

POPULATION
CONNECTION

GLOBAL PARTNERS SERIES: NEPAL



Rural Women's Development and Unity Center
(RUWDUC)

RUWDUC NEPAL & POPULATION CONNECTION

PARTNERSHIP 2021-2023

2021-22: Co-funded a community-run early flood warning system in Mahakali Basin

2023: Expanded partnership with project linking girls' education, reproductive health, & community-led leadership and empowerment training in Dureldurha



RUWDUC

RURAL WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT & UNITY CENTER

Nepali NGO that supports rural development programs in women's empowerment, environmental conservation, economic opportunity, health care, and climate adaptation throughout the far-west region

RUWDUC works closely with the Nepali government to design policies and programs that are eventually funded and maintained by governments, ensuring project longevity and sustainability



ITINERARY

KATHMANDU

Met with RUWDUC board at Prime Minister's Office

DHANGADHI

Met with two Tharu communities. Assessed flood risk areas. Visited four newly renovated houses.

DURELDURHA

Traveled by car to Dureldurha, located in the mountains below the Api Saipal region of the Himalayas.

KATHMANDU

Travel back to Kathmandu via Dhangadhi



DAY 1



KATHMANDU TO DHANGADHI

Flew from Nepal's capital city to the far west region

MET WITH RUWDUC STAFF

- Lunch and meetings with RUWDUC staff
- Toured town at Gaurifanta border and met with Raj Bahadur Ayer, president of ward #3
- Traveled to two Tharu communities in which RUWDUC works. Initiatives in Dhangadhi focus on home fortification and other flood prevention and relief efforts, as well as economic empowerment

DHANGADHI TO DURELDURHA

Traveled by car Dhangadhi community, located at the foothills of the Api Saipal Himalayan mountains





"It looks like the hills are bleeding."

Informal building and construction has greatly affected the topography of Nepal's mountainous regions.

Unsustainable building practices are increasing alongside population growth and worsen the risks of flooding and landslides for cities like Dhangadhi, which resides in the flatlands below the mountains.





ROOF RESTORATION & HOME FORTIFICATION



FLOOD PREVENTION



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



SAFE HOUSING

“

I like this type of work. It makes me feel so good, to help the neediest people.

-
- RAMESH CHAND, BOARD MEMBER OF RUWDUC DHANGADHI, FAR WEST NEPAL



DAY 2



ARRIVED IN DURELDURHA

Toured Ugratara temple

TOURED DURELDURHA HOSPITAL

Visited Nutrition Rehabilitation Home

MAHENDRA SECONDARY SCHOOL

- Met with head teacher, Surendra Ayer, and talked with students and school nurse about challenges in gender equality within communities, including early marriage and the customary Chaudpadi practice
- Explored goals for future

ATTENDED WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT MEETING AT RUWDUC OFFICE

- Attended bi-weekly meeting hosted by women community members
- Group meets to set goals, increase leadership, and improve empowerment





**WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT
MEETING**



DURELDURHA HOSPITAL



**MAHENDRA SECONDARY
SCHOOL**



**NUTRITION REHABILITATION
HOME**



DAY 3



MAHAKALI PRIMARY SCHOOL

Attended ceremony for students who were given new uniforms on behalf of RUWDUC and Dr. Arza

TOURED EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

Met with project leaders, Yadav Bohati and Jwala

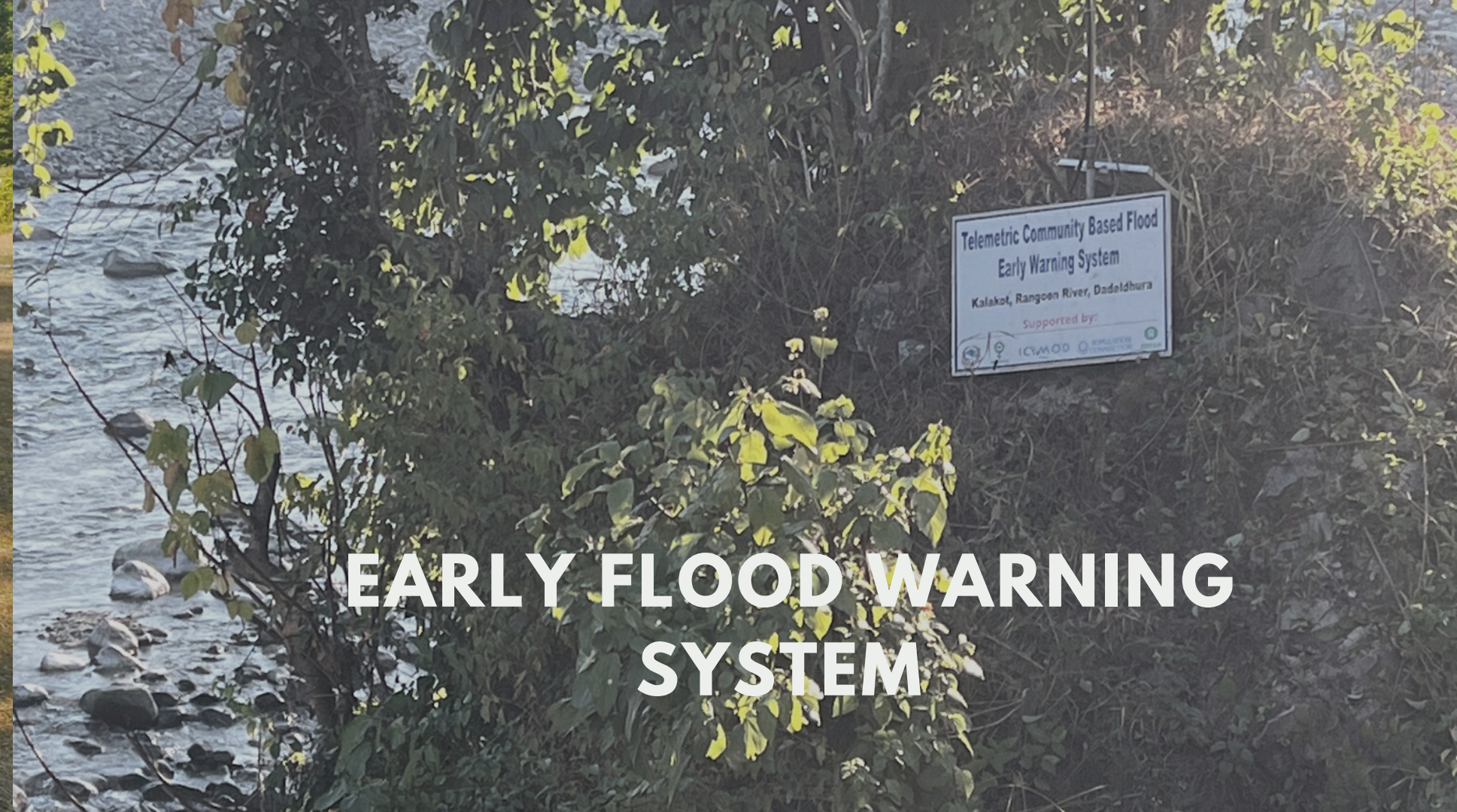
WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT MEETING AT MAHAKALI BASIN COMMUNITIES

Listened in on meeting where women assessed community needs and challenges. Most community members are from Dalit caste and economically marginalized families/backgrounds.





WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT MEETING



EARLY FLOOD WARNING SYSTEM



MAHAKALI PRIMARY SCHOOL













DAY 4



DURELDURHA

to



DHANGADHI

to



KATHMANDU

