



टेवाTewa



Yearly Learning, Monitoring and Evaluation Report

2019/2020

Tewa Yearly Learning, Monitoring and Evaluation Report 2019/2020

Learning, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit
Sajja Singh

Tewa

P.O. Box. 11, Dhapakhel, Lalitpur
Bagmati Province, Nepal
Tel: 0 977 1 5229054, 5229045
Fax: +977 1 5229059
Email: info@tewa.org.np

© Copyrights Reserved

Preface

The main objective of this report is to document the changes Tewa's grant has brought in the lives of women, the grantee partners, and communities. Tewa, its grantee partners, volunteers, donors, and people interested in Tewa's work can benefit from this report. Tewa conducts process monitoring and evaluation of the grants to analyse the changes created by the projects at different levels: individual, family, community, and systematic. Tewa's Learning, Monitoring and Evaluation (LM&E) Unit has evaluated the completed projects, and the ongoing projects were assessed through process monitoring. The LM&E Unit has deployed various methodologies to collect and analyse data. As part of its monitoring and evaluation process, field visits, observation, and discussions were conducted. At the same time, the team engaged themselves in extensive telephone calls where field visits were not possible.

This report portrays the changes brought by 24 projects implemented by 24 grantee partners from different regions of Nepal. This report analyses and interprets the findings of the monitoring and evaluation framework prepared after the process monitoring and evaluation of the projects. These frameworks give a complete account of the changes made through the interventions.

To sum up, this report gives an overview of the projects implemented, changes brought and interventions conducted, outcomes and achievements achieved from the 24 projects implemented by the grantee partners.

Abbreviation

CBWO	Community-Based Women's Organisations
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
LM&E	Learning, Monitoring and Evaluation
PM	Process Monitoring
RBA	Right-Based Approach
RFA	Right-Based Approach, Feminist Principle and Appreciative Inquiry
VAW	Violence Against Women

Contents

Preface

Abbreviation

Introduction to Tewa	1
Grant Making	1
Tewa's Learning, Monitoring and Evaluation Processes	2
Overview of Projects	2
Methods	3
RFA Framework	4
Domains of Change	6
Achievements	8
Challenges	10
Way forward	11
Conclusion	11

Introduction to Tewa

A women's fund established in September 1995, Tewa, which means support in Nepali language has been rightly supporting women's organisations, especially Community-Based Women's Organisations (CBWOs) throughout Nepal. Over past 26 years, Tewa has been relentlessly leading the feminist movement and has been closely working with community-based women's organisations to empower women particularly marginalised women. The organisations have been supported through provision of grants as part of Tewa's grant making programme which is rooted in love, care and compassion. The programme reviews and awards grants to the projects that strive to transform women's life by ensuring their social and economic rights, help women to collectivise and voice their concerns and strengthen their network to make their concern visible in local as well as at national level.

Tewa's work is founded upon the community philanthropy. Tewa practices and promotes community philanthropy for its self-reliance and supports grant making programme to award grants to community-based women's organisations from all over Nepal. Upon provision of grants, CBWOs are referred as grantee partners of Tewa. And over the years, Tewa's community philanthropy model has inspired numerous grantee partners to adopt and implement the model in their own organisational and community level.

For the next five years, Tewa will work with a vision to have a country without discrimination and injustice, in which all women and girls live a dignified life where they exercise their rights, freedoms and peace. Tewa as part of their mission will support all women to organise, raise their voices collectively for economic growth opportunities, strengthening women's rights and transform discriminatory policies, systems, norms, and practices at all levels. Tewa will emphasise on community philanthropy, capacity development, movement building, networking and collaborations with likeminded organisations for self-reliance and creating an equitable society.

Tewa's Theory of Change explains that when women struggling with poverty, marginalisation, and invisibility organise collectively, they amplify their voices, strengthen their leadership, and overcome injustice. Our role as Tewa is to support such groups of women by funding their initiatives, enhancing their capacities, and connecting them to other relevant groups and national initiatives and processes.

