

# RURAL ORIENTED YOUTH MOVEMENT NEPAL

Annual Report 2024

# We Are ROYM NEPAL

ROYM Nepal, established in 2009, is a non profit, non-governmental organization committed to reducing poverty through skill transformation and youth engagement. Our goal is to achieve long-term sustainable development in Nepal, addressing critical issues such as poverty, hunger, health, education, climate change, Disaster risk reduction(DRR), gender equality, water, sanitation, energy, urbanization, and social justice.

## Vision

Our vision at Rural Oriented Youth Movement Nepal (ROYM Nepal) is to create a socio-economically empowered society where every individual enjoys equal rights and social justice. We envision a Nepal where marginalized groups thrive, their voices are heard, and structural discrimination is challenged.

## Mission

Our mission is to foster a community-based movement that empowers marginalized groups. Through collective action, we create an environment where economic social and cultural(ESC) rights are upheld. We stand against discrimination and work towards a more inclusive society.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Message from Executive Director</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Thematic Areas</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Key Strategic Areas</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Strategic Objective</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Financial Overview</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Year in Review</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>ROYM Nepal Board &amp; Team</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Our Network</b>	<b>37</b>

# Message from Executive Director

With pride and gratitude, we present our Annual Report, showcasing a year with achievements across Nepal. This year (2024-2025), with the esteemed support of our funding partners, ROYM Nepal extended its reach to 16 districts, making an impactful initiative in every region we are serving. We successfully operated in all ten districts of Karnali Province—Dailekh, Dolpa, Humla, Jajarkot, Jumla, Kalikot, Mugu, Salyan, Surkhet, and Western Rukum—along with Saptari, Sarlahi, Mahottari, and Rautahat in Madhesh Province, as well as Dhading and Kathmandu.

Our sustainable livelihood initiatives have empowered a total of 2,437 community group members. In Dhading, we facilitated the formation of 21 groups comprising 603 members, while in Saptari, 29 groups with 553 members formed for local progress. Additionally, our efforts in Rautahat, Sarlahi, and Mahottari saw the creation of 64 groups, with 1,281 members, including youth, women, and other community associations. A key highlight from Karnali Province is the formation of a strong network of 210 Young Human Rights Defenders (YHRD), emerging from a conventional assembly engaging 297,700 community members—our commitment to youth empowerment and rights advocacy.

Over the past year, we have made significant advances in organizational development, inter-policy dialogue, and strategic communication. We have grown exponentially in digital outreach, now engaging thousands of followers across all major social media platforms and ensuring strong visibility through our annual and quarterly reports, as well as enhanced knowledge management systems.

We have allied with new funding partnerships, built national and international networks, and actively participated in global campaigns across Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. These collaborations have amplified our voice on global platforms for continued innovation and impact.

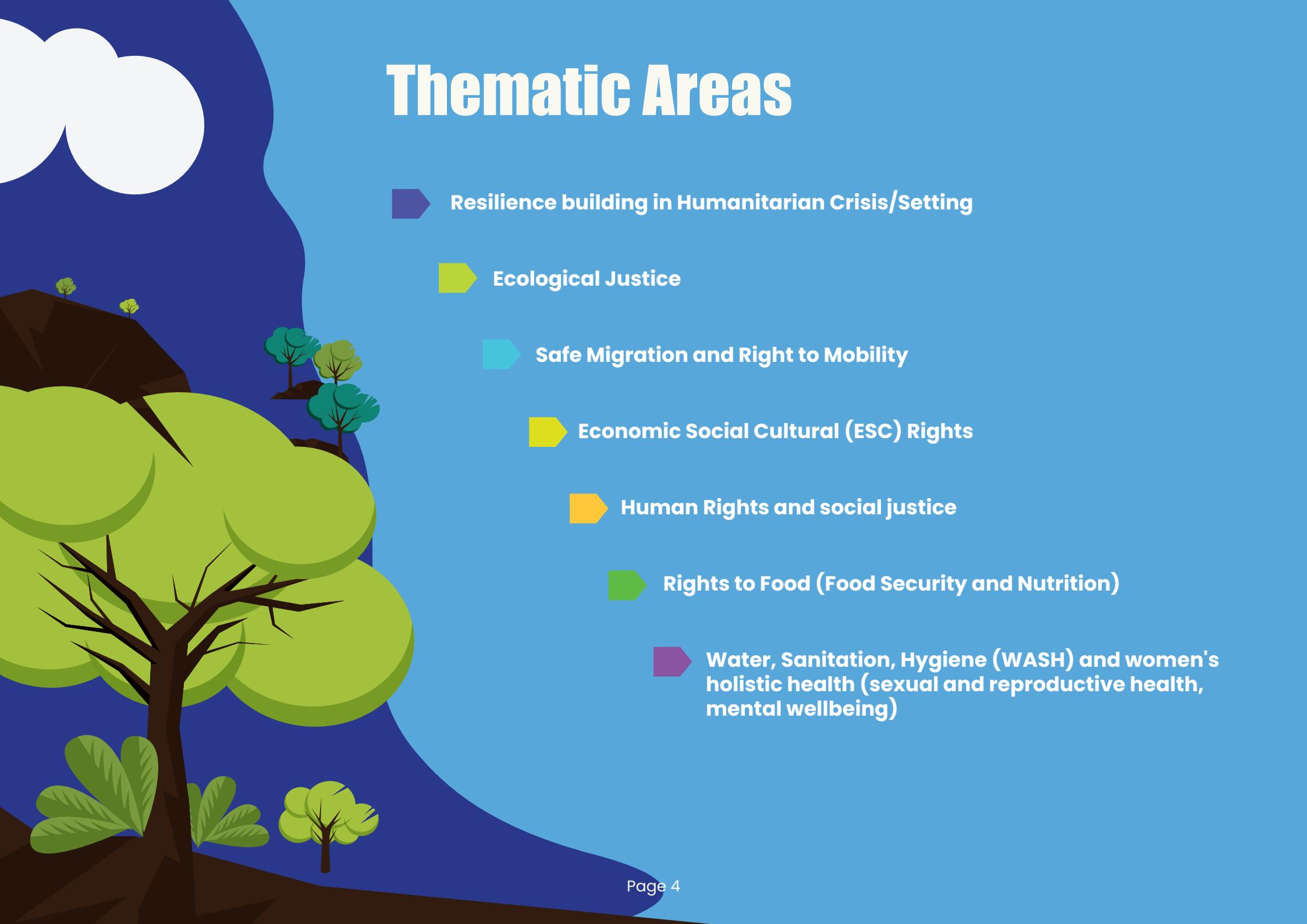
Looking ahead, our projects are scheduled to continue through 2024-2026, with promising prospects for further expansion. Through dedicated efforts in sustainable agriculture, safe migration, human rights, ecological justice, and social development, among others, ROYM Nepal is creating a resilient foundation for communities to prosper.

