



HUMANITARIAN HERALD

VOLUME 4



Welcome to ROYM Nepal's Quarterly Bulletin!

ROYM Nepal Newsletter-Issue 4, 2024 *Empowering Communities, Enhancing Future*

Warm Greetings from the Heart of Nepal!

We are thrilled to bring you the latest updates, stories, and achievements from our community projects and initiatives for the months of October to December 2024. Our mission to empower communities and enhance the future of Nepal through sustainable development and collaborative efforts continues to drive us forward. This edition of our quarterly bulletin is a testament to the incredible progress and resilience demonstrated by our communities, thanks to the continuous support of our partners and friends like you.

In This Issue:

- Project Highlights: Discover the latest milestones in our community projects, showcasing the transformative impact on lives across Nepal.
- Field Insights: Gain firsthand perspectives from our team members working tirelessly on the ground.
- And Much More!

Together, we are making a difference!



Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Business Plan Development Training, October 5, 2024, Rautahat

A total of 25 participants attended the SME Business Plan Development and Start-up Training from September 30 to October 5, 2024. The training equipped attendees with the necessary tools to develop effective business plans, covering topics from market research to financial planning and strategic development. Expert speakers shared valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities that SMEs face in today's economic climate. This comprehensive training program aimed to empower participants with the knowledge and skills needed to successfully launch and grow their small and medium enterprises.

Women Group Formation in Matihani, October 2024, Mahottari

In October 2024, three women's groups were formed in Matihani, with the participation of mothers of children enrolled in the Community Learning Center (CLC) Matihani and other women from the community. Each group consists of 20 members. The purpose of these groups is to equip mothers and other women with knowledge about safe parenting, sanitation, nutrition, life skills, and other essential information for the well-being and upbringing of their children.





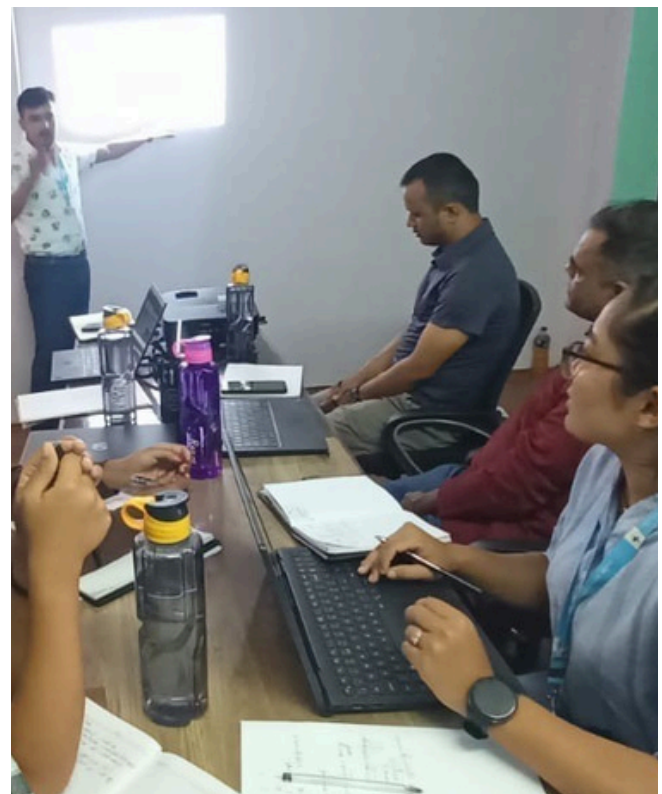
Community Orientation through Peer Educator, October 25, 2024, Sarlahi

On October 25, 2024, a community orientation event was conducted through peer educators to create awareness against child marriage and to work towards social justice and youth empowerment. A total of 28 participants (2 male and 26 female) attended the program, which aimed to educate them about the severe health, educational, economic, and social impacts of child marriage. The event promoted actions that can help prevent child marriage and foster a more just and equitable society. This initiative was a significant step towards raising awareness and empowering the community to take proactive measures against child marriage.

Quarterly Review and Planning Meeting, October 27, 2024, Dhading

In October 2024, ROYM Nepal Dhading branch organized a Quarterly Review and Planning Meeting for the JIBIKA project at the ROYM Nepal field office in Neelkantha-3, Dhading. The event, held on October 29-30, brought together 7 participants, including the Program Coordinator, District Program Coordinator, and other key staff.

The meeting focused on assessing project progress, reviewing challenges, and planning for the upcoming quarter. Presentations covered activity achievements and financial details, followed by group discussions to develop new strategies for community and stakeholder engagement. Key takeaways included identifying financial gaps, outlining engagement strategies, and creating a communication plan.