Grant Making

Tewa's grant making programme is the heart of Tewa's work. Keeping Tewa's Theory of Change at the centre, Grant Making Unit prioritises strengthening women's rights, justice and power relations in different domains in collaboration with women's groups through transformative grant making and economic opportunity creation. As part of this strategic objective, three sub strategic objectives have been listed:

Strategic Objective 1: Grantee partners and women are strengthened to self-organise and transform their socio-economic and political power relations.

Strategic Objective 2: Grantee partners and women's group engaged in networks and women's movement building, advocating on issue related to rights and empowerment in collaboration with likeminded organisations.

Strategic Objective 3: Feminist humanitarian support programme is developed and implemented as a response to disaster and crisis affected vulnerable groups such as women, children, elderly and persons with disability.



Monitoring visit at Shree Griha Sramik Bramhayeni Mahila Samuha

Tewa's Learning, Monitoring and Evaluation Processes

Grants which have been awarded to the women's groups and organisations are monitored and evaluated under Tewa's Learning, Monitoring & Evaluation Unit. Tewa prioritises learning as a key process to understand grantee partners' projects and their approach to implementation of interventions. The completed projects are evaluated and the ongoing projects are process monitored. Tewa also realises the diverse realities where grantee partners live in and implement their projects. Therefore, as women's fund, Tewa focuses on changes that grantee partners' projects bring rather than being result driven. The Learning, Monitoring and Evaluation processes are based upon the Right-Based Approach, Feminist Principle, and Appreciative Inquiry. The unit works in close coordination with the Grant Making Unit of Tewa and grantee partners.

Overview of Projects

The report provides a comprehensive overview of the projects, mostly of the year 2019/2020 which has been evaluated and process monitored. A total of 24 frameworks based upon Right-Based Approach, Feminist Principle, and Appreciative Inquiry have been prepared, out of which 8 were process monitored and rest were evaluated.

Out of 24 projects frameworks analyzed, 19 projects were from the grant year 2019/2020, 2 projects were from 2020/2021, 2 projects were from the grant year 2018/2019, and a project was from the grant year 2017/2018

Table: List of the Grantees' Projects Monitored and Evaluated in the year 2019/2020.

S.N.	Organization	Location	Project Year	Process applied
1	Siddhipur Mahila Sasaktikaran Samaj	Lalitpur, Bagmati Province	2019/2020	Evaluation
2	Manaswi Parijat Mahila Kendra Nepal	Lalitpur, Bagmati Province	2019/2020	Evaluation
3	Home Based Women Workers Concern Society	Kathmandu, Bagmati Province	2019/2020	Process Monitoring
4	Srijansil Mahila Samuha	Kathmandu, Bagmati Province	2018/2019	Evaluation
5	Samabeshi Manch Nepal	Kathmandu, Bagmati Province	2019/2020	Evaluation
6	Mahila Sahara Samajik Sanstha	Kavrepalanchowk, Bagmati Province	2019/2020	Evaluation
7	Sahara Foundation Nepal	Lalitpur, Bagmati Province	2019/2020	Evaluation
8	Maiti Manch	Dolakha, Bagmati Province	2019/2020	Evaluation
9	Sakar Mahila Krishi Sahakari Sanstha Ltd	Bhaktapur, Bagmati Province	2019/2020	Process Monitoring
10	Samajik Sachetana Mahila Sanjal	Kanchanpur, Sudhuraschim	2017/2018	Evaluation
11	Adhibasi Janjati Mahila Utthan Kendra	Sindhupalchowk, Bagmati Province	2019/2020	Process Monitoring
12	Paurakhi Mahila Samaj	Ramechap, Bagmati Province	2019/2020	Evaluation
13	Bikash Ko Lagi Shanti Abhiyan	Kathmandu, Bagmati Province	2019/2020	Evaluation
14	Nepal Ama Sewa	Kathmandu, Bagmati Province	2019/2020	Process Monitoring
15	Sri Rato Machindra Griha Sramik Sipmulak Mahila Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.	Lalitpur, Bagmati Province	2019/2020	Process Monitoring
16	Apangata Adhikar Ko Lagi Mahila Samuha	Kathmandu, Bagmati Province	2019/2020	Process Monitoring
17	Gramin Mahila Jagaran Samuha	Okhaldhunga, Province 1	2019/2020	Evaluation
18	Mahila Utthan Tatha Sip Bikash Kendra	Makawanpur, Bagmati Province	2018/2019	Evaluation
19	Indigenous Women Legal Awareness Group(INWOLAG)	Lalitpur, Bagmati Province	2019/2020	Evaluation
20	Jana Jagaran Mahila Sangh	Bardiya, Lumbini Province.	2019/2020	Evaluation
21	Sri Sayapatri Bahuudhesiya Mahila Krishi Sahakari Sanstha	Tehrathum, Province 1	2019/2020	Evaluation
22	Samajik Kalyan Tatha Batabaran Sanrachyan Samaj	Rasuwa, Bagmati Province	2019/2020	Evaluation
23	Mikhabahal Misa Pucha	Lalitpur, Bagmati Province	2020/2021	Process Monitoring
24	Shree Grihasramik Bramhayeni MahilaS amuha	Kavrepalanchowk, Bagmati Province	2020/2021	Process Monitoring