I extend my deepest gratitude to our dedicated staff, community members, funding partners, and every ally who has supported our mission. Together, we are transforming lives and building an outcome of empowerment and sustainable development for future generations.

In Solidarity,



Lubha Raj Neupane  
Executive Director  
ROYM Nepal



# Thematic Areas

- ▶ **Resilience building in Humanitarian Crisis/Setting**
- ▶ **Ecological Justice**
- ▶ **Safe Migration and Right to Mobility**
- ▶ **Economic Social Cultural (ESC) Rights**
- ▶ **Human Rights and social justice**
- ▶ **Rights to Food (Food Security and Nutrition)**
- ▶ **Water, Sanitation, Hygiene (WASH) and women's holistic health (sexual and reproductive health, mental wellbeing)**

# Key Strategic Areas



Throughout the year, we worked in 16 districts. The Young Human Rights Defenders movement was carried out in 10 districts of Karnali Province. In Dhading district, the agriculture and livelihood program was implemented, while in Mahottari, Sarlahi, and Rautahat districts, the livelihood and skill development program was conducted. Additionally, in Rautahat district, a program focused on building collectives of working women for social transformation was implemented. In Saptari, we worked on building community resilience through climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.



# Strategic Objective

## Community Health & GEDSI Empowerment

- Strengthened menstrual hygiene management and women's health awareness among 1,000 adolescent girls and women in Sarlahi, Saptari, Mahottari, Rautahat, Dhading and Sudurpaschim.
- Integrated GEDSI lens into all DRR and health programs, ensuring participation of at least 40% women and marginalized groups in trainings and simulations.

## Climate Change & Disaster Preparedness

- Conducted annual simulation exercises in 5 municipalities to strengthen local disaster preparedness.
- Established community-led afforestation and eco-practices in 3 provinces, planting 10,000 trees.
- Developed municipality-level GEDSI disaster data profiles in Karnali, Sarlahi and Saptari.

## Livelihoods & Financial Literacy

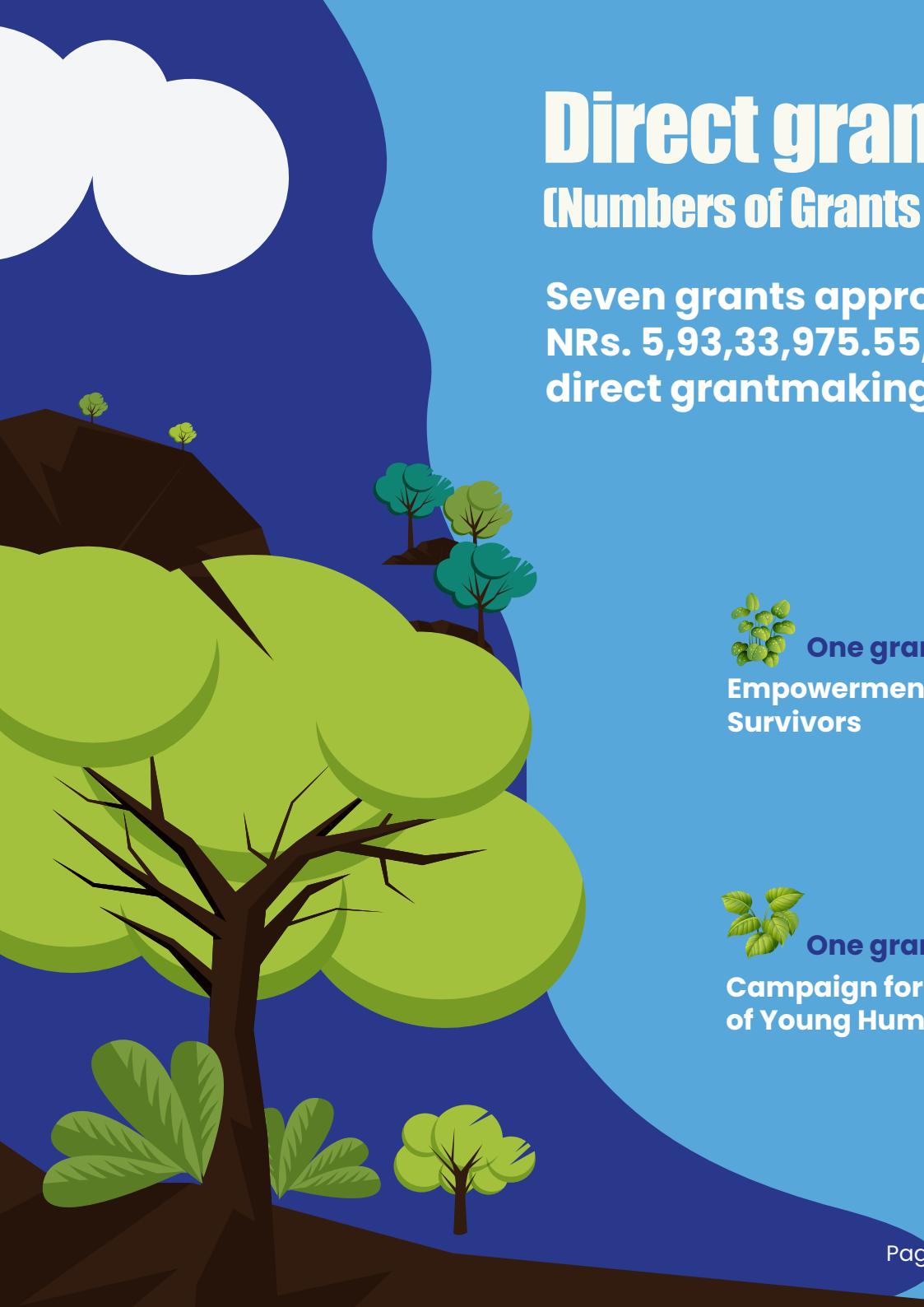
- Trained 500 women and youth in financial literacy, savings habits, and entrepreneurship.
- Supported 200 small businesses led by women and marginalized groups with skills, documentation, and market linkages.
- Ensured 70% of trained participants adopt regular saving practices at household level.

## **Governance & Policy Advocacy**

- Facilitated policy review workshops in 3 provinces integrating GEDSI perspectives into DRRM and health policies.
- Built capacity of 50 local CSOs on inclusive governance, documentation, and donor reporting.
- Strengthened rapport with provincial and municipal governments to ensure joint monitoring in all project districts.

## **Education & Youth Leadership**

- Provided leadership and self-confidence training to 300 adolescents (with equal participation of girls and boys).
- Established youth climate clubs in 5 schools across Sarlahi and Saptari to promote awareness and action on climate change.
- Documented and published at least 20 success stories of adolescent and youth transformation.



