

MORAL Values (Multifaith Organizations Response for Appreciative Learning on religious values) Inter-Faith Project

BACKGROUND

The project aims to create awareness and strengthen Interfaith communities to be mobilized for tackling child marriage and harmful traditional practices related to social and economic vulnerabilities which lead to child marriage and other aspects of issues causing negatively to the well-being of children. World Vision International Nepal (WVI Nepal) strongly believes that faith-based programmes will help to address vulnerabilities and various forms of discrimination against girls and women. This project is also designed to contribute to the current Area Programmes (Aps) programme protection & Agriculture Economic Development (AED) from the faith and development aspect utilizing specified or contextualized project model Empowered Worldview (EWV) and Channel of hope for child protection (COH CP).

Institutional profiling

WVI Nepal is working with NIRN Nepal to strengthen its network across the country where they can work for the community issues and agendas that MORAL Value project is working to address it. As of the date the Partner NGO NIRN Nepal has been able to build the national level and district level various committee as listed below.

NATIONAL LEVEL INTERFAITH COMMITTEE

1

DISTRICT-LEVEL INTERFAITH COMMITTEE

9

Achham, Doti, Kailali, Banke, Bajhang, Rautahat, Sarlahi, Mahottari, Lamjung

WOMEN INTERFAITH COMMITTEE

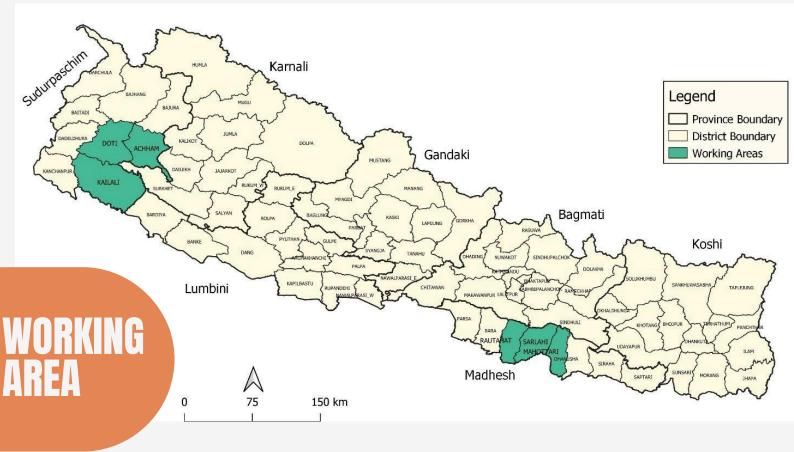
Sarlahi, Rautahat, Mahottaridistrict level) (Achham Mellekh-Palika level COMMUNITY HOPE ACTION TEAM (CHAT) GROUPS

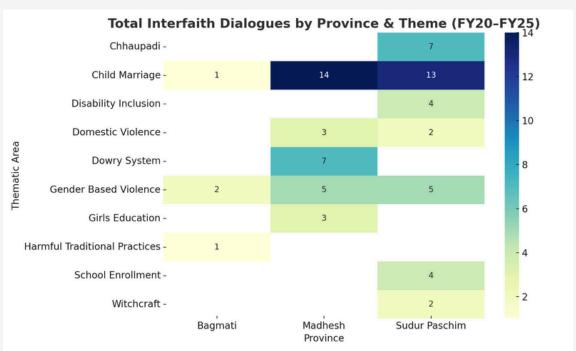
Doti and lamjung

13

PALIKA LEVEL INTERFAITH COMMITTEE

PALIKA (R/MUNICIPALITIES)	NUMBERS
KAILALI (GHODAGHODI)	1
MAHOTTARI (SAMSHI AND EAKDARA)	2
RAUTAHAT (GARUDA AND MADHAV NARAYAN)	2
BAJHANG	1
SARLAHI (HARIPURWA AND CHANDRA NAGAR)	2
ACHHAM (MELLEKH AND PANCHADAWAL)	2
DOTI (AADARSHA)	1
BANKE (NARAINAPUR AND JANAKI)	1
TOTAL	13



