

OXFAM IN NEPAL

Oxfam has worked in Nepal since the early 1980s, supporting socially and economically excluded poor people – particularly women.



HOW OXFAM IS HELPING

Our work in Nepal takes a three-prong approach by focusing on development, emergencies and campaigning.

We work in collaboration with the Government and other Non Governmental Organisations, community-based organisations, and communities.

IN NUMBERS*

200,000
total people helped

DEVELOPMENT

We aim to improve poor, vulnerable and socially excluded people’s public health, food security and livelihoods.

We:

- promote health and hygiene knowledge and improved practices
- assist in the construction of school and household latrines
- help communities to construct, rehabilitate and manage water and sanitation systems and resources
- support co-operatives and farmers’ groups to increase production and incomes
- support over 200 women’s empowerment centres

Our “Micro Enterprise Development Programme” is a thriving women-farmer-led business that produces and markets high quality vegetable seeds.



Balu Minor collects a goat from an Oxfam animal fair.

Photo: Kuba Nowak

*Direct beneficiary figures for the period 2010-11

EMERGENCIES

We aim to reduce the impact of disasters such as floods, landslides, droughts, epidemics and earthquakes.

We:

- assist communities and institutions to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters.
- promote disaster resilience through strengthening livelihoods of the poor and vulnerable
- promote improved government policies and legal frameworks to incorporate disaster mitigation.
- strengthen humanitarian capacity, of Oxfam and its partners, to deliver humanitarian assistance during major emergencies.



Photo: Laura Eldon

Hevanti Devi Harijan inside her house which has been raised by Oxfam and local partner CDM to help cope with regular flooding, Rampur district.

CAMPAIGNING

We seek to empower community groups – particularly poor and marginalised people – to advocate for their rights, bring about positive change in gender relations, increase participation in decision making, and increase access to essential services.

We help build awareness of climate change, and pilot projects on community-based adaptation, focusing on agriculture and water resource management. Major activities include:

- diversifying crops
- introducing flood and drought-tolerant seeds
- rainwater harvesting
- rehabilitating water springs

Our “Raising Her Voice” project helps to promote poor and marginalised women’s participation in decision making at the community level (such as school management committees, and drinking water and sanitation user groups) in Bardiya, Surkhet and Dailekh districts. We help mobilise the media around the project to build strong popular opinion in support of these issues – which helps influence change at the national level.

We support women to tackle the serious issue of domestic violence and promote women’s rights.

We help improve access and use of health facilities in remote areas for the poorest and most marginalised groups. We raise the awareness of people in poor and marginalised communities, reaching out to them with necessary information about health, water and sanitation. At the national level, we lobby for policy change, and monitor the implementation of current health policies.