# Direct grantmaking By Programme

## (Numbers of Grants Approved)

**Seven grants approved for a total of  
NRs. 5,93,33,975.55/- 98% through  
direct grantmaking**



**One grant**

**Empowerment of Trafficking  
Survivors**



**Two grants**

**Climate change adaptation, mitigation  
measures and resilience building**



**One grant**

**Campaign for Solidarity and Promotion  
of Young Human Rights Defenders**



**Two grants**

**Socio-Economic Empowerment of  
Women, Dalits & Ethnic Groups**



**One grant**

**Establishing women's collective  
for social transformation**

# Direct grantmaking By Programme

(Grant Amount In Nepali Rupees)

 Climate change adaptation, mitigation measures and resilience building	 Empowerment of Trafficking Survivors
2,13,11,346.866/-	5,47,920/-
 Socio-Economic Empowerment of Women, Dalits & Ethnic Groups	 Campaign for Solidarity and Promotion of Young Human Rights Defenders
2,98,75,456.27/-	56,67,252.67/-
 Establishing women's collective for social transformation	
19,31,999.75/-	

# Grantmaking By Country

 Luxembourg

 Srilanka/Australia

 France

 USA

# Community Empowerment through Orientation Programs

ROYM Nepal has made remarkable strides in empowering communities across Nepal by conducting impactful orientation programs throughout 2024 and 2025. These initiatives, held under various projects, addressed critical issues such as climate change adaptation, social transformation, disaster risk reduction, and socio-economic development.

## Orientation on Climate Change and Its Impact

As part of the Shaksham Saptari Project, ROYM Nepal organized community climate change orientations in Tilathi Koiladi Rural Municipality, Ward No. 4, Saptari. These sessions focused on equipping communities with knowledge about erratic rainfall, flooding, and effective responses to natural calamities. Participants embraced the motto "Think Globally, Act Locally," emphasizing the adoption of adaptive measures and behavioral change to enhance resilience.

## Comprehensive Orientation on Right to Mobility and Return Migration

In collaboration with local stakeholders, ROYM Nepal conducted extensive workshops and orientations across Sarlahi, Rautahat, and Mahottari districts. These sessions tackled vital topics, including the right to mobility, return migration, access to local government resources, and strategies for sustainable community development.

## Quarterly Meetings on Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

Through group meetings and orientations, ROYM Nepal highlighted the importance of addressing GBV, harmful traditional practices, and promoting gender equity in local communities. Sessions encouraged advocacy for socio-justice and the transformation of societal norms.

## Orientation on LAPA and NAPA Frameworks

On August 15, 2024, ROYM Nepal hosted a workshop for local governments in Saptari District. The sessions focused on integrating Local and National Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA and NAPA) frameworks into planning processes to enhance climate resilience in communities.

## Community Orientation on Early Warning Systems

ROYM Nepal trained communities in Saptari on early warning systems to improve disaster preparedness. Held on August 22, 2024, the program emphasized timely information dissemination and effective risk reduction measures.

## Farmer Empowerment Through Training

From Dhading to Rautahat, ROYM Nepal conducted specialized orientations for farmers, including training on biopesticide preparation and addressing harmful traditional practices. These programs aimed to enhance agricultural sustainability and socio-economic stability.

## Peer Educator-Led Community Orientations

Peer educators played a key role in disseminating knowledge through orientations held in Sarlahi and Mahottari Districts. These sessions, conducted between August and December 2024, focused on social transformation, harmful practices, and community development.

# Annual Training Initiatives by ROYM Nepal throughout the year

ROYM Nepal has demonstrated a remarkable commitment to empowering communities through various training programs conducted across Nepal throughout the year. These initiatives aimed at skill development, sustainable farming practices, and entrepreneurship have impacted individuals from diverse backgrounds, including women, Dalits, marginalized groups, and youth. Among the key agricultural-focused trainings were the Commercial Vegetable Farming Training and the Citrus Fruit Farming Training Program in Dhading, which introduced innovative methods for enhancing productivity. Similarly, the Commercial Livestock Farming, Goat Farming, and Vegetable Training Programs provided farmers with practical knowledge to optimize their farming practices. To further support sustainable agriculture, post-training guidance on climate-smart agricultural practices was extended in districts like Saptari, ensuring farmers could adopt techniques that mitigate environmental challenges.

In terms of entrepreneurship, ROYM Nepal organized multiple impactful sessions, such as the Youth Entrepreneurship Development Training in Dhading and the Entrepreneurship Development Training for Start-Up Personnel in Rautahat. These programs fostered a sense of self-reliance and confidence in aspiring entrepreneurs. Furthermore, Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Business Plan Development Training in Rautahat helped local businesses craft effective strategies for growth. Practical off-farming sessions like Beautician Trainings in Rautahat and Self-Entrepreneurship Training in Bhangaha Municipality encouraged individuals to explore alternative livelihoods.

The year was also marked by highly impactful technical skill development programs, such as the Mobile Repairing Training conducted in Rautahat, Sarlahi, and Mahottari, and the Motorcycle Repairing Training in Gujara Municipality, Rautahat. Another highlight was the traditional Dhaka Weaving Training in Dhading, which promoted sustainable and culturally significant livelihoods. Other essential sessions included Grading, Packaging, and Marketing Management Training in Dhading, aimed at enhancing post-harvest processes, and Life Skills Training Programs conducted in Brindawan-7, Rautahat, and Sarlahi to promote personal and professional growth. ROYM Nepal also focused on teacher's capacity-building efforts with a specialized training program at CLC Matihani in Mahottari.





To ensure holistic community development, ROYM Nepal introduced targeted initiatives, such as Life Skills and Parenting Training for Mothers Group in Matihani and Off-Farming Trainings in Sarlahi and Mahottari. Programs like the Dhaka Weaving Training Closing Ceremony and Capacity Development Training in Dhading reflected the organization's dedication to fostering sustainable skill-building. Additional efforts like motorcycle repairing training sessions and enterprise-focused workshops showcased the diversity and relevance of ROYM Nepal's offerings.

To drive future empowerment efforts, a review and planning meeting was conducted with the Dhading team. This meeting laid the groundwork for upcoming initiatives to further support communities in achieving sustainable livelihoods and self-reliance. Through these wide-ranging training programs, ROYM Nepal has cemented its role as a catalyst for positive change, ensuring inclusive leadership and community development across Nepal. The impact of these initiatives continues to resonate, empowering individuals and paving the way for a brighter future.

# Building Skills, Knowledge, and Resilience: ROYM Nepal's Workshops at a Glance

Throughout the year, ROYM Nepal has actively championed community empowerment by conducting an array of transformative workshops across various working areas. These initiatives addressed critical issues such as climate change, gender sensitivity, financial literacy, advocacy, and migration, emphasizing sustainable practices and inclusive development.