Methods

The process of learning, monitoring and evaluation of the programmes and interventions carried out by the grantee partners is conducted as part of the LM&E unit. The method of Focus Group Discussion (FGD) is utilised to collect qualitative data with grantee members and primary and secondary stakeholders. During FGDs information was collected through audio recording and by

taking notes which were analysed and interpreted. However, with the COVID-19 pandemic and the precautionary lockdown measures, in addition to the in-person FGDs, online platform i.e. ZOOM was used to do the process monitoring and evaluation.

Tewa has a total of eight grant themes. Based upon the eight grant themes, the grants are provided to different CBWOs. The eight grant themes include women's health rights, women's political rights, rights of marginalised women (rights of women with disability, rights of sexual and gender minorities, etc.), environmental rights, socio-economic empowerment and rights, gender-based discrimination and Violence Against Women, Feminist Humanitarian Support and organisational development and sustainability. In the reporting year 2019/2020, the learning, monitoring and evaluation of projects under the grant theme Feminist Humanitarian Support mainly for the COVID-19 relief and recovery and environmental rights were prioritised.

Out of total projects monitored, eleven projects were under the environmental rights grant theme, nine were for COVID-19 relief and recovery under the Feminist Humanitarian Support grant theme and remaining four belonged to themes such as organisational development and sustainability, socio-economic empowerment and women's health rights and VAW.

Tewa monitored and evaluated a total of 24 projects conducted by 24 grantee partners. Out of total projects, sixteen completed projects were evaluated, eight ongoing projects were monitored and analysed through process monitoring (PM). Additionally, out of all the project, fourteen in-person FGDs were carried out while remaining ten were conducted through online platform i.e. ZOOM.

RFA Framework

Tewa's learning, monitoring and evaluation is rooted in the Right-Based Approach, Feminist Principles and Appreciative Inquiry (RFA). The RFA focuses on both the impact of the grants and the change making processes that the grantee partners experience during the project implementation.

Right-Based Approach

Tewa's learning, monitoring, and evaluation process is based on the Right-Based Approach (RBA) which recognises women as a powerful person at the center of the discourse for change.

As part of the Right-Based Approach, the projects are analysed to see if the grantee partners in their projects have applied Right-Based Approach and their elements like accountability and obligation; participation and ownership; voice and agency; equality, non-discrimination, inclusiveness; and transparency. The data rendered for using RBA elements are analysed based on the focus group discussions and interviews held with grantee partners and stakeholders.

