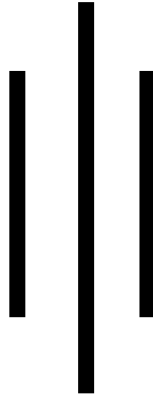
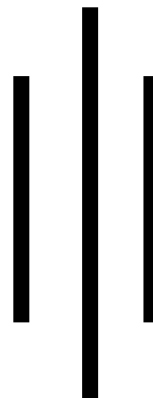


Behavior Change for Gender Equality (BCGE)



Semi-Annual Report (20 Jan, 2026- 15 July, 2026)



Forum for Rural Women Ardency Development (FORWARD)



Date of submission: 2026/08/05

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Introduction of the project

Behavior Change for Gender Equality (BCGE)

Forum for Rural Women Ardeny Development (FORWARD) has been implementing “Behavior Change for Gender Equality (BCGE) Project” with the partnership of Tearfund in Gadhi Rural Municipality, Sunsari from 1 Feb,2025. The project will continue to 2029. The main goal of the project is to bring about personal transformation, and to effectively and strongly implement the process of behavior change for gender equality towards sexual and gender-based violence communities through community dialogue (CD) program. There are 4 phases in the CD.

Phases of the community dialogue.



Purpose of the report

: The purpose of this semi-annual report is to share the progress and updates the activities with achievement, challenges, learning and financial overview as well as plan for next 6 months.

Organizational Brief

Forum for Rural Women Ardeny Development (FORWARD) was established in Paush 2051 (Dec 1994), it had been formally registered in 18 Baisakh, 2052 (May 1995). Additionally, it is licensed by Nepal Rasta Bank (Central Bank of Nepal) under the financial intermediary Act in 15 Paush, 2059 (Dec 2002), affiliated in social welfare council, NGO Federation of Nepal, also the organization has membership in many other Networks / Societies like NGOCC, RMDC, Local Trust Fund Board and many other related NGOs, INGOs and linkage with many other financial institutions. FORWARD is located at Duhabi, Sunsari, and the eastern part of Nepal and also working as a non-governmental financial intermediary organization (FINGO). FORWARD is managed by compatible and committed women professional groups and works for backward

vulnerable, indigenous people and communities on right based programs for sustainably empowering them. FORWARD developed trust among its supporters through participation and partnership approach of cooperation of ideas, collective views to a significant role in poverty alleviation, and obligation to help against poverty through microfinance, social development, and institutional development program. FORWARD raised their voices against the domestic violence of women, children, and vulnerable communities through mass awareness and advocacy programs.

Working Area: Gadhi Rural Municipality

Gadhi is a rural municipality out of six rural municipality located in Sunsari District of Koshi Province of Nepal. There are a total of 12 municipalities in Sunsari in which 6 are urban and 6 are rural. According to the Census 2078 of Nepal, Gadhi Municipality has a total population of 38,739. The population consists of 97.22 males for every 100 females, indicating a slightly higher female population. The municipality's population density is 572 people per square kilometer. There are a total of 8,565 households in Gadhi. The literacy rate of the municipality is 70.8%, with a notable gap between genders. The male literacy rate stands at 78.8%, while the female literacy rate is 63.0%. This data highlights the need to promote education, especially among women, to bridge the literacy gap. The area of this municipality is 67.07 km².

Currently, there are some organizations working in the Gadhi Rural Municipality (Voice of Children, Hope for Children, Forum for Rural Women Ardency Development, Himal Trust). There has been established a Sexual and Gender Based Violence Elimination fund. Municipality has established with the amount of Rs. 50000 (Fifty thousand) to contribute to minimize or rescue of the victims of Gender Based Violence, and it is unspent.

FORWARD microfinance has been working to uplift the female economic situation through different micro-enterprises from ward no 1 ward no. 6. FORWARD has formed 990 female groups in Gadhi Rural Municipality with reaching direct to 1966 members in this municipality. The staff of the FORWARD expressed, within their group members, there are direct or indirect happening SGBV related issues.