ROYM Nepal conducted impactful workshops focusing on the effects of climate change on migration and human resources. Additionally, Climate Change Workshops and Kitchen Garden Training sessions in Saptari supported communities in adopting sustainable and climate-resilient practices, ensuring enhanced livelihoods and environmental harmony.

To strengthen women's networks and advocacy, ROYM Nepal organized skill-building workshops for the District-level Working Women's Network in Rautahat. The Annual Review Workshop of the JIBIKA Project in Dhading also offered a platform for evaluating progress and planning impactful future interventions. Furthermore, a Capacity-Building One-Day Workshop for Womens Group Members and Volunteers was held on in Dhading, fostering leadership and collaboration among participants.

ROYM Nepal organized multiple workshops in Saptari District to explore the impacts of climate change on migration and human resources. Participants gained insights into adaptive strategies to mitigate these challenges and ensure sustainable community growth.



## 16 DAYS GBV CAMPAIGN



ROYM Nepal empowered communities through Safe Migration Workshops, directly benefiting 560 community members in initial efforts and scaling up to reach 1,530 individuals later in the year. These workshops addressed pressing challenges and equipped participants with the knowledge to navigate migration safely while protecting their rights.

Workshops on Enhancing Understanding and Adoption of Gender Sensitive Approaches in local policies, programs, and budgets were conducted on December 26, 2024, in Dhading promoting equity and inclusivity.

1-Day Workshop Seminar on Financial Literacy, in Dhading educated participants on effective financial management, fostering self-reliance and economic stability.

The year's workshops underscored ROYM Nepal's commitment to empowering communities through education, capacity-building, and collaborative engagement. From addressing climate challenges to strengthening women-led advocacy and ensuring safe migration,

ROYM Nepal remains at the forefront of transformative initiatives that create lasting impact and drive sustainable development.



## Climate Action is Our Responsibility.



# Formation of Young Human Rights Defenders (YHRD) Networks in Karnali Province

Throughout the year, ROYM Nepal, with the support of AEIN Luxembourg, successfully led the formation and expansion of the Young Human Rights Defenders (YHRD) Network across ten districts in Karnali Province. This transformative initiative brought together a total of 297 young human rights defenders (YHRDs) and a total of 725 attendance fostering a robust platform for youth-led advocacy and human rights promotion.

The districts covered under this initiative were Dailekh, Dolpa, Humla, Jajarkot, Jumla, Kalikot, Mugu, Salyan, Surkhet, and Western Rukum. In each district, young individuals from diverse backgrounds were identified and united under the YHRD Network. The formation process emphasized inclusivity, collaboration, and the development of leadership capacities among youth.

These networks were empowered through interactive sessions, trainings, and dialogues that strengthened their ability to address systemic challenges such as gender-based violence, harmful traditional practices, and limited access to justice. YHRDs also engaged in grassroots advocacy, creating safer and more inclusive environments for marginalized groups while promoting awareness on critical human rights issues.



The YHRD formation initiative underscores ROYM Nepal's commitment to fostering youth leadership, amplifying their voices, and ensuring sustainable progress toward social justice. This year-long effort not only united young advocates but also laid a strong foundation for collaborative action and transformative change across Karnali Province.

# Empowering Young Advocates: ROYM Nepal's Year of Human Rights Network

ROYM Nepal, with the support of AEIN Luxembourg, successfully implemented the Young Human Rights Defender (YHRD) Network Mapping Event across ten districts in Karnali Province throughout the year. This ambitious initiative identified, engaged, and empowered a total of 297 young human rights defenders (YHRDs) from diverse and often under-represented communities across Dailekh, Dolpa, Humla, Jajarkot, Jumla, Kalikot, Mugu, Salyan, Surkhet, and Western Rukum.

The program focused on building a stronger and more cohesive network of YHRDs by fostering solidarity, knowledge sharing, and capacity-building among participants. The events emphasized the critical role of youth-led advocacy in addressing systemic human rights challenges, raising awareness, and fostering collaborative efforts to protect and promote human rights at the grassroots level. Throughout the sessions, participants explored key themes, including strategies for advancing social justice, promoting inclusive policies, and advocating for marginalized and vulnerable groups.

This initiative underlines ROYM Nepal's commitment to youth engagement and the protection of human rights. By nurturing the potential of these young advocates, the program aimed to create a robust and sustainable framework for future actions, ensuring a safer and more inclusive society. The impact of this program resonates deeply, as it strengthens community-level advocacy and empowers young voices to become catalysts for meaningful change in Karnali Province and beyond.



# Empowering Communities through Riverbed Farming

ROYM Nepal has made significant strides in empowering marginalized communities and protecting natural resources through innovative initiatives focused on riverbed farming and the establishment of nature-based solutions.

This year, 5 acres of land were utilized for riverbed farming, directly benefiting marginalized communities, including Sada, Mushar, and Chamar groups. Farmers participating in this initiative have achieved remarkable success, with individual savings reaching up to 50,000 Rs per month from cultivating diverse vegetables and fruits such as cucumber, watermelon, brinjal, gourd, potato, coriander and peas among other.

By leveraging fertile riverbeds, these communities have improved their livelihoods while contributing to sustainable agricultural practices.

Additionally, ROYM Nepal implemented critical measures for riverbank protection from October to December 2024 in Saptari establishing sustainable solutions to safeguard vulnerable riverbanks. These efforts included the installation of group-owned tube wells and pump sets, ensuring improved irrigation support for agricultural activities. Seed support was also provided to enable farmers to maximize the potential of riverbed farming. Through these initiatives, ROYM Nepal effectively combined community empowerment with environmental stewardship, promoting sustainable practices and resilience.



# Climate-Smart Farmers' Field School and Agricultural Support Initiatives

ROYM Nepal has made groundbreaking strides in promoting sustainable agricultural practices and empowering local communities through its Climate-Smart Farmers' Field School and additional agricultural support measures. These programs were implemented across Saptari, Dhading, Rautahat, Sarlahi, and Mahottari, directly benefiting and empowering more than 250 farmers throughout the year.

The Climate-Smart Farmers' Field School served as a transformative platform for educating farmers on sustainable agriculture, integrating advanced techniques with indigenous knowledge to enhance productivity while conserving resources. Sessions focused on equipping farmers with climate-resilient farming techniques that mitigate the adverse effects of climate change, ensuring long-term food security and economic stability. By blending traditional wisdom with modern practices, farmers gained a comprehensive understanding of sustainable crop management, resource optimization, and environmentally conscious practices.

To complement these efforts, ROYM Nepal introduced Agri-Input Support for Farmers' Groups, providing essential resources to enhance agricultural output. One of the key interventions was the installation of plastic tunnels with drip irrigation system, a vital innovation that ensures optimal water usage and creates a controlled environment for year-round crop cultivation. This technology has enabled farmers to diversify their produce and increase yields, significantly contributing to their economic empowerment.