Grantee partners have been implementing different elements of Right-Based Approach in their programmes and interventions. It is observed that most of the grantee partners have applied elements like participation and ownership and equality, non-discrimination, and inclusiveness in the programmes. The application of these elements clearly reflects the ownership shown by the women participating in the programmes. Additionally, it also reflects the grantee partner's effort to make programmes as inclusive as possible, especially making sure that the voices and rights of diverse caste, ethnicity, economic backgrounds, religions, and other intersections are taken into account.

"The programme was carried out amidst the COVID-19 pandemic by taking the precautionary measures. Despite the challenging and restrictive situation, the participants continued to participate in all four days of the roof-top farming training and really showed enthusiasm to learn and implement the skills gained. Their passion and drive steered towards the success of the programme." – Rina Manandhar, Sahara Foundation

Feminist Principle

Tewa as a women's fund upholds feminist principles and values which are also core to the learning, monitoring, and evaluation process of Tewa. Tewa monitors if or not the grantee partners have incorporated the elements of the feminist principles in their projects. As part of the feminist principle, there are a total of 6 elements namely feminist leadership, equality and inclusion; empowerment and power; non-violence, non-discrimination, peace and freedom; Rights; and forward-thinking.

Out of total grantee partners, most of them were observed to have incorporated empowerment and power element in their programme implementation. It has been evident that the programmes implemented by grantee partners in their communities have been equipping women with needed skills and information. This has led community women to realise their capability and their rights. It has empowered women and enabled them to make decisions for themselves.

"The three-day training on sustainable and pesticide-free vegetable farming has equipped community women with skills and allowed them to start vegetable farming. By growing and selling vegetables, they are now earning income which has contributed to furthering their children's education and supported in the household expenditure. They have started their own savings and are no longer dependent upon their partner's income." – Laxmi Rai, Mahila Utthan Tatha Sip Bikash Kendra



Evaluation visit at Mahila Sahara Samajik Sanstha

Appreciative inquiry

Appreciative Inquiry is a method of review and planning that focuses on the things that are working well as opposed to where the gaps and failures are in the project. It is, therefore, a positive and empowering framework that is also participatory, since it involves as many stakeholders as possible. While Appreciative Inquiry is designed to bring the best in the projects and programmes, it also recognises the importance of identifying challenges and visualising them as opportunities to learn.

Appreciative Inquiry is among the three major approaches which Tewa's learning, monitoring and evaluation builds upon so as to bring out the positive aspects of programmes and projects first.

