



Tewa

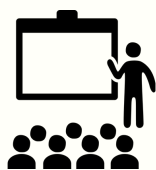


Bi-Yearly Newsletter (January- June, 2020)



NRs 47.16 lakhs (\$ 47 K)
Grants Disbursed
24 women's organizations

Raised NRs 7 lakhs (\$ 7K)
200 Donors



20 New Volunteers trained
845 Volunteers Mobilized

8 Projects Evaluated
2 Projects Monitored



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Tewa's Response to COVID-19

Corona Virus (COVID-19) spread across the world in the beginning of 2020 and it hit Nepal in March. The deadly virus has affected the lives of people what we used to call a normal one. Nepal Government announced lockdown in mid-March which lasted for almost 2.5 months. This sudden outbreak around the world has changed the day to day activities not only at Tewa but in the lives of every person.

Tewa began to respond to COVID-19 by taking preventive measures by oneself and also disseminating the information to the grantee partners. Tewa took impactful actions in the community in coordination with the local level government. Firstly, the hygiene at the office space was given utmost priority including the transportation being sprayed and disinfected as per the guidelines by WHO. The program team ensured that the grantee partners, donors, volunteers and everyone in contact are aware of the situation and taking necessary preventive measures, and discouraged to organize or participate in any kind of large gatherings. After lockdown, Tewa initiated to work from home and continued to work remotely by staying in contact through E-platforms.

Tewa started by distributing 106 posters among-st the community as well for awareness purpose to encourage the people in the community to take the matter more seriously. Just before the start of lockdown, Tewa decided on the need to raise more awareness about COVID-19 since it was already declared a pandemic by then. Through our grantee partners, Tewa's support went to COVID-19. In this chaotic time, Tewa's response to COVID-19 started through grants support to raise awareness about this deadly virus. The grants were supported to 6 women organizations' from 5 Districts for radio jingle in collaboration with local F.M radio stations, distribute masks especially to people around the slum areas who engage themselves in risky jobs as well as setting up hand washing and sanitizing stations around their communities, and spread out awareness boards to encourage safety from the virus and to ensure that people are informed of the danger the virus can do to human life.



Relief distribution in Ramechhap by Grantee Partners

With the increase in lockdown, we started immediate relief from our own community. The immediate relief support to 300 households of Dhapakhel community was provided. Later on, as per the need of our grantee partners, we distributed food relief to 405 households through 14 grantee partners in 10 Districts (Bardiya, Dang, Ramechhap, Dolakha, Kathmandu, Kavre, Makwanpur, Morang, Rupandehi, Udayapur). The relief materials included rice, lentils, and oil, salt and non-perishable vegetables. The relief supported people from Dalit, Single women, labor workers, people with Disabilities, indigenous and absolute (Bankariya & Chepang) communities.

Along with food relief, other support for medicine and transportation was also provided. Due to lockdown, gender minorities are affected because of unavailability of hormonal medicine. To support one of these groups of grantee partner, we had provided the financial support to help them access the hormonal replacement therapy gained after hysterectomy. Apart from this, we also supported for the travel fare for an Agro ambulance. Due to lockdown, many productions of local farmers are gone to waste due to unavailability of transportation. We covered the travel fare of the ambulance for almost half a month to transport the local produced vegetables and selling to targeted consumers to support the daily earnings of the farmers in Rupandehi.

It is of utmost importance to give extra care and effort in maintaining the hygiene of oneself and others. We learnt that hand wash is the easy and important method in preventing COVID-19. Hence, we had supported 4 community schools from Lubu, Dhapakhel and Dharmasthali with WASH support. Most of the children studying in these schools were from Dalit, labor workers' children, poor and marginalized communities.

Apart from these support, Tewa has also provided a grant for a study on the situation of women labor migrant workers on context of COVID-19 in the destination countries by conducting online surveys and discussions so that we will have document for advocacy and lobby to government for revision in foreign employment policy.



Community person of Dhapakhel in the process of receiving Relief materials.