These initiatives collectively emphasized the integration of sustainable methods with tailored support to address local challenges. Farmers cultivated a variety of climate- resilient crops, which improved their livelihoods and also fostered a sense of resilience and innovation within their communities.

ROYM Nepal's efforts in promoting climate-smart agriculture reaffirm its commitment to fostering sustainable development, strengthening food security, and empowering marginalized groups. These programs have paved the way for a more resilient agricultural landscape, ensuring that local farming communities are better equipped to adapt to future challenges.



# Strengthening Collaboration and Empowerment Through Meetings And Workshops

Throughout the year, ROYM Nepal has actively conducted a series of meaningful and impactful meetings aimed at fostering collaboration, enhancing community engagement, and addressing critical issues across its working areas. These meetings have brought together diverse stakeholders, from community leaders and women's groups to local government representatives and project teams, ensuring effective planning, advocacy, and action.

Monthly Women's Group Meetings, held on December 17, 2024, in Matihani, Mahottari, provided a platform for women to discuss pressing issues, share experiences, and collectively strategize for empowerment and community development. Similarly, the Quarterly Group Meeting and Orientation on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Dhading on the same date served as a vital initiative to raise awareness and equip participants with knowledge to combat GBV within their communities.

Through these diverse meetings, ROYM Nepal has strengthened partnerships, empowered communities, and ensured the effective implementation of programs. These efforts reflect the organization's dedication to fostering meaningful dialogue, building solidarity, and driving transformative change across Nepal.

In August 2024, ROYM Nepal convened two significant review meetings: the Semi- Annual Review and Planning Meeting held on August 15, 2024, in Dhading, and the Bi- Annual Review Meeting for the Rupantran Project on August 24-25, 2024, in Rautahat. These sessions enabled project teams and stakeholders to evaluate progress, refine strategies, and plan impactful actions for the remainder of the year.

The Quarterly Review and Planning Meeting in Dhading, held on October 30, 2024, provided an opportunity for teams to align goals, share insights, and foster collaboration to achieve sustainable outcomes. Meanwhile, the Market Management User Group Meeting at Netrawoti Dobjung Rural Municipality, Ward No. 5, on December 7, 2024, focused on enhancing local market systems and

ROYM Nepal also facilitated district-level engagements, such as the District Level Project Sharing Meeting and a pivotal meeting between Women's Agencies, Community Leaders, and Local Government Representatives, emphasizing the importance of collaboration to address community needs and drive sustainable development.



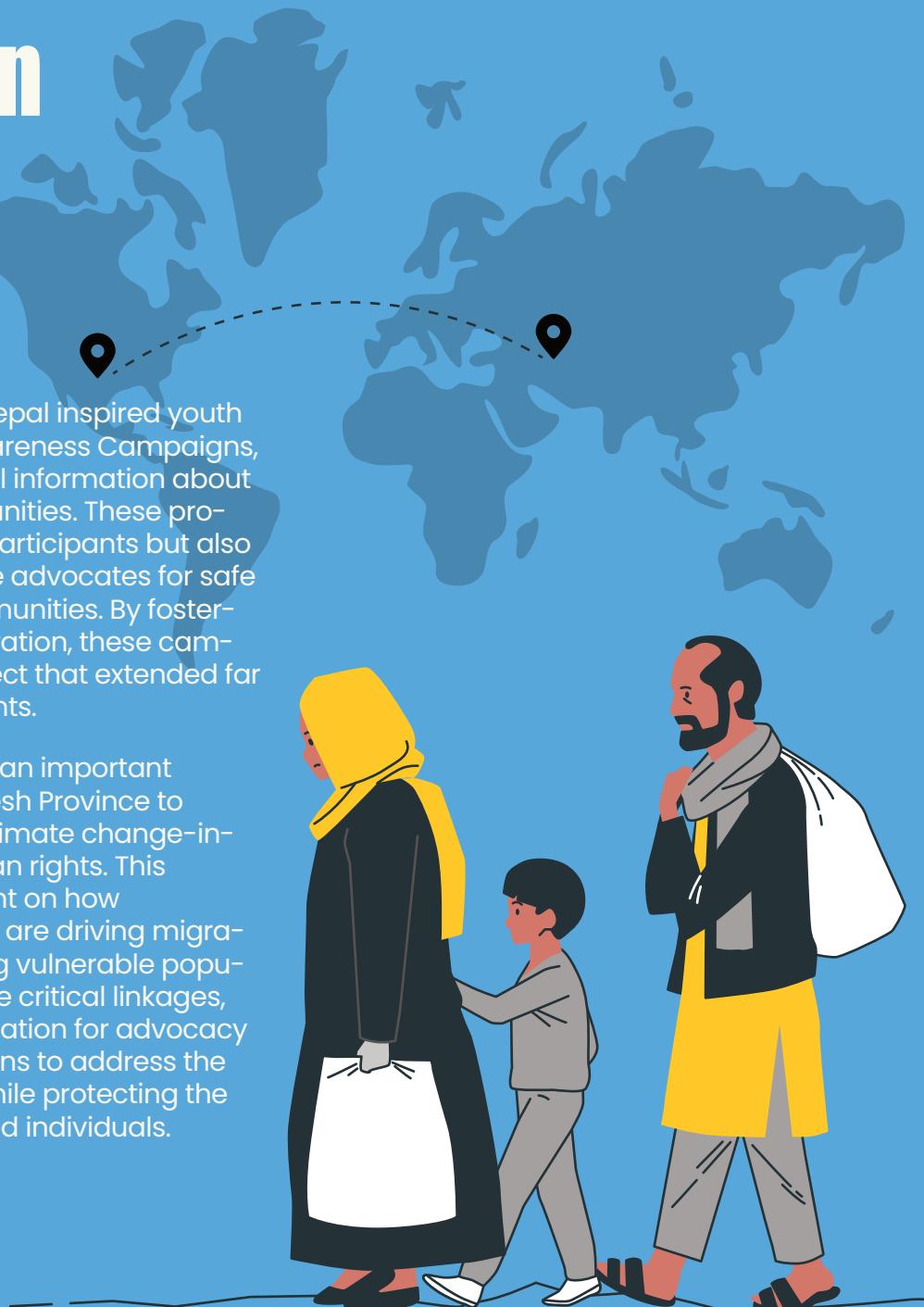
# Championing Safe Migration and Addressing Migration Challenges

ROYM Nepal has taken significant steps throughout the year to address migration-related challenges and empower communities through education, engagement, and research. Recognizing the critical importance of safe migration in ensuring the well-being and dignity of individuals, the organization has undertaken a multi-faceted approach to foster awareness and drive meaningful change.