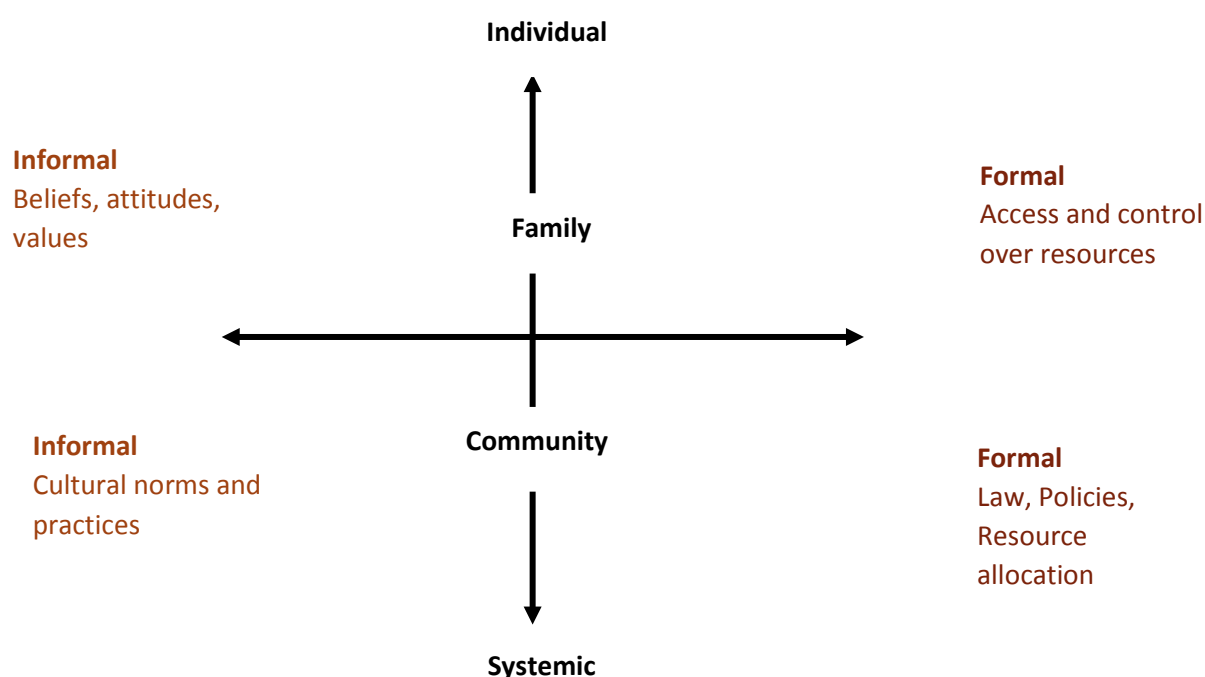
Domains of Change

The programmes and interventions are driven by the objective to bring positive change which can be at any of the four levels viz. Individual, Family, Community, and Systemic level. The four levels of change constitute the domains of change.

Additionally, four domains have been identified by the Change Matrix initially formulated by Aruna Rao and David Kelleher¹. The Change Matrix elaborates the four domains in which gender power structures operate. They include awareness and agency; access to resources; culture and values; and formal policies and structures.

Tewa realises bringing change takes the time and effort and acknowledges the persistent community work of grantee partners to uplift lives of women in their communities.

The framework below is adapted from the Change Matrix by Aruna Rao and David Kelleher².



1 Aruna Rao and David Kelleher:2002."Unravelling Institutionalized Gender Inequality", Gender at Work

2 Aruna Rao and David Kelleher:2002."Unravelling Institutionalized Gender Inequality", Gender at Work

All of the programmes carried out by the grantee partners were analysed to have brought change at individual level especially, in informal areas with regards to attitudes, values, and practices. Some of programmes were able to bring change at family level as well as community level. As most of the programmes were under the theme of Feminist Humanitarian Support and environmental rights, it was found that the programmes focused on immediate relief support to individuals especially marginalised and vulnerable community women and longer term skill-based trainings to strengthen economic condition of community women. Additionally, programmes on menstrual hygiene with its intersection with environment protection has been conducted which has informed women about proper hygiene practices during menstruation while being mindful about environment. Women were also observed to have succeeded to share the learnings and information with their family members and community.

“Through awareness programme on menstrual hygiene and eco-friendly pad making community women have learnt about hygiene practices such as changing pad every 6 hours, drying menstrual cloth under the direct sun. Previously they used to wear pad for very long time which caused allergies. Community women have learnt about menstruation being a natural phenomenon. Additionally, they have realised that the sanitary pads available in markets have caused environmental pollution so they are shifting to the eco-friendly pads which are more sustainable and environment-friendly.”
- Mandevi Shakya, Sri Rato Machindra Griha Sramik Sipmulak Mahila Sahakari Sanstha Ltd.