GRANTEE MAPPING SURVEY

During the period of lockdown, Tewa has also conducted a grantee mapping survey. The survey was done in three batches. We communicated with 78 grantee partners from all the 7 provinces.

The objectives of this survey are to know about the need and the issues in communities during pandemic situation and lockdown, and also to explore the status of the grantee partners to sustain them during the crisis period.

A total of NRs
16.20 lakhs
(USD 16 K)
was
supported
through all
the activities.

Grant making

A total of 24 grants of NRs 47.16 lakhs (USD 47,000) were disbursed to 24 women's organizations. These grants were disbursed through Aadhar and Samman grants. The grants covered 3 Provinces and 10 Districts of Nepal. These grants covered many themes such as violence against women, women's organizational development and sustainability, Rights of people with Disabilities, Economic Rights, Health Rights, Political & Legal Rights, Rights of Gender Minorities, and Environment Justice.

Capacity Development

Tewa has been organizing many capacity building trainings focusing on thematic issues that would help our grantee partners in broadening their knowledge on issues they are working on. Last February, Tewa had organized Capacity development training on Community Philanthropy and L, M & E Module to 46 participants from 23 organizations of 5 Provinces (1, 2, 3, 4 & 7). The participants, who were new grantees of Tewa had learned about the Community Philanthropy practiced by Tewa and also developed the outcome indicators of their projects in participatory way.

Tewa also had organized Capacity building training on Local Level Participatory Planning and Budgeting Process on March. A total of 25 participants from 17 organizations of 11 Districts learned about the process and the steps of the planning and budgeting at Rural/ Municipality Level.

We had also organized interaction program with 17 partners from 9 grantee organizations of 10 Districts. The interaction program was about Environment Issues. Also a National Consultation was organized on 27th and 28th February in collaboration with Dhaatri Trust India with the financial support from Women's Fund Asia. A total of 59 participants from 14 organizations attended the program.



Mentors-Mentee meetup 2020: Discussion on way forward.

Mentorship Program

The Monthly visit at mentee organizations by our mentors have been going on regularly. The mentoring sessions are being focused on understanding the organizational framework and imparting knowledge on the working module of the Board and its members. The members are aware about the importance of organization's constitution/guidelines for its smooth operation.

Tewa had also organized Mentorship meet-up and capacity building training from Jan 28 - 30, 2020. The mentorship meet-up has helped the mentees to understand the overall objectives of the program. This would support mentors in upcoming sessions and reflect their organizational working module and realize the importance of team work under a strong yet visionary leadership. It also created a sharing and learning platform for both mentors and mentees and plan specific agendas in collaboration as well. The training also included 1.5 days session on Organizational Development, Good Governance and Leadership which was facilitated by Mr. Krishna Neupane. This session concluded with robust discussion on importance of developing organization's constitution, guiding principles, human resource guidelines, financial guidelines and its amendments as required.

After the COVID-19, the field visits has been put on hold, however virtual follow-ups and mentoring has been continued despite the uncertain times. The mentors are using various virtual communication platforms (calls, texts, and social media) to console and motivate the mentees with positivity and optimism. Mentor Meet-up has also been organized bi-monthly via virtual platforms, where mentors update their individual mentoring activities and also learned hands on skills (relevant and useful during the ongoing pandemic) like; preparing homemade hand wash, sanitizers etc.

Impacts of grants through L,M & E

Tewa uses its unique approach to see the impacts of grants in the lives of women. For which, regular monitoring and evaluation of grants has been going on. The observation visit to two organizations (Manaswi Parijat Mahila Kendra & Pahichan Nepal) from Kathmandu valley was conducted. Due to the nationwide lockdown, the approach has been impacted. But, Tewa explored online platforms and utilized the telecommunication for the monitoring and evaluation processes.

During the period, 8 projects were evaluated and 2 projects were monitored. The partner organizations were from 7 different Districts (Accham, Bardiya, Dadeldhura, Gulmi, Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Mugu) covering 4 Provinces (Bagmati province, Province No. 5, Karnali Pradesh, Sudurpashchim Pradesh). The monitoring and evaluations were carried out via phone calls and Skype interviews.