As a pioneering effort, ROYM Nepal engaged communities across its working areas to promote safe migration practices. By facilitating interactive sessions and dialogues, the organization empowered vulnerable individuals, including youth and marginalized groups, with the knowledge and tools to navigate migration safely. These efforts emphasized the importance of informed decision making and the protection of human rights during the migration process.

In Karnali Province, ROYM Nepal inspired youth through Safe Migration Awareness Campaigns, equipping them with critical information about migration risks and opportunities. These programs not only educated participants but also motivated them to become advocates for safe migration within their communities. By fostering leadership and collaboration, these campaigns created a ripple effect that extended far beyond the initial participants.

ROYM Nepal also launched an important research initiative in Madhesh Province to study the intersections of climate change-induced migration and human rights. This research aimed to shed light on how climate-related challenges are driving migration patterns and impacting vulnerable populations. By highlighting these critical linkages, the study serves as a foundation for advocacy and policy recommendations to address the root causes of migration while protecting the rights and dignity of affected individuals.



# ROYM Nepal's Engagement in Global and Local Movements

ROYM Nepal has actively participated in a variety of global and local initiatives, working tirelessly to advocate for sustainable development, gender equality, and climate justice. Throughout the year, the organization has been involved in prominent forums and events, showcasing its commitment to driving transformative change. One of its notable engagements was at the World Social Forum 2024, where it amplified voices for social justice and equity alongside global leaders and activists. ROYM Nepal also contributed creatively through the Alternative Art Space, a platform for cultural expression and dialogue. Additionally, its role in the Intercontinental Youth Forum emphasized the importance of collaboration among young leaders for a sustainable future.

For the youth, the International Youth Day 2024 celebrations in Dhading and Sarlahi brought a focus on digital pathways for sustainable development, featuring speech competitions and creative engagements. Beyond these, ROYM Nepal stood firmly with international allies during the Global Day of Action for Climate Justice 2024, held on November 16, advocating for resilience-building and equitable solutions to tackle the climate crisis. Through these diverse engagements, ROYM Nepal continues to work towards creating a more just, equitable, and sustainable future for communities both within Nepal and around the globe.

On climate-related efforts, the organization was a prominent participant in the World Youth Assembly on Climate Justice, advocating for impactful policies and actions to combat climate change. Within Nepal, ROYM Nepal led an inspiring International Women's Day Rally in Janakpur, highlighting its unwavering dedication to empowering women. The organization's Pride Program in Kathmandu focused on uplifting livelihoods through employment and economic enhancement initiatives, while the International Labour Day Celebration and Menstruation Hygiene Day addressed critical health and dignity issues. The World Environment Day Celebration also reflected ROYM Nepal's consistent commitment to ecological preservation.





## 3- Month Advance Dhaka Weaving and Tailoring Training

ROYM Nepal launched a 3-month Dhaka Weaving and Tailoring Training Program in Netrawoti Dobjung Rural Municipality, Ward No. 5. Supported by AEIN Luxembourg and Pavil Sana Kishan Cooperative, the training empowered 7 local women with skills in Dhaka weaving and tailoring, promoting cultural heritage and economic self-sufficiency.

Participants received both practical and theoretical lessons, learning yarn preparation, loom setup, weaving techniques, sewing, and garment construction. Feedback was positive, with participants expressing empowerment and an interest in forming cooperatives for collective marketing.

Challenges included limited access to sewing machines and balancing training with household duties. Recommendations include offering sewing machines, follow-up sessions, and helping participants access wider markets.

Overall, the training was a success, empowering a new generation of artisans and promoting both economic and cultural growth.

# EMPOWERING WOMEN IN RAUTAHAT: A TRANSFORMATIVE JOURNEY WITH WOMEN FUND ASIA, JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2024, RAUTAHAT

From July to September, ROYM Nepal, with the support of Women Fund Asia, implemented a comprehensive set of activities in Rautahat District, encompassing six municipalities and involving eight labor groups working in sectors such as brick factories, bamboo weaving, tobacco agriculture, construction labor, sand crusher work, and the entertainment industry.

During this period, we conducted a total of 20 activities and orientation sessions, focusing on critical topics like employment management, gender-based violence management and prevention, pregnancy and marriage management, women's rights, and abortion management.

Key highlights of our initiatives included essential training sessions to educate women on effective employment practices, in-depth sessions on managing and preventing gender-based violence, programs offering vital information on managing pregnancy and marriage-related issues, comprehensive education on women's rights and abortion



management, and discussions on handling employment and violence-related challenges.

Additionally, we organized district-level consultations, celebrated Youth Day, and conducted problem identification sessions to understand and address the key issues faced by women in these labor groups. These efforts resulted in the successful support of 213 group members, significantly contributing to raising awareness and empowering women across Rautahat District.

Through these initiatives, we have enhanced the understanding and implementation of gender-sensitive practices but also fostered an inclusive and supportive environment for women. ROYM Nepal remains steadfast in its commitment to advancing gender equality and empowering women through continuous support and impactful programs. As we reflect on this journey, we are grateful for the support of Women Fund Asia and the active participation of our community members.

# Establishment of Nature-Based Solutions for Riverbank Protection, Saptari

One of the ambitious activities of the Saksham Saptari Project is the establishment of nature-based solutions for riverbank protection. During the monsoon season, the Jita and Mahuli Rivers converge near Sada and Mukhiya Tole, causing the flood levels to rise and inundate households. To control flooding and protect riverbanks, a series of tasks have been undertaken.

Approximately 270 meters of river embankments have been constructed. The existing embankment was first layered with sand and soil to a height of 1.5 meters to prevent floodwaters from entering community households.

Following this, Geo Bags filled with sand were placed above and across the newly constructed embankment to prevent soil runoff. Additionally, plantation activities will be carried out on the newly constructed dam to further strengthen the embankments. This infrastructure will benefit the people of Ram, Sada, and Mukhiya Tole, providing them with both protection and improved mobility.



# Initiatives to Mitigate Climate Change and Risks

ROYM Nepal has taken bold and innovative steps throughout the year to address climate change and reduce risks associated with its impacts. These initiatives are deeply rooted in community empowerment and sustainable development, ensuring resilience in the face of environmental challenges.

To combat the effects of drought, ROYM Nepal introduced innovative solutions that focused on practical, community-driven approaches. These efforts aimed at conserving water resources, optimizing agricultural practices, and supporting farmers to adapt to changing climatic conditions.

The establishment of the Climate Smart Farmers' Field School was another significant milestone. By developing a demo farm plot, the field school served as a learning hub where farmers could observe and adopt sustainable farming techniques. This initiative integrated climate-resilient practices with indigenous knowledge, enabling participants to enhance productivity while safeguarding natural resources.

