



District coverage:
Kapilvastu and
Palpa districts of
Western Development
Region Nepal

Sector:
Education and
Economic Development

Beneficiaries:
2,120 women and men

Implementing Partner:
Indreni Rural
Development Centre
(INDRENI) Nepal

Donor:
ADRA Australia / AusAID

Project Period:
July 2008 - June 2011

Budget:
US\$ 271,186

For Information Contact
ADRA Nepal
P.O. Box 4481
Kathmandu, Nepal
E-mail: info@adranepal.org
Website: www.adranepal.org

Integrated Economic Development Project for Vulnerable Communities (IDP)

Project Description:

According to the United Nations' Human Development Index (HDI), Nepal is among the least developed countries in the world ranking 138th among 177 countries. 38% of the total population falls below the poverty line, with the western regions of the country having the lowest HDI scores.

The project locations, Palpa and Kapilvastu districts in the Western Development Region populated by large numbers of marginalized groups. Studies show that these people lack in literacy, access to health care and economic and employment opportunities, and that they suffer from various forms of gender discrimination. Many women in the rural communities where this project will be implemented experience gender based violence as a daily reality.

This project aims primarily to serve 1,000 women who will participate in almost three years of literacy, gender rights, natural resource management, and economic empowerment training and activities. The entry point into project activities will be through 40 literacy groups, each of which will have 25 members per group. Roughly 800 male counterparts will directly benefit from gender awareness activities. 320 community members will also be direct beneficiaries, serving on literacy group support committees that will provide direct support in the community for these groups. There are five major components planned for this project:

1. Literacy: The literacy component will be implemented in three different levels: Basic Level Literacy (BLL-Six months), Post Level Literacy (PLL-Four months) and Self Learning Level (SLL-Six months).

2. Savings and Credit: Encourage women to save small amounts of money, which will provide capital for livelihood activities. The process of saving makes the women more accountable to each other as they pool their money together with equal contributions.

3. Reduce Gender Disparities: Using participatory educational methods, this project will make women and men aware of how gender stereotyping influences their assumptions on and expectations of what is "acceptable" behaviour for men and women.

4. Create Employment Opportunities: Income generation and employment for females will result in increased in family income.

5. Natural Resource Management: Male and females will be educated on the role and importance of natural resource management, such as forests, rivers and wetlands.



Theory of Change

Management Hypothesis
(Implementation Team)

ADRA officers and INDRENI field-based project officer and social mobilisers can establish and train 40 women's groups and strengthen community committees within 3 years

Intervention Hypothesis
(Boundary Partners or Primary Beneficiaries)

410 literacy sessions will improve literacy levels among 1,000 women, 3-day gender awareness workshops will improve gender awareness and gender equality among 1,800 women and men, 16 training sessions (20 participants in each) will improve financial management skills among 320 committee members.

Development Hypothesis
(Wider Community or Secondary Beneficiaries)

1,000 women demonstrating improved literacy levels, 1,800 women and men demonstrating improved economic status and 320 committee members demonstrating improved financial management skills contributing to women's empowerment and well being of their communities

Project Goal:

The overall goal of the project is to empower socially excluded and economically marginalized women in vulnerable communities in the Kapilvastu and Palpa districts of Nepal.

Objectives:

- Improve the socio-environmental awareness of 1,000 women and 800 men.
- Improve the economic status of 1,000 women and their families, and 320 committee members.

Project Indicators:

- 90% increase over baseline literacy skills (reading, writing and simple calculations)
- 80% increase in beneficiaries' awareness of gender equity, legal and civil rights and use of this knowledge at home and community
- 90% beneficiaries are aware of Natural Resource Management against the base line
- 10 environmental related sessions will be designed as functional activities on the basis of 6 lessons of ADRA developed non formal textbooks and flip charts



Expected results:

- 1,160 women and 960 men participants enroll in the program and develop knowledge, skills and practices about socio-economic and environmental management
- 1,000 people are involved in awareness and tree planting campaigns and water source protection and management



Australian Government

AusAID



ADRA



This project is funded by AusAid through ADRA Australia and implemented by ADRA Nepal in partnership with INDRENI

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