparedness plan to coordinate and facilitate effective and gender responsive humanitarian response and early recovery. The initiative also facilitated institutionalizing GiE in the local response plans, policies, and mechanisms. With enhanced capacities, the HPP partners collaborated with Ministry of Interim and Law in Sudurpaschim Province to organize provincial level Simulation Exercises on Monsoon Preparedness and Response Plan with similar exercises being conducted at district levels.

CARE Nepal actively worked with the governments at all levels to contain, combat and prevent the effects of the COVID-19. The response initiative focused on five pillars: Risk communications and community engagement; infection prevention and control; water sanitation and hygiene, protection; and food and nutrition. The recovery initiatives supported in health system strengthening, influencing and localizing policies for health, agriculture and economic recovery, and advocating for fair and fast vaccination. It also supported in preparation and distribution of farmer's identity card, business literacy class and nutrition garden. Based on the updated Rapid Gender Analysis (RGA) findings, CARE Nepal developed and implemented program interventions to address the gaps and major issues of local governments for system strengthening and of women, marginalized and poor people. The capacity of partners was also enhanced in gender-based violence (GBV) during emergencies by formulating a strategy and an action plan on GBV in emergency.

By using '*Krishipath*,' a mobile application, farmers and traders in project districts were able to perform 815 sales transactions of their agriculture products, worth more than NPR. 10 million. It also serves as a one-stop digital solution for agriculture market, services, knowledge, information and bridges the supply-chain gap. In addition, Community Score Card (CSC) has been practiced in bringing together local citizens with majority of women, health service providers and local government authorities for participatory assessment of COVID-19 emergency response services and enhancing public accountability towards marginalized communities.

CARE Nepal responded to the effects of monsoon induced disasters in various communities, reaching them with immediate support.

"Various development organizations are working in this municipality, yet, among them the work of CARE Nepal and National Farmers Group Federation (NFGF), is most effective. Especially, the work on categorization-based farmer identity card (FID) preparation and distribution to the farmers has been an impressive outcome of the COVID Pooled Fund Project. The FID data not only provided details of all the farmers in four different categories, but also helped us identify the actual target groups. Our team has already started programs and budget allocation based on this categorization focusing on ultra-poor and poor farmers. I urge CARE team to develop similar programs in the future to support the farmers, and marginalized and poor in the community."



*Hem Raj Ojha,
Mayor, Krishnapur
Municipality, Kanchanpur*

OUR INITIATIVES

Co-designing Risk-sensitive Local Government

Development Plans: This initiative funded by Pooled Fund is designed to create a nexus between development and preparedness, emergency response and recovery, co-designing and co-implementing initiative together with local government at Siranchowk Rural Municipality, Gorkha.

Humanitarian Partnership Platform:

The platform is a flagship localization effort to strengthen coordinated and locally led humanitarian actions. This also elevates women leadership among local partners. Currently with 10 partners, it promotes effective and efficient joint preparedness planning, coordination, capacity building, and collective actions. It also links climate change, gender based violence, governance, land rights and other themes to enable a gender centric humanitarian response. By facilitating the platform, CARE is focusing on

Gender in Emergencies (GiE) through effective and efficient preparedness planning, coordination, capacity building, collective action and resource leveraging.

COVID-19 Response:

This initiative funded by different donors like Pooled Fund, LDSC, NERF, Mott MacDonald, Emergency Response Fund (ERF), DFAT, Astella, and START network works with people affected by COVID-19 through risk communication, health equipment support for infection prevention, quarantine center management, WASH and protection support.

Multiple Disaster Responses:

This initiative, funded by the FCDO-funded START Network and CARE's internal funds, supported communities affected by flooding, landslides, earthquakes and fire by providing them with immediate relief items and related support.



Community members of Godavari Municipality in Kailali District learn about COVID-19 prevention and hygiene promotion behaviours.

Health Behavior Change Through Volunteers

During the surge of COVID-19 infections in Nepal, CARE actively worked with government agencies at all levels to combat and prevent its effects through its COVID-19 Response Pooled Fund Project. In Godavari Municipality of Kailali district in Nepal's far western province, CARE worked with local partners to expand and speed up the vaccination drive and hygiene promotion.

At first, communities in Godavari Municipality had various misconceptions about COVID-19 vaccination, resulting in a very low vaccination rate. CARE Nepal, with support from its local partners, the municipal government and its health department, mobilized Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs) to raise awareness on misconceptions about the COVID-19 vaccine. This joint effort also informed the community about upcoming vaccination dates and locations. Sixty-four FCHVs were mobilized for a door-to-door campaign, answering people's questions and sharing information on how to prevent and control the spread of COVID-19. Immunization coverage in the municipality is now at 92%, a significant increase from the 35% at the start of this vaccination drive.

"We were having a hard time convincing the local people to get vaccinated so we could increase community vaccination coverage. However, through CARE's FCHV mobilization, the municipality received additional support on data

of households yet to be vaccinated. We could then focus our vaccination campaign in the required locations and achieve the desired outcome," said Navraj Awasthi, Health Coordinator of Godavari Municipality.

Along with facilitating the vaccination drive, the mobilization of FCHVs also proved fruitful in raising awareness among the local Mothers' Groups on personal hygiene promotion. FCHVs focused on hand washing techniques and critical hygiene behaviors that could break the chain of COVID-19 transmission.

Nandirani Rana, an FCHV, says, *"We are pleased to have helped in prevention of the contagion through the project supported by CARE Nepal. We are working with local Mothers' Groups to try to change the hygiene behaviors of community members through the use of various information communication and education (IEC) materials. Even simply using proper hand washing techniques can be key towards halting COVID-19 transmission."*

CARE Nepal, through its COVID-19 response and recovery initiatives, has focused on **strengthening health systems and advocating for fair and fast vaccination**, resulting in increased vaccination uptake and improved hygiene behavior.