The overall monitoring and evaluation process reflect that women participating in the programs conducted by the grantee partners under their projects tend to participate and engage enthusiastically and have shown to bring about change at individual level and are initiating change at their family level and community level.



Grantee Partners of WE Nepal during the field visit.



Deepa Devkota- Chairperson, Sindhuli Apanga Mahila Sang

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This training on leadership and organizational development helped me unleash the leadership capability and therefore, I was able to register a non-for profit organization named "Sindhuli Apanga Mahila Sang" at Kamalamai-4, Sindhuli to work for the rights of women with Disabilities and have started to conduct awareness programs."

*Deepa Devkota,
Participant of Leadership and Organizational Development Training, WE Nepal.*

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People buying scrape good- Haat Bazaar sponsored by Daraz NP.

Local Fundraising

Tewa had organized two local fundraising events i.e. Deep Prajwolan and Haatbazaar in its premise. Deep Prajwolan is a special event that has been going on for more than 18 years now. This is the event that engages community people, our grantee partners and volunteers, staff and Board & General Members because of its essence towards evoking peace & harmony. On 11th of February, the event was organized in presence of almost 150 people. We successfully raised more than NRs 1.3 lakhs rupees through the contributions from 196 individual donors and 7 institutions.

From the last quarter of 2019, Daraz; an online shopping portal has started donating their scrape goods to Tewa. The goods are in usable condition. Tewa continued Haat Bazaar since then. We have been receiving the goods in certain time intervals and organizing Haat Bazaar at Tewa or nearby locations. This had supported hugely to meet our fundraising target. This event was organized at Tewa for volunteers, staff, and community people and have raised over NRs 3.8 lakhs.

Volunteers Program

The three days of volunteers' training was organized from Jan 19- 21, 2020 at Tewa. A total of 20 volunteers from diverse background participated in the training. As usual, the training was effective. this time, most of the participants were our grantee partners.

The participants learned about the status of women in Nepal, Feminism, Local Fundraising, Tewa and its work. The training also provided motivational session to help participants get motivated over the concept of volunteerism.

Tewa also organizes refreshers program like Picnic to our volunteers. This event would help the new and old volunteers to meet, have fun, get to know each other and interact with each other.

Interested staff of Tewa also join this event to engage with the volunteers and create the bond. This year more than 45 volunteers joined the Picnic organized in February at Dhulikhel.



New volunteer; Rachana Gyawali giving a presentation on women development in Nepal - Volunteers' Training Jan 2020

Children's Program

The weekly sessions of children's program was going on until the official lockdown started. The community children participated in the weekly session and learned about art and craft, gardening and also interaction with other community schools. To enhance the learning of the children as well as external children, an exposure visit to Tewa was organized. Children from Nari Jagaran Rin Tatha Bachat Sahakari Sanstha, our grantee partner's organization's members' children visited Tewa. The interaction program between these children was organized where we shared the values of Tewa and community philanthropy. These kinds of events and discussion help us to reach our motto of teaching children from very young age about our practices so that they can also apply it in their lives.



Children learning how to draw during the weekly session.

Tewa Centre (Deep Yogini)

From January to mid-March 2020, DY hosted 13 events for 32 days residential events for Hangdong University, South Korea and TU School of Management, Tewa, Nagarik Aawaz, Women Empowerment Resource Center, The Story Kitchen, GiZ, DAI International, and Body and Data. Similarly 2 day events were hosted. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuing Nepal government's call for total lockdown from 24th March had impacts on our already booked and confirmed events. The 10 events booked for March and April were cancelled. This pandemic has had adverse effect in our activities in DY in terms of organizing events and we are making concerted effort on how to kick start our operation in coming days. So everyone's goodwill and support is requested. From January to June, our vegetable gardens produced various vegetables and other agricultural produce from which the revenue was generated. The total worth of these farm produce was Rs. 65,272.