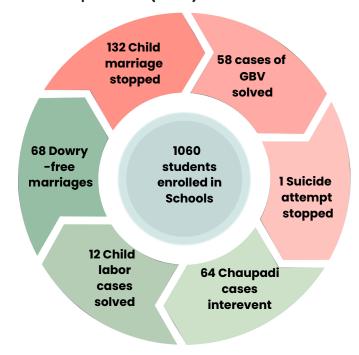


As of now, 72 dialogues were conducted at different provinces i.e., Madhesh, Sudur Paschim, and Bagmati Province. In Madhesh Province, 32 dialogues were conducted on themes such as Child Marriage, Gender Based Violence, Girls Education, Dowry System and Domestic Violence. In Sudur Paschim Province 37 dialogues were conducted on Child marriage, Gender Based Violence, Disability Inclusion, Domestic Violence, Chhaupadi, Witchcraft and School Enrollment themes. Likewise, four dialogues were conducted on Child marriage, Gender Based Violence and Harmful Traditional Practices at Bagmati Province.

SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Channel of Hope for Child protection project model has been core contextualized in 4 religions Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism and Islam, also it has been endorsed by respective religious institutions. Channels of Hope (CoH) is the way World Vision mobilizes community leaders, especially interfaith leaders- to respond to core issues affecting their communities, such as HIV and AIDS, maternal and child health, gender equity and genderbased violence, and child protection. It interacts with the process to create a safe space for faith leaders, their spouses and faith communities to become active participants in the wellbeing of children through sciencebased information and insight from religious texts.
- Empowered Worldview (EWV) core project model has been contextualized in 5 religions Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Kirat (Animism) and Islam, endorsed respective religious institutions. EWV is a behavior change model that seeks to address dependency mindsets and promote individual empowerment among people living in poverty. WVI Nepal has got opportunity to work on EWV phase II project which has been contextualized in multifaith context of Nepal and working with the people with disability and children with disability.
- Celebrating Family model has been contextualized in 5 religions;
 Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Kirat (Animism) and Islam.

Engaging Interfaith Leaders in Harmful traditional practices (HTPs) Prevention:

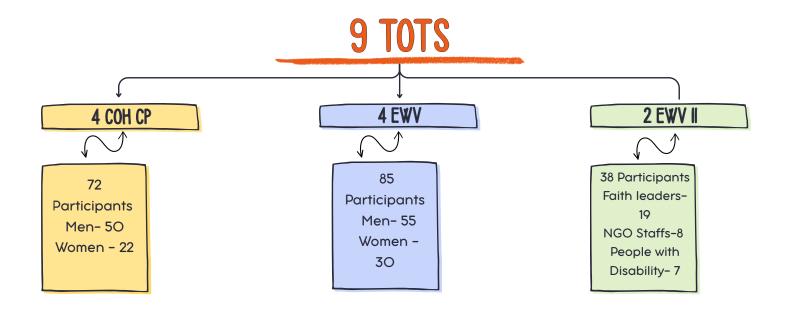


Self-Initiated Campaigns Against Harmful Traditional Practices (HTPs) by Faith Leaders

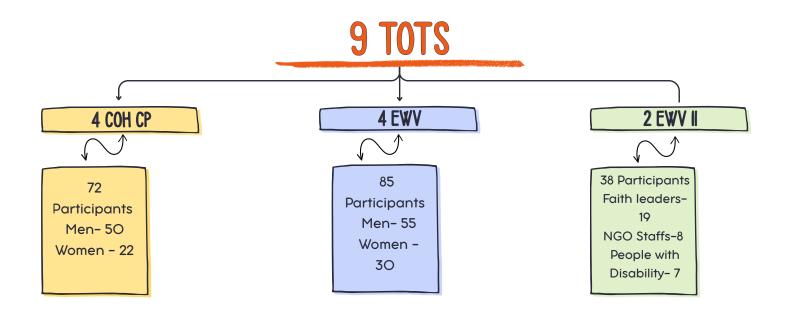
Faith leaders have been actively conducting campaigns against HTPs such as child marriage, dowry, gender-based violence, and promoting school enrollment-without any budget-demonstrating ownership, popularity, and sustainability of the initiatives.