Furthermore, ROYM Nepal prioritized the development of a community-based multi-purpose nursery by undertaking fencing of the site. This nursery aims to serve as a sustainable resource for plants, seedlings, and saplings, supporting reforestation, soil conservation, and agricultural diversification. By involving local communities in this effort, ROYM Nepal has laid the groundwork for long-term environmental restoration and protection.



# Stakeholder Engagement for Social Justice and Climate Adaptation

ROYM Nepal has made remarkable progress throughout the year in fostering meaningful stakeholder engagement to drive social justice, empower communities, and address critical climate adaptation challenges. Through targeted initiatives, the organization has successfully engaged government officials, community leaders, and civil society in collaborative efforts for transformation. On August 11, 2024, a District-Level Youth Network Formation Program was organized in Dhading, bringing together young advocates to form a cohesive network dedicated to advancing youth participation and leadership in local governance. This initiative underscored the importance of youth-led advocacy in shaping inclusive and transformative policies.

In Rautahat, ROYM Nepal worked closely with local government representatives to adopt and reform policies, strategies, and programs for social justice and transformation. These collaborative efforts aimed at addressing systemic inequities, promoting inclusion, and fostering long-term community development.

In the same month, ROYM Nepal supported effective involvement in the 7 Steps Planning Process of Government on November 28, 2024, empowering women to play an active role in decision-making processes that shape their communities.

ROYM Nepal also conducted a groundbreaking orientation workshop on the Local Adaptation Plan of Action (LAPA) and National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA) frameworks in Tilathikoiadi RMP ward, Rajbiraj. This workshop, held for local government officials, addressed the challenges posed by federalism in Nepal, where grassroots-level implementation and environmental impact assessments were often overlooked. The workshop covered key topics such as climate adaptation, mitigation strategies, vulnerability assessments, and disaster risk management.

vice-chairpersons, chief administrative officers, ward chairpersons, and executive members, the workshop emphasized practical strategies for integrating LAPA and NAPA frameworks into planning processes. Participants completed vulnerability index forms, gaining insights into identifying and addressing local climate challenges. This event was a monumental achievement for ROYM Nepal, marking its leadership as the first NGO to introduce and endorse LAPA and CAP frameworks in coordination with the municipality.



# Seed Money Support Program for Community Empowerment



ROYM Nepal continued to uplift and empower communities through its Seed Money Support Program, conducted across multiple regions in 2024. This initiative aimed to promote financial inclusion, agricultural development, and sustainable livelihoods by providing vital resources and financial aid to right holders and farmer groups.

On August 2, 2024, the Seed Money Support initiative reached marginalized communities in Rautahat and Mahottari, empowering individuals to explore income-generating opportunities and improve their quality of life. This support helped foster self-reliance and boosted the economic prospects of those most in need.

In Dhading, the Agri Input Seed Money Support Program was implemented on December 3, 2024, further enhancing farming practices. By offering essential agricultural inputs and resources, ROYM Nepal enabled farmers to adopt sustainable techniques and increase their agricultural productivity.



# Empowering Technical Independence in Mahottari

As part of ROYM Nepal's Rupantran initiative to promote inclusive technical empowerment, a 65-day Mobile Repair Training was successfully conducted in Bhangaha Municipality, Mahottari, from October to December 2024. The training welcomed 15 participants, including three women, and focused on equipping them with the skills to independently repair mobile phone hardware and software.

This initiative reflects ROYM Nepal's commitment to bridging the digital divide and fostering self-reliance among youth and marginalized communities.

Throughout the training, participants engaged in hands-on learning covering hardware diagnostics, screen and battery replacement, charging port repairs, and internal component servicing. On the software side, they practiced system updates, virus removal, app optimization, and data recovery.

The program also introduced basic entrepreneurial skills, enabling participants to envision small-scale service businesses within their localities.

For many, this was a first step toward financial independence and digital literacy, especially for women. By nurturing local expertise and encouraging sustainable livelihoods, the initiative empowered participants to become community-based tech solution providers.



# Fostering Sustainable Development Through Multi-Faceted Initiatives Across Nepal

Throughout 2024, ROYM Nepal has been at the forefront of driving meaningful change and empowering marginalized communities through a diverse range of impactful programs and activities. With a focus on addressing critical community needs and promoting sustainable development, the organization has implemented initiatives that span healthcare, agriculture, infrastructure, and skill-building.

One of the notable achievements of the year was the successful execution of a One-Day Health Camp on Non-Communicable Diseases, which helped raise awareness about crucial health challenges and provided direct support to affected individuals. ROYM Nepal also made strides in improving infrastructure, with the Installation of Water Bore Wells in Sarlahi on December 22, 2024, ensuring reliable access to clean water. Similarly, the Land Lease Agreement in Madhesh Province on December 16, 2024, enabled marginalized communities to pursue sustainable agricultural activities.

In the agricultural sector, ROYM Nepal led initiatives such as Group Farming and Farmers' Field School on Pea Crop in Dhading District and the development of a Community-Based Multi-Purpose Nursery in Saptari. These efforts were complemented by innovative programs like the Improved Breeding Buck Support Program and Entrepreneurship Development and Market Linkage for Vegetable Production both held in Saptari, which aimed at enhancing agricultural productivity and connecting farmers to markets. Programs like the Composite Vegetable Seed Distribution in Dhading and the Boer Goat Distribution Program further strengthened the livelihoods of farmers while promoting climate-resilient practices.

In addition to agricultural support, ROYM Nepal placed a strong emphasis on skill-building and empowerment. Networking events like Connecting Rural Women with Women Leaders, held in Dhading, fostered collaboration and leadership development among women. Practical trainings in Mobile Repairing, Bangle Making, Bike Repairing, and Beautician Skills, conducted in Rautahat, Sarlahi, and Mahottari, equipped individuals with vocational expertise to enhance their self-reliance and economic stability.

# Formation of Women and Community Groups

In 2024, ROYM Nepal undertook a significant initiative to strengthen community engagement and foster inclusive participation by forming multiple groups across its working areas in all districts. These groups, composed of women, farmers, and networks, have served as a platform for collaboration, advocacy, and sustainable development.

In Dhading a total of 21 groups were formed, comprising women's groups, agriculture groups, and women network groups with a total of 603 members. These groups have actively worked to address local challenges, promote sustainable practices, and ensure greater representation of women in community decision-making processes.

In Saptari, a total of 29 groups were established, engaging 553 members in total. These groups have played a pivotal role in advancing agricultural practices, strengthening local networks, and empowering marginalized communities to enhance their livelihoods.

Mahottari, a remarkable 35 groups were formed, involving 875 members collectively. These groups focused on diverse areas, including women's empowerment, farmers' collaboration, and building robust local networks to promote social justice and transformation.

