



## Rural Community Development Service Council (RCDSC)

[www.rcdsc.org](http://www.rcdsc.org)

RCDSC formed in 1994. It has 40 women and 25 men general members and an executive board with four women and five men. RCDSC is promoting change in the society through sustainable community development, based on social, economic and gender equality. Through group mobilization of Dalits, women and youth, RCDSC has advocated against untouchability, gender discrimination and other bad social practices. Group members are supported to be self-reliant and to participate in local decision-making bodies to enjoy their rights.

**Achievements:** RCDSC is implementing a Dalit empowerment program covering 21 VDCs. In eight of these VDCs, Dalits have formed their own organization, which has successfully advocated for Dalit issues at the district and national level. Many day-to-day conflicts between castes have been resolved through RCDSC's mediation and peace-building work. With funding through a reproductive health program, two clinics were established that provide reproductive health, family planning and HIV/Aids related awareness and services. With funding from the Women's Empowerment Program, 40 women's saving and credit groups were organized, and their capacity strengthened through non-formal education and rights based training. Group members have been mobilized to advocate for gender equality and oppose discrimination and violence. For example, two cases of women accused of witchcraft - Marani Devi and Sudama Devi - were advocated to the national level, and both women have been able to return to their communities. RCDSC constructed a school for Dalit children. Small and marginalized farmers were mobilized into 40 groups for shallow tube-well groundwater irrigation, thereby allowing them to increase their agricultural production and income.



**CNGO-funded project:** Non-formal education classes with gender integration to savings and credit groups.

**Services:** Reproductive health, savings and credit, non-formal education, adult literacy, income generation, gender-integrated organizational capacity building, network formation and linkages, training, leadership development, conflict management, flood relief and rehabilitation

**Past and current clients:**

Organizations	Programs
PACT/TAF	Women's Empowerment Program
World Neighbours	Reproductive Health Services
Oxfam Nepal	Dalit Empowerment
Embassy of Germany	School Construction
UNDP (Peace and Development)	Caste-Based Conflict Resolution and Peace Building
Tenancy Forum	Research
HIMAWANTI	Training
Red Cross	HIV/Aids Awareness
Didi Bahini	Training for Women Representatives, Gender in Governance
CECI	Community Mobilization for Groundwater Irrigation Sectoral Project

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