A community woman engaged in poultry farming under the project conducted by Adhibasi Janjati Mahila Utthan Kendra

“Initially when psychosocial counselling was provided to women requiring the support, they used to be shy and would hesitate to speak up. But gradually, within the 4 months of counselling period, they started to share their thoughts and emotions without any hesitation. They even started to ask for the light physical exercises which they would previously deny to participate. Family members of the support seeking women have also found to become understanding and supportive.” –Amara Aryal, Apangata Adhikar ko Lagi Mahila Samuha

Achievements

The programmes are implemented by grantee partners within the time span of a year. Within a year of time, the programmes have led to achieving different positive changes and outcomes. These achievements are deeply valued by Tewa. Tewa acknowledges the amount of dedication and effort invested by grantee partners to bring about the changes. There have been diverse achievements as part of the projects implemented and these achievements have been explained below:

Reaching the unreached

Under the Feminist Humanitarian Support, a total of 9 programmes which focused on COVID-19 relief and recovery have been analysed. Out of all the programmes, most of them focused on immediate relief support which ranged from distributing food relief packages to providing hormonal therapy to transgender men.

The relief support programmes, therefore, have been able to cater groups of people who had been vulnerable, marginalised and left behind especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Especially programmes carried by Inclusive Forum Nepal which focused on providing hormonal therapy to transgender men during the pandemic, Nepal Ama Sewa and Mikha Bahal Misa Pucha which carried out programmes serving senior citizens have been effective in reaching the unreached communities.

Additionally, Paurakhi Mahila Samaj and Maiti Manch had provided relief support to individuals and families who were excluded from the support provided by the local government.

"It is fun to come here every day. I have friends whom I can talk to. We do different activities which keep us occupied. If we were at our homes, we would be alone. Here, we found our community for ourselves."- Senior citizen at the day care center organised by Mikhabahal Misa Pucha.



A senior citizen dancing at day care center organized by Mikhabahal Misa Pucha

Advancing health care during the pandemic

The nation-wide lockdown imposed to limit the spread of COVID-19 pandemic impacted lives of many people all over the country. When most of the discussion and actions were focused on food support distribution to the vulnerable communities, community of transgender people were suffering from degrading mental health due to health care inaccessibility. Transgender men who had been undergoing hormonal therapy before the lockdown started facing serious psychological and mental distress in absence of hormone supplementation. They showed signs of irritation, agitation, and some of them even had suicidal tendencies. When they tried to access health care centers they were restricted by the local government authorities. Additionally, most of the transgender men who were under hormonal therapy also suffered from an economic crisis due to loss of jobs. Realising the deteriorating health of transgender men, Inclusive Forum Nepal, under Tewa's discretionary grant provided hormone packages to a total of 22 transgender men over the period of the lockdown. The provision of hormonal packages supported in restoring their mental health and wellbeing.

Women's rights and legal provisions

The trainings conducted by the grantee partners on women's rights and laws, policies, and legal procedures especially around domestic and sexual violence have provided the opportunity for the participating women to learn new information. The women participants were also observed sharing their learnings about the laws and policies on violence against women not only to their family members but also to their community especially to the community women. As an outcome of the training provided by one of the grantee partners, Mahila Sahara Samajik Sanstha, the participating women were also able to intervene couple of the domestic violence cases in their community. These trainings have allowed them to raise their voices on the domestic violence existing in their communities.

Sustaining livelihood

The programmes implemented by the grantee partners have enabled women to sustain their livelihoods while also being mindful of the environment. The community women have now been able to practice organic vegetable farming and become self-reliant. They have started to generate income which has supported their household expenses and their children's education and also encouraged them to do savings. Some of the women who have done exceptionally well are earning 1 lakh per month. Additionally, women are also sustaining their livelihood by selling the cloth bags which they were provided training on and are contributing to reduce the use of the single-use plastics.

Weaving Livelihood

We Nepal, an organisation established to support women who have become disabled by the impact of 2015 earthquake have been providing counselling services to the survivors to overcome the trauma. They are also empowering women with disability by engaging them in the skill development trainings.