Embracing Change and New Beginnings at ROYM Nepal, Kathmandu, October 27, 2024

We're thrilled to share the highlights from our recent Annual General Meeting and special assembly, which took place on October 27, 2024. This pivotal event saw the welcoming of newly appointed board members. The meeting was essential for discussing our strategies, reviewing the past year's achievements, and planning future initiatives. We also addressed our financial overview, evaluated ongoing projects, and identified areas needing improvement. The previous board members handed over their roles, ensuring a seamless transition.

Our new leadership team is as follows: Roshna Giri (Chairperson), Parbati Poudel (Vice Chairperson), Sita Shrestha (General Secretary), Menu Shakya (Secretary), Prativa Dhakal (Treasurer), Ram Krishna Sunar (Member), Sweta Karna (Member), Samjhana Tamang (Member) and Sushil Lama (Member).

During the meeting, we delved into critical discussions on the way forward, focusing on enhancing our impact and broadening our reach. Our future plans include strengthening community engagement, expanding our sustainable development programs, and fostering a culture of resilience and inclusivity.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the outgoing board members for their invaluable contributions. We heartily welcome and are excited to work with the new team to continue driving our mission forward.



ROYM Nepal Amplifies Climate Action and Justice Across Nepal, Kathmandu, November 16, 2024

ROYM Nepal joined thousands of climate activists, civil society members, and local communities to demand climate finance and justice across Nepal. In Kathmandu, we participated in a significant rally that began at Bhrikutimandap and concluded at Shanti Batika in Ratna Park, echoing the urgent call for climate finance. A powerful rally was also held in Surkhet, Karnali Province, with huge mass participants gathering in solidarity. In Dhalkebar, Madhesh Province, we participated in a rally that accumulated crowds from various districts, including Rautahat, Sarlahi, and Mahottari, demonstrating our united stand for climate action.

Additionally, in Dhading, an orientation and interaction program, spreading awareness and knowledge on the importance of climate action. In Saptari, we led impactful pond cleaning programs, aiming to restore and maintain cleaner, sustainable water resources.

These collective efforts underscored our core demands: climate finance must be provided as grants, not loans; financial commitments need to focus on inclusivity, reaching marginalized communities; industrial nations must fulfill their promises for climate finance; and the distribution of funds must be transparent and timely.

Our actions align with the global climate movement, urging the Global North to repay their historical climate debt and support the Global South in addressing the climate crisis. Our active contribution in our working areas demonstrates our strong commitment to climate action and justice.



Self-Entrepreneurship Training, November 16, 2024, Bhangaha Municipality, Rautahat

A self-entrepreneurship training aimed at improving self-efficacy, self-esteem, and financial literacy was conducted from November 14 to 16, 2024, in Bhangaha Municipality. The training engaged 30 young girls and women, providing them with essential skills to empower them and enhance their confidence and financial management capabilities. This program fostered entrepreneurial mindsets for personal and professional growth, equipping the participants with the knowledge and tools needed for successful self-entrepreneurship.

Motorcycle Repairing Training, November 17, 2024, Gujara Municipality, Rautahat

The motorcycle repair training program, conducted in Gujara Municipality, Rautahat district, was a 60-day initiative aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of underprivileged youth. The training program started on September 1 and concluded on November 17, 2024. A total of 11 young male participants enrolled in the program who completed the training.

The program focused on equipping the participants with fundamental skills needed for motorcycle repair and maintenance. The trainees were selected based on their strong interest in learning skills that could help them start businesses or secure employment. Of the 11 participants who completed the training, three have already started working in a nearby motorcycle workshop. This initiative has provided these youths with valuable skills and opened up opportunities for economic independence and sustainable livelihoods.



YHRD Formation in Kalikot, November 23, 2024



On November 23, 2024, the Youth Human Rights Defender Network (YHRD) was successfully formed in Kalikot with 44 enthusiastic members, including 28 men and 16 women. This pivotal event marked a significant step towards strengthening human rights advocacy in the region. Participants were briefed on the network's objectives and engaged in interactive workshops and discussions. The formation of the YHRD Network included the election of a leadership committee, ensuring gender representation. The event fostered a sense of unity and empowered participants to actively promote and protect human rights in their community. This initiative highlights the crucial role of youth in driving meaningful change and advocating for justice.

YHRD Formation in Jumla, November 29, 2024

On November 29, 2024, the vibrant community of Jumla witnessed the formation of the Youth Human Rights Defender Network (YHRD) with 43 dedicated members, including 13 women and 30 men. This landmark event brought together passionate individuals committed to championing human rights in their region. Participants were introduced to the YHRD's mission and engaged in dynamic workshops that covered various aspects of human rights advocacy. These sessions provided valuable knowledge and practical skills essential for effective activism. The highlight of the day was the election of a leadership committee, ensuring inclusive representation and setting the stage for coordinated efforts. The event fostered a sense of unity and empowered participants to actively defend and promote human rights.





