
Advocacy case studies

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT IN NEPAL

COUNTRY:	Nepal
THEMES:	Governance; land and property; livelihoods
ADVOCACY APPROACHES:	Community mobilisation; educating community members; government officials: lobbying

Tearfund partner Share and Care Nepal implemented the Action-Based Community Development and Empowerment (ABCDE) project through three Village Development Committees (VDCs) in the central Nuwakot district. The Women's Action Group (WAG) in Geruwagaun village was one of the groups formed as a result of this initiative.

After the WAG was set up, Share and Care continued to support and empower the women, helping them understand their right to access local resources. The group learnt about the various subsidies available to women through the government and other agencies, as well as the process they would need to go through to gain formal recognition for the group.

As a result, group members started organising various development activities in their community. However, they faced a significant hurdle: they did not have a room where they could meet. So they decided to construct their own building. They prepared an application and budget proposal for the VDC, and requested financial help to construct a WAG building between two wards, so that both wards could make use of it. The building would host various skills development and women's empowerment programmes, and also generate an income for them through renting it out when it was not in use.

The council members were convinced by the group's proposal and their confidence, so they agreed to allocate funds for the building work, which went ahead. The WAG also subsequently developed plans to conduct skills training for its members, drawing again on support from the VDC.