Staff of Tewa planting rice saplings at Tewa's field.



Student of Shree Krishna School presenting her view towards Polygamy, during the discussion session.

Participation of voice for excluded women in Nepal (PAVE)

In this period of the project, initially the most important activities were the 'Baseline Survey' which took place from February 20th to 25th in Bajura itself which was implemented in partnership with Samjhauta Nepal. The training of 'Social Mobilizers' was followed right after from February 28th to March 1st at Dhangadi where all the Districts staff from Doti, Kanchanpur, Accham, Bajura and Dadeldhura were present along with FEDO and Tewa's program coordinators as well as LME officer. The training was impactful as the projects' main activities were to be implemented from the next quarter and the interaction between the teams played a vital role in clearing any confusion as well. Training on 'Safeguarding' was also done on the 2nd of March for the team, a half day workshop in understanding the concept and further establish the importance of it at their respective work field. Additionally, the project coordinator visited Bajura as well to establish a better rapport and to carry out the project in a more effective way there was a small event held at the one of the municipality to discuss further the group formations and other activities as well.

South Asia Young Women Leadership & Mentoring (SAYWLM)

To raise awareness in the community about Polygamy, SYWLM program had initiated many activities in collaboration with local government and community school. Giving continuity to this, Tewa had organized an Interaction Program related to Polygamy on February 27, 2020 in 'Shree Krishna School'. The school children participated in this discussion to give their thoughts and understanding regarding Polygamy. Our external facilitator and team clarified more about this social issue.

The Community YWL Exchange Meet-up was organized. This was a first mass gathering program that was conducted successfully at Tewa by ten YWLs from Nepal on February 15, 2020. This meet up was a peer learning program that helped YWLs and CYWLs to come together and exchange their learning from their respective social issue.



Social Mobilizer training at Dhangadi- PAVE

One Billion Rising (OBR)

Celebrated annually on 14th of February, One Billion Rising (OBR) is a movement against violence against women. This day is celebrated globally. People come out on the street to dance, sing and raise their voice against violence because data shows that 1 in 3 women suffer from any forms of violence in their lifetime, making it one billion of the total population of the world.

This year in presence of CSOs of Nepal and local people, the event was led by Sangat Nepal. The event was organized in the open space at Jawalakhel attracting more than 200 people. It was hosted by Mitini Nepal. Performances like dance, singing, slogan chanting, drama and whistling women made this event more fun filled and engaging. The participant

organizations were NMES, Sabhyata Nepal, Radha Poudel Foundation, Ujyalo Foundation, Mitini Nepal, SAATHI, HomeNet Nepal, Young Mid-wifery and NMBS. The powerful speech on sexuality and gender was also presented by Sarita K.C from Mitini Nepal. The program ended with OBR song and dance. The entire crowd enjoyed dancing to the song.



Children performing during OBR 2020 celebration event at Jawalakhel.

Thanking Donors and Supporters

We would like to thank all our supporters and partners who trusted us in our journey. Even during this hour, our grantee partners, volunteers and supporters trusted us and continued to support us in every way possible.

Due to lockdown, we have been using E-platforms to communicate with the team, grantee partners, Board and volunteers. To make the communication more efficient and effective, we had decided to purchase zoom Pro-plan. The financial support from Prospera; Network of women's fund was given to purchase the plan.

New strategies for local fundraising

In this critical hour, many of our programs have been affected. Of which our local fundraising program has had the impact as well. The philanthropy team came up with a plan to support local fundraising. We have decided to do Peer-to-Peer fundraising. We will request those in our network i.e. Staff, Board & General members, volunteers, Donors to approach 10 donors to contribute less amount or as much as they would like to. We would also request them to ask support from their extended network to donate to us. This will help create a chain of donors pooling small donations together.

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The Grant Making team of Tewa had come up with a communication plan to provide an orientation session to its grantee partners on How to use Zoom App for virtual communication.

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