Global Day of Action for Climate Justice 2024, November 16, 2024

ROYM Nepal organized the Global Day of Action for Climate Justice on November 16, 2024, at Nilakantha Municipality and Netrawoti Dobjung Rural Municipality in Dhading District. The event aimed to raise awareness about the climate crisis and its impact on vulnerable communities, calling for stronger climate policies and action. The program included interaction sessions, orientations, and a climate justice march, with over 148 participants. They discussed the state of climate change in Nepal, the nation's climate action plan, and the importance of youth involvement in climate solutions. Workshops focused on the role of youth in climate action, sustainable farming, and waste reduction. The event empowered participants to take action, reinforced the need for youth leadership, and showcased solidarity with global climate justice movements. A social media campaign, "Youth for Climate Justice," was also launched.

YHRD Mapping Event in Kalikot, November 20, 2024

On November 20, 2024, a significant event focused on YHRD mapping took place in Kalikot, Nepal. Organized to gather crucial data for understanding human rights issues, the event saw the participation of 25 individuals, including 4 females and 21 males. Participants were briefed on the importance of YHRD mapping and provided informed consent before data collection. The collected information was analyzed to identify key patterns and trends related to human rights violations. The event successfully gathered valuable data that will enhance the understanding of human rights issues in the region.





Networking Events and Forums to Connect Rural Women with Women Leaders, November 25, 2024, Dhading

ROYM Nepal, in collaboration with the WHRD Network of Dhading District, organized a Networking Event and Forum on November 25, 2024, at Nilakantha Municipality, Ward No. 3, Dhading District. The event aimed to empower rural women by providing a platform for dialogue with women leaders from local and national levels. It focused on fostering collaboration, building networks, and addressing challenges such as access to education, healthcare, economic opportunities, and leadership roles.

The program featured panel discussions, networking sessions, and keynote speeches from prominent figures. Over 85 participants attended, including rural women, local leaders, national policymakers, and activists. Discussions covered strategies for improving rural women's lives, stepping into leadership roles, and advocating for policy changes.

The event empowered rural women with practical skills, knowledge, and confidence to take on leadership roles and advocate for change. Participants formed valuable connections, creating a strong support network for future initiatives. Recommendations included more accessible leadership programs, gender-sensitive policies, and improved access to resources for women-led businesses. ROYM Nepal remains committed to connecting rural women with resources and opportunities for sustainable change, marking an important milestone in the journey toward gender equality and rural development.

YHRD Mapping Event in Jumla, November 26, 2024

On November 26, 2024, Jumla hosted a pivotal YHRD (Youth Human Rights Defender Network) mapping event. Gathering 26 passionate participants, including 5 women and 21 men, this event aimed to address and document human rights issues. Participants provided informed consent before sharing their experiences, which were then analyzed to identify key trends and patterns. The event fostered a sense of solidarity and community, empowering participants to advocate for human rights. This mapping initiative highlighted the importance of collective action in driving meaningful change and advancing human rights advocacy.



1-Day Workshop Seminar on Financial Literacy, November 27, 2024, Dhading

ROYM Nepal Dhading branch organized a one-day financial literacy seminar for three farmer groups in Neelkantha-5. The program, held on November 22, 23, and 27, brought together 73 participants to enhance their financial decision-making and budget management skills. The sessions were facilitated by DPC Harisharan Dhital and Kulmaya B.K., covering topics such as financial literacy, savings, loan management, and insurance. The workshop aimed to equip women with essential techniques for saving, controlling expenses, and investing in small-scale agri-businesses. Key takeaways included the importance of budgeting, understanding credit and debt, and using financial planning tools. Participants gained valuable insights into managing their finances effectively.





Support for Effective Participation of Women in 7 Steps Planning Process of Government, November 28, 2024

To ensure that initial planning reflects women's needs and objectives that specifically aim to reduce gender inequality and promote women's empowerment in sectors such as health, education, and economic participation, ROYM Nepal conducted support meetings in Bardibas Municipality, Bhangaha Municipality, and Barhampuri Rural Municipality. The meetings, held in November 2024, aimed to support the effective participation of women in the 7-steps government planning process. By actively involving women in the development of strategies and ensuring their priorities are addressed, gender mainstreaming was implemented across all areas of the planning process. The sessions incorporated 32 local government members and community women, contributing to more inclusive and equitable planning outcomes.

Empowering Youth for Human Rights: YHRD Mapping in Mugu, December 1, 2024

On December 1, 2024, the scenic region of Mugu, Nepal, witnessed a pivotal YHRD (Youth Human Rights Defender Network) mapping event. Bringing together 17 dedicated participants, including 14 men and 3 women, the event aimed to document and address human rights issues within the community. Participants were briefed on the significance of YHRD mapping and provided informed consent before sharing their experiences. The data collected was meticulously analyzed to uncover trends and challenges specific to the region. This initiative not only highlighted the importance of collective action but also fostered a strong sense of unity among participants. The event underscored the critical role of youth in human rights advocacy and empowered participants to champion human rights in their community.





