

A CRUCIAL MOMENT IN TIME

Gender-based violence (GBV) is an epidemic that thrives all the more during emergencies. The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in a significant spike in domestic violence, as women during lockdown are confined for extended periods of time with their abusers and are unable to access support services.

Although several policies, legislation and programmes for GBV prevention and the provision of response services have been put in place in Nepal, and there are encouraging signs of progress, much more needs to be done to end this scourge. This includes challenging social norms that value men and boys over women and girls and perpetuate discriminatory practices and violence against women and girls.

GBV IN NEPAL AT A GLANCE



one in five women aged 15-49 experienced physical violence



one in four married women experienced spousal physical, sexual or emotional violence in her lifetime



31% male respondents believe that it is acceptable to beat their wives for disobedience



66% of GBV survivors have not sought any help or talked with anyone about resisting or stopping the violence they experience

BUILDING ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2016, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in collaboration with the Government of Nepal, and supported by the Norwegian Embassy and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, launched the first phase of projects in Province 1, Province 3 and Sudurpaschim that aimed to reduce GBV by empowering women and girls and strengthening response services. Lessons learnt from these projects include:

- The importance of strengthening One-stop Crisis Management Centres (OCMC), through recruiting and training personnel, which play a central role in the provision of integrated multi-sectoral health and psychosocial services to GBV survivors.
- A significant increase in service-seeking behaviour among survivors of gender-based violence when services are in place that meet the minimum standards.
- The investment in training and deploying community-based psychosocial workers for the provision of outreach services including psychosocial first-aid has been instrumental in encouraging survivors to seek support services and facilitating referrals.
- The sustainability of the projects has been enhanced through institutionalizing response mechanisms at the community level, thereby creating a demand for services and resulting in local authorities integrating key activities in their plans and budgets.

ABOUT THE PHASE II PROJECT

The second phase of the **Gender Based Violence Prevention and Response (GBVPR) Project**(2020- 2024) will continue efforts to sustain the emerging results and expand a comprehensive model of prevention and response through an 'all of community approach' that allows more sustainable shifts in attitudes and behaviours of individuals and the community, as well as in governance, while enhancing the quality of response services.

The Phase II project is now jointly supported by SDC, Norweigian Embassy and UNFPA.

Project duration: August 2020 to August 2024

Beneficiaries: GBV survivors (women and girls), adolescent boys and girls, families including newlywed couples, and local communities

Service providers: Police, Health Workers, Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs), Teachers, Judicial Committees, Mediation Committees, Hospital/One-Stop Crisis Management Centres (OCMC), and Community Psychosocial Workers (CPSWs)

TOTAL REACH: 292,802 (Beneficiaries + Service Providers)

GOAL

The goal of the project is to reduce all forms of gender-based violence and discrimination against women in Province 1 and Sudurpaschim.

OUTCOMES



1. Women and men, including girls and boys increasingly prevent, report and address gender-based violence;



2. Local governments, legal authorities and health facilities provide effective multi- sectoral and survivor-centred responses to gender-based violence;



3. Local, provincial and federal governments adopt and implement policies and budgets for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

PROJECT PARTNERS

The project will work closely with NGO partners as well as the Government of Nepal at the Federal, Provincial and Local Government, including:

- Federal level: Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen, Ministry of Health and Population, Ministry of Home Affairs, Police, and National Women's Commission
- Provincial level: Provincial Parliaments' Social Development Committees, Ministry of Social Development and hospital/OCMCs
- Local level: Local Governments, Judicial Committees, Mediation Committees, Safe Houses/ Service Centres and Courts

THE PROJECT SEEKS TO PREVENT AND RESPOND TO GBV THROUGH THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

Community dialogues with newlywed couples, families, women and men's groups to challenge discriminatory social norms and practices

"Rupantaran" (transformation) learning for adolescent girls and boys on gender equality and human rights

Dialogues with religious leaders, scholars and other influential leaders to facilitate critical reflection and campaign for gender equality

Putting the survivor first

CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

Capacity building and support to local and provincial governments to formulate policies, budgets, plans, protocols and guidelines for gender responsive services

RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

Supporting shelter homes and safe houses for GBV survivors to provide quality services

Provision of quality health services for GBV survivors through OCMCs and health posts

Train and deploy CPSWs to provide psychosocial support and referral services

Strengthen and support community mediation centres and Judicial Committees to mediate GBV cases in a survivor-friendly way

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

In total, Phase II will be implemented in 19 municipalities and 87 wards in Province 1 and Sudurpaschim Province.



PROVINCE NO. 1

Morang	1. Biratnagar Metropolitan City
Okhaldhunga	Siddhicharan Municipality Manebhanjyang Rural
	Municipality 3. Molung Rural Municipality
	 Chaudandigadhi Rural Municipality
Udaypur	1. Katari Municipality
	2. Triyuga Municipality
	Chaudandigadhi Municipality
	4. Belaka Municipality

SUDUR PASCHIM PROVINCE

Kailali	1. Dhangadhi Sub Metropolitan City
Achham	 Mangalsen Municipality Kamalbazaar Municipality Sanphebagar Municipality
Baitadi	Patan Municipality Dasarathchand Municipality
Bajhang	Jaya Prithwi Municipality Bitthadchir Rural Municipality
Bajura	Badhimalika Municipality Budhiganga Municipality

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