- Dowry & Child Marriage: One-week campaigns were held in FY2O in Biratnagar and Sunbari. The Interfaith Committee of Rautahat launched a self-driven campaign on April 22, 2022, continuing to date. A similar campaign started in Mahottari in 2023, raising awareness and mobilizing communities.
- School Enrollment: Door-to-door campaigns were conducted in FY23-FY24 in Sarlahi, Rautahat, and Mahottari to promote school enrollment.
- Gender-Based Violence: Islamic Sangh ran a 16-day campaign in 2021 across Koshi, Madesh, Bagmati, and Lumbini. In 2023, the Women Interfaith Committee conducted a 16-day campaign in Sarlahi, Achham, Rautahat, and Mahottari.
- Measles-Rubella Vaccination Awareness: In 2024, NIRN Nepal led campaigns in Madhesh and Sudur Paschim Provinces, sensitizing 3,910 families, including marginalized communities, to vaccinate their children.
- FY25 Activities: Faith leaders carried out 44 non-budgetary initiatives across Madesh Pradesh, Sudurpashim, and central areas, covering HTPs, spiritual nurturing, child marriage, and more. HPV vaccination campaigns were also promoted through PSAs, interactive programs, and advocacy.

Nine TOTs were conducted, providing training on Empowered Worldview (EWV) and Channels of Hope for Child Protection (COH CP) to 182 participants, including interfaith leaders, PNGO staff, and people with disabilities (PWDs).



A total of 34 basic training sessions on Empowered Worldview (EWV) and Channels of Hope for Child Protection (COH CP) were conducted, engaging 816 participants.



"Our vision for every child, life in all its fullness: Our prayer for every heart, the will to make it so."



LUNA'S DREAMS: A TALE OF TRIUMPH OVER LIMITATIONS

Luna, a 35-year-old from the quiet hills of Kathmandu, is a person with a disability whose unwavering determination defines her. Despite facing hardship and a lack of care in her childhood, the Empowered Worldview Training came into her life as a beacon of hope.

Luna lives with her grandmother and two younger brothers. When she was five years old, she lost her mother, and her father remarried. Unfortunately, Luna did not receive the care and attention she needed from her stepmother. "I used to think it was my fault that I was born with a disability. Some people even told me it was the result of sinful actions in a past life," she lamented.

Participating in the Empowered Worldview Training, organized by World Vision International Nepal in collaboration with Good Neighbors Nepal, was a turning point in Luna's life. The training aimed to reach Nepal's disabled community, who were not receiving assistance in accessing basic necessities, healthcare, education, or employment opportunities. After completing the program, Luna experienced a newfound sense of confidence. The training filled her with resilience and a positive mindset.

"I discovered my own interests and decided to start an incense-making business to become independent. I also wanted to support my grandmother, who has taken care of me since I was six months old. She's now 72, and I want to give back," Luna shared.

With the support of Good Neighbors Nepal, Luna received 60 kilograms of incense-making materials, including Nepali paper bundles. Her business has flourished, thanks to her hard work, diligence, and positive attitude. Luna has developed a marketing strategy and now earns NPR 200 a day. Luna is deeply committed to her business and has plans to further expand her income. Before the Empowered Worldview Training, she was entirely dependent on her grandmother, although she always dreamed of engaging in income-generating activities like selling bags and Newari dresses (traditional attire). She once believed her physical limitations would prevent her from pursuing these opportunities. However, the training empowered her to discover her strengths. Not only did she start her business, but she also enrolled in a two-month sign language translation course near her home, improving her communication skills.

Her growth didn't stop there. Luna also enrolled in grade 1 and, with increased self-confidence, participated in and won a running competition, defeating nine other participants. Reflecting on her progress, Luna remarked, "Empowered Worldview gave me the confidence to chase my dreams. Winning the running competition and growing my incense business is a testimony to my newfound belief in myself."

Luna's success extends beyond financial independence. She has become a role model, inspiring others with her resilience and self-belief. Her community now sees her not only as a successful businesswoman but also as a living example of what can be achieved with determination and the right support. Her future plans reflect her generous spirit and strong family values. Luna is determined to care for her grandmother both emotionally and financially, a testament to her gratitude and the depth of her character. In her journey from overcoming societal barriers to becoming a community role model, Luna has shown that with self-belief and proper support, nothing is impossible.