Brief Summary of the project.

Key activities completed/progress and updates

- DIP finalized
- Behaviour Guidelines (TF Acceptable and Unacceptable Behaviour)
- Progress regarding the Red Book at the Palika level

- Local Government Reporting
- Visit Potential project Participant for Community dialogue group
- Annual Report submission
- E-learning course
- Conduct the gender training to community leaders (2 to 3 days)
- Conduct quarterly monitoring visits for project effectiveness by executive board
- Monthly review/reflection meetings
- Coordination with other projects of Forward such as “No Child left Unprotected” and ISPKN (Integrated mobile service camp).
- Coordinating the cases of SGBV.
- Sharing the project activities in the different events at Gadhi Rural Municipality.

Major Achievements

- Coordinated with Palika for the red book allocation
- We are facilitating cases of SGBV from the communities.
- Coordinated with potential project participants.
- Almost every stakeholder of SGBV knows about our project "Behavior Change for Gender Equality"
- Community leaders of Gadhi -05/06 have been facilitated on Gender by the Forward team.

Challenges

- Managing the time of our field staff as she has been working on sharing basis.
- Due to Curfew in our working area, it could not conduct the gender training for community dialogue facilitator on time.

Learnings

- It would be better to organize activities of another project of Forward in the community dialogue groups.

Financial Overview



6 month financial
report 2026 BCGE.xlsx

Plan for next 6 months

- Conduct gender training for community dialogue facilitators
- Form a network of trained gender facilitators

- Facilitate network meeting once in three months to update CDGs work and make decisions
- Conduct joint/Participatory monitoring visit with relevant government line agencies including review reflection workshops (2 partners X 2 semiannual)
- International Women's Day celebrations including 16 days of Activism, National AHT Day etc. in collaboration with local government and other stakeholders in three districts
- Conduct community dialogue in single-sex (men and women separate) groups by Gender Facilitators.
- Combine celebration of community dialogue between both sex groups (192 Participants)
- Facilitate a learning and sharing workshop among network members, gender facilitators, community leader for wider promotion of TM approach
- Follow-up and monitoring visits
- Organize/facilitate LPAC and CPAC meetings
- Organise Social Audit/Public Audit/ Public Hearing to Maintain Transparency and Accountability
- Generate learnings documents for the communications and reporting purpose (videography, translations, consultant fee)
- Develop exit strategies/handover plan in consultation with relevant stakeholders

Success story

A Story of Change: Arun Chaudhary

Arun Chaudhary, a 16-year-old resident of Gadhi-03, Guransh Tole, is one of the participants in the Community Dialogue Class. He recently appeared in the SEE examinations and lives with his parents and younger brother in a family of four. His father works abroad, while his mother manages the household and also works as a laborer on a farm.

Arun's mother has a demanding daily routine. Even after returning late from farm work, tired and exhausted, she is responsible for cooking meals and taking care of the family. Although Arun used to help his mother a little, he often felt shy and hesitant, worrying about what others might think if they saw him doing household chores.

Things began to change when Forward, in partnership with Tearfund, conducted Community Dialogue Classes in Guransh Tole. Arun and his mother, Man Kumari Chaudhary, both participated—Arun in the male group and his mother in the female group. Through these sessions, they learned about gender roles, equality, and shared responsibilities. They attended all the sessions regularly and actively participated in the discussions and final celebration.

After completing the classes, a noticeable transformation took place in Arun. He no longer feels shy about helping at home. Instead, he now takes responsibility for household chores, whether his mother goes to the farm or not. His mother has also observed this positive change and feels proud and relieved to see her son supporting her.

Arun's story reflects how awareness and dialogue can challenge traditional norms and bring meaningful change within families and communities.



Photos



Conducting Gender training to community leaders & Monitoring by executive board