Community Orientation and Group Formation, December 1, 2024

ROYM Nepal initiated the JIBIKA Project in Dhading District with a focus on socioeconomic empowerment for women, Dalits, and ethnic groups. The Community Orientation and Group Formation event took place on December 1, 2024, in Netrawoti Dobjong Rural Municipality, Ward No. 5, with 17 participants. The event aimed to introduce ROYM Nepal and the JIBIKA Project, provide a platform for participants to voice concerns, access resources, and participate in decision-making processes. It also sought to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and best practices among women farmers, form groups that include Dalits, women, vulnerable, and marginalized people, and ensure proper preparation and engagement for the project program. A key outcome of the event was the formation of the Katunje Farmers Group, consisting of 16 members, led by President Anita Maya Sarya, with meetings scheduled on the 11th of every month.

Agri Input Seed Money Support Program, December 3, 2024, Dhading

ROYM Nepal Dhading branch organized an Agri Input Seed Money Support program at Nilakantha Municipality, Ward No. 5, Khalte Dhading, on December 3, 2024. The event aimed to provide financial assistance to help farmers start new agricultural ventures or improve existing ones, thereby empowering farmers, improving agricultural productivity, and contributing to rural development and socioeconomic empowerment. The support provided included a plastic tunnel setup for commercial vegetable farming for Ms. Prabha Magar and seed money support of NPR 10,000 for commercial vegetable farming for Mr. Bed Bahadur Magar. The program aimed to strengthen the capacity of farmers by providing training, technical assistance, and access to resources, encouraging agricultural entrepreneurship and sustainable farming practices.





YHRD Formation in Mugu, December 4, 2024

On December 4, 2024, the Youth Human Rights Defender Network (YHRD) was formed in Mugu, bringing together 33 dedicated participants (16 women and 17 men). The event featured interactive workshops on human rights advocacy and the election of a leadership committee with balanced gender representation. This formation marks a significant milestone in strengthening human rights advocacy in the region, empowering youth to promote and protect human rights.

Life Skills and Parenting Training for Mothers Group in Matihani, December 7, 2024, Mahottari

The 5-day Life Skills Training Program was conducted at Matihani from December 3 to December 7, 2024, to enhance practical knowledge and essential skills among the participants. Each day covered a specific topic necessary for daily living and personal development, including Event Registration, Basic First Aid, Income/Expenditure Management, Food and Nutrition, and Positive Parenting. A total of 64 community women and mothers of children from the Community Learning Center (CLC) participated in the program, gaining valuable insights and skills for their well-being and the upbringing of their children.





Market Management User Group Meeting at Netrawoti Dobjung Rural Municipality, Ward No. 5, December 7, 2024, Dhading

ROYM Nepal organized a Market Management User Group Meeting at Netrawoti Dobjung Rural Municipality, Ward No. 5, on December 7, 2024. The meeting aimed to gather local community members, stakeholders, and market users to discuss key issues related to market management, sustainability, and the role of local governance in enhancing economic conditions. The objectives included understanding the needs and challenges faced by market users, discussing market management practices, gathering input on effective collaboration, and providing a platform for community members to voice concerns. Key discussions revolved around market infrastructure, fair trade, and collaboration with local authorities. Participants appreciated the platform provided by ROYM Nepal for discussing their concerns and suggested holding similar meetings regularly to track progress and address new challenges.

Seed Money Support to Right Holders, December 8, 2024, Mdhesh Province

To support the establishment of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and engage in cattle farming, 20 beneficiaries were provided seed money during the fourth quarter of 2024. The distribution included 4 beneficiaries in Rautahat, 9 in Sarlahi, and 7 in Mahottari. The support enabled recipients to invest in essential tools, equipment, and livestock, facilitating their entry into sustainable livelihoods. By promoting the growth of SMEs and cattle farming, this initiative improved economic opportunities, enhanced self-sufficiency, and contributed to community development. Out of all the provided seed money support, seven beneficiaries started making a good profit of around five hundred to one thousand rupees a day.





The 16th Human Rights National Magna Meet 2024, Jawalakhel, Lalitpur, Kathmandu, December 8

The 16th Human Rights National Magna Meet 2024, held in Jawalakhel, Lalitpur on December 8, marked the 76th International Human Rights Day. Organized by the Forum of Civil Society and Human Rights Defenders, the event brought together 129 organizations, including ROYM Nepal, under the theme: Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice: Human Rights of Marginalized Communities.