SYSTEM-LEVEL CHANGE AND IMPACT

CARE's vision of systems-level change is the shift that occurs by altering underlying structures and supporting mechanisms which make the system operate in a particular way, as a direct result of CARE and CARE's partners' programs and influence. It is a direct outcome of the cumulative effect of working across multiple systems level pathways. Systemic change may include shifts at multiple levels, including at the interpersonal, community, and institutional level. These shifts have real and important impacts on individual people's lives. CARE's six systems-level pathways and key impacts have been summarized below:

Leaders in Localization

Beyond sub-granting relationships to implement externally funded projects, CARE has formed long-term partnerships with over 40 alliances, networks and people's movements in Nepal for the purpose of joint advocacy, research, and learning. Using modest internal funds, CARE Nepal builds capacity that strengthens these organizations' governance, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) mainstreaming capacity, and ability to

deliver development results in Nepal. CARE also provides broader national, regional and global platform for their voice and perspective, and convenes forums for civil society organizations (CSOs) to deliberate together on how to build more inclusive local systems, influence local government decision making, and strengthen the political neutrality and legitimacy for civil society. Within CARE's 40 plus cohort of strategic partners, the National Indigenous Women's Federation (NIWF), Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO), and proposed consortium member Nepal Disabled Women Association (NDWA), are examples of our commitment to amplify intersectional voices in particular.

Advocacy to Influence Policies and Programs

CARE Nepal has conducted advocacy to influence policies and programs across several of its recent programs. This includes advocating for dignified work and the safety and security of women working in the informal sector through ratification of International Labor Organization (ILO) Violence and Harassment Convention No.

190. Implementation of Empowerment, Knowledge and Transformative Action (EKATA) model to promote collective empowerment of women in the garment sector, as part of the Made by Women (MbW) initiative, as well as promotion of inclusive governance and resilience for the right to food through SAMARTHYA project has supported the advocacy to influence policies and programs.

Promoting Social Norms Change

CARE works to address discriminatory and harmful social norms in the economic, social and political spheres, through community dialogue, other norms-shifting interventions, as well as broad media campaigns. CARE's Tipping Point Initiative addresses the gender and social norms that are at the root of child, early, and forced marriage (CEFM) and promotes the rights of adolescent girls through community-level programming and evidence generation. Similarly, under Suaahara project, our flagship interventions like GESI champions and Fathers Dialogue Groups are complemented by social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) interventions tailored to challenge harmful practices, portraying positive norms, and correcting misperceptions related to health and nutrition practices.

Supporting Social Movements

CARE supports social movements and other representative organizations of excluded groups, particularly those working for gender equality, in order to contribute to change through their collective action. CARE, together with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) including Women's Rehabilitation Centre (WOREC), Girls Not Bride (GNB) and Girls' Rights Forum (GRF), have been actively leading social movements to end CEFM, violence against women, mobility restrictions for girls, and advocating for girls' right to education, through organizing various rallies, programs, social campaigns, partnering with allies and lobbying with the government for policy changes and support. Similarly, we have supported and built women's representative organizations within the informal sector using EKATA Models and Business Learning Center (BLC) models. We also support smallholders, marginalized and landless farmers, including women farmers, to advocate for their land rights.



Local social mobilizer involving adolescent girls in the Community Learning Action Center (CLAC) meetings to identify and address issues of young women.

Systems Strengthening and Social Accountability

CARE works with its partners to transform institutions by increasing partner capacity to hold duty bearers accountable for their obligations and supporting institutions to increase their capacities to provide inclusive, effective, and accountable services. For example, CARE has worked with partners including National Farmers Group Federation (NFGF), National Land Rights Forum (NLRF), Community Self Reliance Centre (CSRC), Bheri Environmental Excellence Group (BEE-Group), and Federation of Nepal Cottage and Small Industries (FNCSI), for projects such as SAMARHTYA, and the COVID-19 Emergency Response and Recovery Project, among others, to strengthen their MEAL capacity. Local constituencies' demands have been reflected in local planning process under the SAMARHTYA, MbW and Tipping Point projects.

Inclusive Market-based Approaches

CARE's inclusive market-based approaches include improving access to finance for small business holders and developing collective marketing, through platforms such as the weekly Haat Bazaar, a self-regulated local farmers' market, and collection centers, which contributes to fair pricing of agriculture products. Collection centers are

mediated by cooperatives or Collection Centre Management Committees (CCMCs) to collaboratively organize producer groups to collect and supply production inputs to local or distant traders. Producer groups are linked with service providers or traders through input vouchers.

Scaling and Adapting

CARE has been involved in testing innovative approaches, and supporting proven models to be taken to scale. The Hariyo Ban Program scalable models including Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) and Community Learning Action Centre (CLAC), along with the 8 climate resilient scalable models on land and agriculture under SAMARHTYA project enabled climate vulnerable communities to develop capacity and assets to minimize and deal with drivers of climatic risk creating an enabling environment. Humanitarian Partnership Platform (HPP) serves as an avenue for local humanitarian actors, including private sectors and media, to strengthen coordinated humanitarian actions focusing on Gender in Emergencies (GiE), through effective and efficient preparedness planning, coordination, capacity building, collective action, and resource leveraging. Likewise, through UDAAN model, which is a 12-month Accelerated Learning Course, we support girls aged 10-14 years who have never been to school or have dropped out of school due to various reasons, to reintegrate into mainstream formal education.



Students learn to make reusable sanitary pads during a menstrual hygiene and reusable sanitary pad-making training conducted at school.




A woman builder in the process of building affordable and earthquake resistant house using Compressed Stabilized Earthen Bricks (CSEB) interlocking bricks in Kailaki district.





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