As part of the project, they have carried out an advanced jewelry design training which has supported livelihoods of many women with disability. Gita K.C, a 37 years old woman with disability who had lost her job at Pashmina Factory with the onset of lockdown measure is also one of the participants. She got in touch with We Nepal where she got opportunity to participate in the advance jewelry making training. Through a week long training she was able to learn the skill of jewelry making and has even been able to earn income by selling the jewelry. In coming days, she aims to continue the jewelry making and earn a living out of it.

Environment Protection

The programmes carried out by grantee partners have been not only contributing to protection of their environment but also making the local government accountable to take concrete actions to preserve and promote the environment. The awareness programme on waste management carried out by one of the grantee partners encouraged the ward office to install dustbins within the community for the segregation of the garbage. Additionally, grantee partners are engaged in cleaning campaigns, tree plantation, waste management, and pesticide-free farming which has contributed in environment protection.

Coordination with local government

The grantee partners have been able to strengthen their networks with the local government bodies and have been able to receive both technical and financial support. Sri Rato Machindra Griha Sramik Sipmulak Mahila Sahakari Sanstha Ltd. was able to receive funds twice from their ward office for uplifting the mental health of the community during the pandemic. Additionally, inspired by the handicraft training using the single-use plastic conducted by Sidhipur Mahila Samaj the ward-26 of Kathmandu Metropolitan City allocated a budget to conduct similar training and approached Siddhipur Mahila Samaj for collaboration.

Challenges

With the implementation of interventions, grantee partners along with their achievements had also faced a few setbacks and challenges. These challenges are very crucial to be analysed so that they could be identified by grantee partners while working in newer interventions in their communities enabling them to overcome them.

Challenge in Participation

Some of the grantee partners faced a challenge in engaging the community women in the trainings as they expected larger monetary incentives. For grantee partners who are community-based women's organisations, providing such a larger sum to ensure participation was a challenge. While on other hand, some grantee partners were only able to accommodate limited community women in their programmes due to the budgetary constraints.

COVID-19 Pandemic

The challenge posed by the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic is definitely one of the major challenges that restricted grantee partners from implementing their programme effectively. Some grantee partners were even forced to halt their programmes in between their implementation. At Tewa, the pandemic encouraged to carry out monitoring and evaluation of the programmes and interventions by utilizing both online platforms and in-person visits.

Retention in Knowledge

While interacting with some of the participants of few programmes, they were found to have low retention of knowledge gained. Such issue of knowledge retention was observed during a few of the evaluations. Ensuring effective participation during training and programmes as well as in-between refresher training would be helpful to retain the knowledge.

Way forward

- Continue orienting and capacitating the grantee partners on Feminist Principle, Right-Based Approach, and Appreciative Inquiry so that they understand these concepts and apply them during the implementation of the interventions.
- Carry out need assessment which could support in providing skills that would encourage grantee partners to further effectively work within their communities.
- Continue supporting the grantee partners for the holistic development of their organisation so that at organisational level they are well equipped to carry forward the interventions effectively in their community.
- Grantee partners are incredible pool of knowledge and technical resource. Therefore, facilitation on furthering collaboration and coordination among them for the purpose of cross-learning and sharing needs to be encouraged.
- Evidence-generation and research-oriented interventions needs to be prioritised.

Conclusion

To conclude, the programmes and interventions implemented by grantee partners have been able to increase mobility of women and increase their access to information on women's rights, reproductive health, violence, existing laws, policies, and processes. The programmes have enabled community women to engage in income generating activities, gain skills and sustain their livelihood meaningfully. Furthermore, the programmes have touched the lives of people who were most in need, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, it has enabled grantee partners to extensively collaborate with the local government and serve the community.



P.O.Box. 11, Dhapakhel, Lalitpur, Nepal
Tel: +977 1 5229054, 5229045
Fax: +977 1 5229059
Email: info@tewa.org.np

www.tewa.org.np
www.facebook.com/tewaforwomen
www.twitter.com/tewaforwomen
www.instagram.com/tewaforwomen