Key speakers included Narayan Prasad Dahal, Chairperson of the National Assembly, who stressed the importance of upholding human rights, and Top Bahadur Magar, Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission, who advocated for better implementation of recommendations for marginalized communities. Kamala Parajuli, Chairperson of the National Women Commission, called for action against human rights violations by non-state actors, while other leaders, such as Ram Bahadur Thapa Magar and Devraj Bishwakarma, highlighted issues faced by indigenous and Dalit communities.

The event also honored Durga Ghimire and awarded the Shanta Laxmi Shrestha Women Human Rights Award to Kismati Devi Ram. This collaboration reinforced the shared commitment to ensuring human rights and justice for marginalized communities.



Celebrating the 76th International Human Rights Day with a Grand Rally, Kathmandu, December 10, 2024

ROYM Nepal proudly participated in a grand human rights rally organized on the occasion of the 76th International Human Rights Day and the 16th National Human Rights Convention. This significant event was jointly organized by the NGO Federation Nepal, the National Human Rights Commission, and the National Human Rights Convention.

The rally saw the presence of various civil society organizations and started at Bhrikuti Mandap, passed through Shahid Gate, and concluded with a corner meeting at Ratna Park's Shanti Vatika. We are honored to participate in this rally, which was a powerful demonstration of solidarity and commitment to human rights. The rally emphasized the importance of social, economic, and environmental justice for all, highlighting the critical need to protect the rights of marginalized communities.

Addressing Gender-Based Violence in Elections and Political Processes, December 11, Kathmandu

ROYM Nepal participated in an impactful interaction program on Gender-Based Violence in Elections and Political Processes, organized by the Youth Policy Network (YPN) in Kathmandu as part of the 16 Days Campaign.

Key speakers, including Hon. Dinesh Kumar Thapaliya, MPs Rekha Sharma and Kantika Sejuwal, politicians, and representatives from civil society like ROYM Nepal's Lubha Raj Neupane, highlighted the pressing issue of gender-based violence in politics.

The discussion emphasized physical, mental, and economic violence faced by women, including threats and discrimination, which hinder their political participation. Although women voters outnumber men, their representation in elections remains low, underscoring the need for stronger policies to ensure safe and inclusive political engagement.





International Human Rights Day Celebration, December 10, 2024, Dhading

ROYM Nepal, in collaboration with INSEC Nepal, celebrated International Human Rights Day on December 10, 2024, at Nilakantha Municipality, Ward No. 3, and on December 22, 2024, at Ward No. 5. The event aimed to raise awareness about human rights and promote the protection of human dignity. Presentations by ROYM Nepal DPC Harisharan Dhital and INSEC Nepal Representative Sitaram Adhikari highlighted human rights principles and the current status in Dhading District. The program saw active participation from local leaders, activists, youth, and government officials. The event increased awareness among participants and laid the foundation for further joint efforts in human rights education and advocacy.

Celebrated 16 Days of Activism, December 10, 2024, Madhesh Province

The 16 Days of Activism were celebrated from November 25 to December 10, 2024, with the theme “UNiTE to End Violence against Women and Girls.” Numerous interaction programs, orientation campaigns, and rallies were conducted in collaboration with local government and stakeholders in Bardibaas, Bhangaha, Kabilashi, Brahampuri, Gujara, and Birindawan Rural/Municipality. These events aimed to sensitize, create awareness, and raise voices against gender-based violence. The programs focused on raising awareness about current cases of gender-based violence, the role of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), local government, and other stakeholders, and fostering collaboration to end GBV in society. More than a thousand participants attended and were sensitized on GBV and mitigation methods through coordination with various stakeholders.





16 Days of Activism on Gender-Based Violence, Organized by ROYM Nepal, December 10, Dhading

Rural Oriented Youth Movement (ROYM Nepal) successfully organized a 16-day campaign in Nilakantha Municipality and Netrawoti Dobjung Rural Municipality, focusing on women's rights and empowerment. The event aimed to raise awareness about gender equality, educate the community on women's issues, and advocate for the prevention of gender-based violence. The campaign was part of the global 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, observed from November 25 to December 10. SM of ROYM Nepal, Sarita Thapa and Kulmaya B.K., conducted orientation classes in coordination with ward and police offices. The event commenced with an opening ceremony attended by local government representatives and women's rights activists. Workshops covered topics such as women's legal rights, preventing domestic violence, gender-based violence, and economic empowerment. Informational materials were distributed during rallies throughout the municipalities. The campaign culminated with a closing ceremony and the drafting of a community action plan.

The event raised significant awareness about gender norms and violence prevention. Women gained confidence in discussing their issues and seeking support. There was an increase in dialogue between community members, leaders, and law enforcement, and strengthened local networks of activists and volunteers committed to gender equality initiatives. Despite logistical challenges in remote areas and cultural barriers in conservative regions, the campaign was an impactful initiative aimed at empowering women and raising awareness about gender-based violence. Continued collaboration, workshops, and engaging men and boys in future events are essential for sustaining the momentum for gender equality initiatives.



