

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

# Yuwa Udhhami

## YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROJECT

### PROJECT GOAL

Promote youth-led agricultural enterprises in Nepal and improve market access for key high-value crop production through business management training, linkages to financial institutions and cooperative strengthening.

The COVID-19-related economic slowdown had a devastating impact on jobs and incomes across Nepal with youth and minorities in rural areas most vulnerable to the crisis. The Yuwa Udhhami (“youth entrepreneurship”) project, implemented by Lutheran World Relief in collaboration with Dalit Feminist Upliftment Organization (DAFUO), enables youth from marginalized communities in Nepal’s Bardiya district to develop entrepreneurial skills and capacity in agriculture-based enterprises. The project targets ethnic minorities, Dalits and women as it trains youth on the production of high-value crops, provides coaching for business plan development, and creates linkages to financial institutions, cooperatives and markets. Promotion of youth-led agricultural entrepreneurship enhances ecosystem functioning and leads to the adoption of climate-smart farming practices to improve crop yields.

Lutheran World Relief has worked in Nepal since 2009, championing opportunities for youth and gender equity in the development and implementation of programs that create linkages along value chains to benefit smallholder farming families. Reaching indigenous, Dalit and marginalized communities with programs in livelihood strengthening and food security, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, and humanitarian assistance, Lutheran World Relief is committed to advancing a holistic approach that builds community resiliency.



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### EXPECTED RESULTS

- **450 rural youth** mentored to be agricultural entrepreneurs
- **>900,000 kg of high-value crops** (such as onion, turmeric, and off-season rice) produced by youth
- **450 farmers** trained on the production of high-value crops and provided with inputs
- **225 youth** trained on marketing, branding and packaging of agricultural products
- **1 cooperative** strengthened its operational capacity and began processing turmeric
- **150 youth** trained on business management, accounting and bookkeeping
- **115 youth** enrolled in insurance service activities



### The Corus Effect

Lutheran World Relief works in concert with Corus International, an ensemble of global leaders in international development and humanitarian assistance. In addition to Lutheran World Relief, the Corus subsidiaries include global public health agency IMA World Health, U.K.-based technology for development company CGA Technologies, impact investing firm Ground Up Investing, and direct trade company Farmers Market Brands.

We operate as permanent partners, integrating expertise, disciplines, approaches and resources to overcome global health challenges, develop productive and stable economies, improve resilience in the face of climate change, and respond to natural disasters and humanitarian crises.