In addition, for the WFA Project in Rautahat, 29 groups were specifically established, encompassing 406 members. These groups brought together women's groups, farmers' groups, and networks, emphasizing inclusive participation and sustainable development initiatives tailored to the needs of the community.



# Promoting Human Rights and Combating Gender-Based Violence

In 2024, ROYM Nepal, in collaboration with key stakeholders, undertook significant initiatives to advance human rights and advocate against gender-based violence across its working areas. These efforts focused on raising awareness, educating communities, and fostering collaborative approaches to protect human dignity and promote gender equality.

ROYM Nepal, in partnership with INSEC Nepal, celebrated International Human Rights Day on December 10, 2024, at Nilakantha Municipality, Ward No. 3, and later on December 22, 2024, at Ward No. 5, Dhading. The events highlighted the principles of human rights and the current status in Dhading District through impactful presentations by ROYM Nepal's DPC Harisharan Dhital and INSEC Nepal Representative Sitaram Adhikari. Active participation from local leaders, activists, youth, and government officials enriched the program, which successfully increased awareness among participants and laid the foundation for joint efforts in human rights education and advocacy.



# 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence

ROYM Nepal marked the 16 Days of Activism with extensive campaigns and programs from November 25 to December 10, 2024, in Madhesh Province and Dhading District, aligned with the global theme, "Unite to End Violence Against Women and Girls."

In Madhesh Province, interaction programs, orientation campaigns, and rallies were held in Bardibas, Bhangaha, Kabilashi, Brahpampuri, Gujara, and Birindawan Rural/Municipality. These events sensitized over a thousand participants, raising awareness about gender-based violence (GBV), discussing its prevalence, and emphasizing the role of civil society organizations, local governments, and other stakeholders in addressing GBV.

In Dhading, the campaign centered on women's rights and empowerment in Nilakantha Municipality and Netrawoti Dobjung Rural Municipality. Workshops addressed topics such as women's legal rights, preventing domestic violence, and promoting gender equality. Informational materials were disseminated, and participants drafted a community action plan during the closing ceremony, reflecting their commitment to continued advocacy.

These initiatives not only raised significant awareness about human rights and gender equality but also empowered women to discuss their challenges openly and seek support. The events facilitated dialogue among community members, leaders, and law enforcement while strengthening local networks of activists and volunteers committed to gender equality. Despite logistical challenges in remote areas and cultural barriers, the campaigns were impactful steps toward combatting GBV and fostering collaboration for sustainable change.



# Clean Our Community Campaign Launch

We started a new campaign, "Clean our community," from Maa Bhagawati Farmers Group, Mukhiyatole in Tilathi Koiladi RMP-04, Saptari. We have planned to provide social points to the members who actively participate in this awareness and cleanliness campaign. These social points will be calculated to provide technical as well as seed and material support from the Saksham Saptari Project. This campaign will be implemented in all our working areas.



# Reuniting Families, Restoring Hope: ROYM Nepal's Mission Accomplished

The open border between Nepal and India has served as a gateway for the people of both nations to lead their lives and earn a livelihood. Recently, 44 workers from the Mahottari, Sarlahi, Dhanusha districts, and other districts of Nepal faced harsh realities. These individuals, who had traveled to Jammu and Kashmir in India for employment four months ago, found themselves in a quandary, having started work at a company but not receiving their monthly wages, nor being allowed to return home.

In light of this situation, ROYM Nepal became aware of this issue and embarked on a mission. With our initiative, and the support of Bardibas Municipality, the respective ward, and a social worker, we were able to reach them through Delhi, India. We have successfully reunited them with their families, safely and securely.



# Rescue to Rise: Stakeholder Inception Meetings for District Approvals

As part of the preparatory phase for the Rescue to Rise initiative, ROYM Nepal conducted a series of inception meetings with government bodies to secure formal approval for project implementation in Dhanusha, Mahottari, and Sarlahi districts. These meetings were held in coordination with local authorities and relevant stakeholders, ensuring alignment with district-level priorities and governance protocols.

The inception meetings served as a platform to present the project's objectives, expected outcomes, and strategic alignment with local development goals. Discussions focused on community-based rescue and rehabilitation mechanisms, stakeholder roles, and coordination frameworks. Government representatives expressed strong support for the initiative, recognizing its potential to strengthen protection systems and empower marginalized communities across the three districts.



# Board Members

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- Pooja Kumari Baishya – DRR and Social Mobilization Associate, Lumbini
- Prakash Nepali – DRR and Social Mobilization Associate, Karnali

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- Prativa Kumari Vishwokarma- Social Mobilizer(Junior Technical Assistant), Saptari
- Anita Sada – Support Staff, Saptari
- Harisharan Dhitai- District Project Coordinator, Dhading
- Sita Shrestha- Administrative Finance Officer, Shading
- Sita BK- Junior Technical Assistant (Livestock), Dhading
- Srijana Shrestha- Junior Technical Assistant (Plant, Dhading)
- Kulmaya Bishwokarma- Social Mobilizer, Dhading
- Sarita Thapa- Social Mobilizer, Dhading
- Arbind Kumar Chaudhary, District Project Coordinator, Sarlahi
- Rakesh Mishra, Administrative Finance Officer, Sarlahi
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- Anu Kumari Singh, Social Mobilizer, Sarlahi
- Bachelal Pandit, JTA(Livestock), Sarlahi
- Prajwal Pokhrel, District Project Officer, Rautahat
- Pappu Sah, JTA(Plant), Rautahat
- Sindu Sah, Social Mobilizer, Rautahat
- Ranju Kumari Sah, District Program Officer, Mahottari
- Ram Saroj Sada, Social Mobilizer, Mahottari
- Kajal Kumari Mandal, Social Mobilizer, Mahottari
- Bishnu Kumari Balampaki, Social Mobilizer, Mahottari

# Our Network



**NGO Federation of Nepal**  
A National Federation of NGOs in Nepal



**प्रकोप पूर्व तथारी सञ्जाल - नेपाल (डीपीनेट)**  
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**Alliance against Trafficking in  
Women and Children in Nepal**



**National Network for Safe Migration  
(NNSM)**



**Youth Collective Network**



**National Alliance for Human Rights  
and Social Justice**



**Grassroots  
Justice  
Network**



**SDGs National Network Nepal**



**Duryog Nivaran**



**CZOP Nepal**

# Thank you to our funding partners for their support, commitment & solidarity !

- AEIN - Aide à l'Enfance de l'Inde et du Népal
- US Embassy Nepal
- Foundation S - The Sanofi Collective
- Women Fund Asia

We extend our deepest gratitude to the dedicated communities, organisations, activists, and allies across Nepal and beyond whose wisdom, guidance, and solidarity—shared through advisories, collaborations, and communities of practice—continue to inspire us. Together, we are shaping a future where equity and justice flourish.

## Annual Report Credits:

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