Off-Farm (Beautician) Training, December 12, 2024, Rautahat

A total of 10 girls and young women participated in a beautician training program conducted from November 26 to December 12, 2024. The program aimed to empower youth and women from marginalized communities and improve their livelihoods. Off-farm skill development training was provided in the Rautahat district, where participants learned the essential skills needed to start their beauty parlours or work in existing ones. This initiative aims to enhance their economic status and offer the opportunity to achieve financial independence by addressing local market demands.

Land Lease Agreement, December 16, 2024, Madhesh Province

In December 2024, four land lease agreements were made for a duration of three years to engage selected members of our farmer's group in cooperative-based agriculture and farming. These agreements were made in Bhangaha, Kabilashi, Gujara, and Bridawan Municipality. This initiative aims to provide farmers with the necessary land resources to support sustainable and collaborative farming practices, enhancing agricultural productivity and community development.





2-Day Youth Entrepreneurship Development Training, December 16, 2024, Dhading

ROYM Nepal, with the support of AEIN Luxembourg and in coordination with Nilakantha Municipality, conducted a 2-Day Youth Entrepreneurship Development Training at Hotel Jana Jibika, Nilakantha Municipality, Ward No. 3, on December 15-16, 2024. The event aimed to equip 25 participants from Nilakantha and Netrawoti Rural Municipality with essential skills and knowledge for entrepreneurial ventures.

Facilitators Mr. Chudamani Puri and Mr. Harisharan Dhital led the sessions, covering topics such as entrepreneurship fundamentals, business planning, marketing, financial management, and scaling a business. The training included interactive activities, networking sessions, and practical demonstrations. Participants learned how to identify business opportunities, create business plans, conduct market research, and develop strategies for growth.

The event concluded with closing remarks from Deputy Mayor Mr. Deepak Bishokarma, who encouraged participants to apply their newly acquired knowledge. The training provided a dynamic environment for learning and fostering a sense of community among aspiring entrepreneurs. Participants left with a solid understanding of entrepreneurship, practical skills, and a network of industry professionals and peers to support their future ventures.



Monthly Meetings of Women’s Groups in Matihani, December 17 2024, Mahottari

From October to December 2024, a total of nine meetings and orientation sessions were conducted in the three women's groups formed in Matihani Municipality. Each month, three meetings were held, focusing on issues such as child marriage, health and sanitation, women's rights, and human rights. A total of 60 group members participated in these nine meetings and orientation events, contributing to the empowerment and education of women in the community.

Quarterly Group Meeting and Orientation on Gender-Based Violence (GBV), December 17, 2024, Dhading

ROYM Nepal organized a series of Quarterly Group Meetings and Orientation sessions on GBV and Harmful Traditional Practices in Nilakantha Municipality and Netrawoti Dobjung Rural Municipality, Ward No. 5. Held between November 26 and December 17, these events brought together community leaders, local stakeholders, and group members to address these critical issues. The sessions aimed to assess the progress of ongoing projects, educate participants on GBV and harmful practices, and establish goals and strategies for the next quarter. Key highlights included defining GBV and its forms, discussing harmful cultural norms contributing to GBV, and encouraging participants to raise awareness, support survivors, and collaborate with authorities. Outcomes of the meetings included expanded educational outreach to marginalized communities, organized capacity-building workshops for local leaders, advocacy for stronger law enforcement, and strengthened support networks for GBV survivors.





Lighting the Way for Migrants' Rights, Kathmandu, December 18, 2024

ROYM Nepal proudly participated in the International Migrant Workers' Day event organized by the International Migrants Day Main Ceremony Committee 2024 chaired by the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security at Nepal Academy, Kathmandu. The event featured the honorable Minister for Labor, Employment and Social Security, Mr. Sharad Singh Bhandari, as the chief guest. A significant presentation was made by President of the National Network for Safe Migration (NNSM), highlighting the importance of safe and informed migration.

Later in the day, we continued to honor the occasion at the International Migrants Day event in Bhrikutimandap, Kathmandu, organized by the International Migrants Day Main Ceremony Committee 2024. With co-organizers Pravasi Nepali Coordination Committee (PNCC), the National Network for Safe Migration (NNSM), and the Government of Nepal's Ministry of Labour, Employment, and Social Security, and with every participant, we lit candles to honor those who have lost their lives during foreign employment.

The theme "Foundation of Safe Migration: Employment with Information and Skills" resonated deeply as we discussed ways to ensure safe and informed migration processes. Let us continue to uphold the dignity, respect, and rights of migrants, recognizing their humanity and the rich diversity they bring to our communities.



Installation of Water Bore Wells, December 22, 2024, Sarlahi

To facilitate and support smooth plot-based group farming, two electrical water pumps were installed in December 2024. One pump was installed in Bhangaha, and another in Gujara. Additionally, a motor pump was installed in Kabilashi Municipality. These installations are crucial for ensuring a reliable water supply for agricultural activities, thereby promoting efficient and productive farming practices within the community.

Group Farming and Farmers' Field School on Pea Crop at Nilakantha Municipality, Dhading District, December 23

ROYM Nepal organized a series of activities focusing on pea crop cultivation at Nilakantha Municipality, Ward No. 5, from December 2 to 23, 2024. The sessions included seed support, land preparation, field visits, and agricultural ecosystem analyses. A total of 26 farmers participated in these sessions, which aimed to enhance pea crop yield, foster community cooperation, and promote sustainable farming practices. Participants received technical training on soil health, seed selection, pest management, water management, and cooperative planting practices. The highlight was the Farmers' Field School session, where participants observed various growth stages of pea crops and engaged in problem-solving discussions.





Teacher's Capacity Building Training at CLC Matihani, December 24, 2024, Mahottari

The teacher's capacity-building training at CLC Matihani was conducted from December 18 to December 24, 2024. This productive and engaging session was attended by 8 dedicated teacher participants. The training focused on enhancing teaching strategies, classroom management techniques, and the integration of new educational tools and methodologies. Through interactive discussions, practical exercises, and collaborative learning, the teachers gained valuable insights into improving their instructional approaches and fostering a positive learning environment for their students.

2nd Phase Off-Farm Beautician Training, December 25, 2024, Rautahat

In December 2024, the second phase of off-farm advanced beautician training was provided to 15 participants. The training aimed to equip participants with the advanced skills and knowledge needed to start their beauty businesses or find employment in a salon. Through these initiatives, the program seeks to improve the socio-economic status of participants by promoting self-reliance and personal development.



YHRD Mapping Event in Dolpa, December 25, 2024



On December 25, 2024, Dolpa hosted a significant YHRD (Youth Human Rights Defender Network) mapping event with 25 dedicated participants, including 20 men and 5 women. The event aimed to document and address human rights issues within the community. Participants were briefed on the importance of YHRD mapping and provided informed consent before sharing their experiences. The data collected was analyzed to identify key trends and challenges in Dolpa. The event fostered solidarity and empowered participants to advocate for human rights. This initiative marked a crucial step towards advancing human rights in the region and underscored the importance of community involvement in driving meaningful change.

One-Day Workshops on Enhancing Understanding and Adoption of Gender-Sensitive Approaches in Local Policies, Programs, and Budgets, December 26, 2024, Dhading

ROYM Nepal organized one-day workshops in Nilakantha Municipality and Netrawoti Dobjung Rural Municipality, Dhading District, to enhance the understanding and adoption of gender-sensitive approaches in local governance. Held on December 3, 14, and 26, the workshops aimed to equip local government officials and community stakeholders with the knowledge and tools necessary for implementing gender-responsive strategies. The sessions focused on gender-sensitive governance, gender-responsive budgeting, and identifying gender gaps in local policies and programs. Key outcomes included increased understanding of gender-sensitive approaches, commitments to adopting gender-sensitive strategies, and identification of gender disparities in local policies. The workshops provided a platform for networking and collaboration, helping to build stronger partnerships between local governments, civil society, and community leaders.





Annual Review Workshop of JIBIKA Project at Dhading , Dec 27, 2024

The Annual Review Workshop of the JIBIKA Project was held in Dhading District on December 26–27, 2024. The event aimed to assess the project's progress, identify challenges, share key learnings, and plan future interventions. Participants included local government officials, community members, partner organizations, and project beneficiaries. Highlights of the workshop included discussions on livelihood support, youth and women empowerment, and community mobilization. Key challenges identified were poor infrastructure in remote areas, resistance to new practices, and ensuring long-term sustainability. Future strategies focused on diversifying livelihoods, strengthening local government capacities, enhancing market linkages, and improving monitoring and evaluation. The workshop concluded with a commitment to collaboration between local communities, the project team, and local authorities to ensure the project's sustainability and greater impact on socioeconomic conditions.

YHRD Formation in Dolpa, December 29, 2024

On December 29, 2024, Dolpa celebrated the formation of the Youth Human Rights Defender Network (YHRD) with 48 dedicated members, including 29 men and 19 women. The event featured interactive workshops on human rights advocacy and the election of a leadership committee to guide the network's activities. This formation marked a significant step in strengthening human rights advocacy in the region, empowering youth to actively promote and protect human rights in their community.





Capacity-Building One-Day Workshop for Women's Group Members, Volunteers, December 28, Dhading

ROYM Nepal organized a one-day capacity-building workshop on December 28, 2024, for women's group members and volunteers in Netrawoti Dobjung Rural Municipality, Ward No. 5. The workshop focused on leadership development, strategic planning, and advocacy skills, aiming to empower participants with essential skills for community development. Conducted by Harisharan Dhital DPC, the workshop included 18 participants. The sessions covered leadership in rural communities, strategic planning for community projects, and building advocacy skills. Participants gained increased confidence in their leadership and advocacy abilities, enhanced understanding of strategic planning, and strengthened advocacy networks. The workshop contributed to the development of a more inclusive and engaged community, with ROYM Nepal planning to continue providing additional training and support for sustainable community development.

Exposure Visit for Dhaka Weaving and Tailoring Participants, December 29, 2024, Dhading

ROYM Nepal organized an exposure visit for participants of the Dhaka Weaving and Tailoring Training program to Uddhyam Ghar in Lalitpur on December 29, 2024. Participants learned about production processes, industry trends, and growth opportunities, enhancing their skills and understanding of the craft. The visit included exploring Dhaka products and materials, and visiting "Saru Dhaka" to learn about new weaving techniques and market demands. The visit aimed to inspire participants and encourage networking with industry professionals.





Orientation at Community Level on Climate Change and Its Impact, October to December, Saptari

Since the project's inception in Year I, ROYM Nepal has been dedicated to educating communities on various climate change-related topics. In the first year, we successfully conducted 80 orientations across 29 groups. Continuing our efforts in Year II, from October to December, we conducted an additional 10 orientations. This year, our primary focus has been on non-degradable waste management. Recognizing that solid waste—such as plastics, packaging materials, bottles, and cans—creates numerous environmental hazards and accelerates climate change, we emphasized the importance of proper waste segregation and management. These sessions are part of our ongoing "Clean Our Community Campaign," aiming to make our communities more environmentally conscious and proactive. A total of 183 community members participated in these sessions, comprising 17 males and 166 females.

Establishment of Nature-Based Solutions for Riverbank Protection, October to December, Saptari

One of the ambitious activities of the Saksham Saptari Project is the establishment of nature-based solutions for riverbank protection. During the monsoon season, the Jita and Mahuli Rivers converge near Sada and Mukhiya Tole, causing the flood levels to rise and inundate households. To control flooding and protect riverbanks, a series of tasks have been undertaken. Approximately 270 meters of river embankments have been constructed. The existing embankment was first layered with sand and soil to a height of 1.5 meters to prevent floodwaters from entering community households. Following this, Geo Bags filled with sand were placed above and across the newly constructed embankment to prevent soil runoff. Additionally, plantation activities will be carried out on the newly constructed dam to further strengthen the embankments. This infrastructure will benefit the people of Ram, Sada, and Mukhiya Tole, providing them with both protection and improved mobility.





Installation of Group-Owned Tube Wells and Pump Sets, October to December , Saptari

This quarter, ROYM Nepal has made significant strides in supporting riverbed farming through the installation of group-owned tube wells (hand pumps) and pump sets. Recognizing the critical need for regular and frequent irrigation in riverbed farming, we successfully installed three shallow tube wells and provided water pumps and motors to farmers. These installations are crucial for ensuring efficient and consistent irrigation, which is vital for the success of riverbed farming. As a result, approximately 25 farmers are currently benefitting from this intervention, and a total of 5 hectares of land have been brought under irrigation. This initiative not only enhances the agricultural productivity of the farmers but also contributes to the sustainable development of the community.

Seed Support for Riverbed Farming, October to December , Saptari

In Year II of the project, ROYM Nepal has continued to support sustainable agriculture by providing seeds to 25 farmers for riverbed farming. The seeds distributed included various Cucurbits, such as Cucumber, Pumpkin, Zucchini, Bitter Gourd, Bottle Gourd, and Watermelons. Nearly 8 bighas of land have been cultivated with these seeds, and the vegetables are showing promising growth. Some crops, like Zucchini, have reached the fruiting stage, while others, such as Cucumber, are in the flowering stage. A few are still in the vegetative stage, indicating a healthy progression of growth. This initiative aims to enhance food security and promote sustainable agricultural practices within the community.





3-Month Advance Dhaka Weaving and Tailoring Training, November 15 - December 31, 2024, Dhading

ROYM Nepal launched a 3-month Dhaka Weaving and Tailoring Training Program in Netrawoti Dobjung Rural Municipality, Ward No. 5. Supported by AEIN Luxembourg and Pavil Sana Kishan Cooperative, the training empowered 7 local women with skills in Dhaka weaving and tailoring, promoting cultural heritage and economic self-sufficiency.

Participants received both practical and theoretical lessons, learning yarn preparation, loom setup, weaving techniques, sewing, and garment construction. Feedback was positive, with participants expressing empowerment and an interest in forming cooperatives for collective marketing.

Challenges included limited access to sewing machines and balancing training with household duties. Recommendations include offering sewing machines, follow-up sessions, and helping participants access wider markets.

Overall, the training was a success, empowering a new generation of artisans and promoting both economic and cultural growth.

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