



2021

Annual Report

Respect, Educate, Nurture and Empower Women

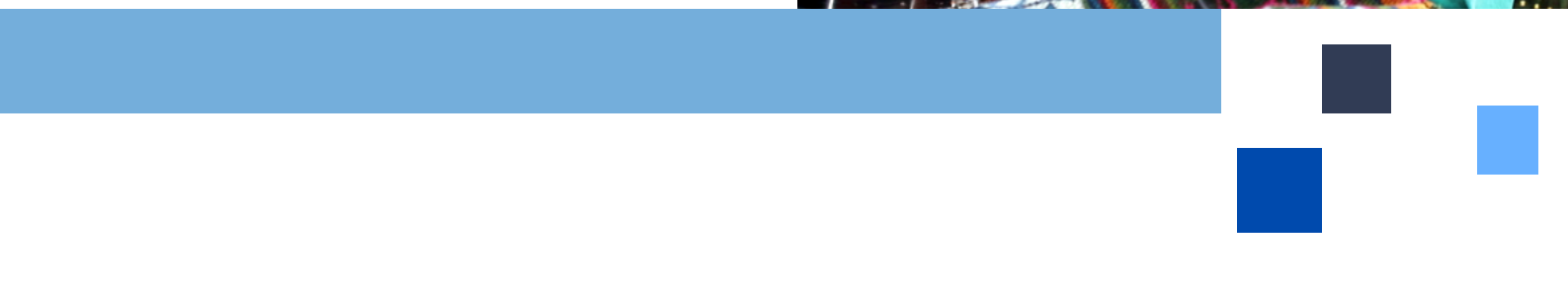
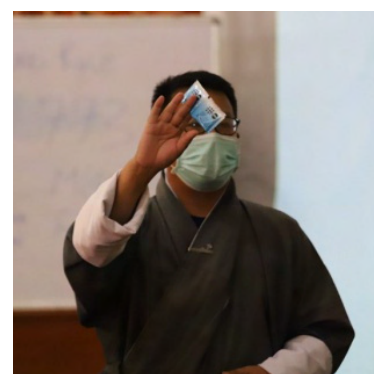


TABLE OF CONTENTS

OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

Observation of International day

1. International Women's Day 2021
2. Foundation Day 2021
3. Launching of Days for Girls' Project
4. International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women 2021

Sensitization & Awareness

5. Sensitization & Awareness on Gender Based Violence and Domestic Violence
6. Sensitization at School
7. Teenage Pregnancy prevention
8. Engaging Men and Boys
9. Internal Reviews & Planning Meetings`

Capacity Building Trainings

10. Mental Health Facilitators Training
11. Community Advocacy, behavioral change Communication and Gender Based Violence
12. Comprehensive Sexuality Education
13. Standard Operating Procedure on Gender Based Violence Prevention and Response and Early Identification and Safe referrals
14. Consensus Building Initiative training
15. Gender based violence Case Management training
16. Life Skill Education

COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES AND CAMPAIGNS

17. 'My Body My own' Essay competition -Royal Thimphu College
18. Poster competition-College of Natural Resources
19. Documentary competition-Sherubtse College
20. International Day of the Girl Child and 16 Days of activism testimonials
21. Social Media Art Competition

RENEW SERVICES

22. Number of cases registered through different platforms
23. District wise disaggregated
24. Legal Services
25. Gawailing Happy Home
26. RENEW Scholarship
27. RENEW-FIDA Livelihood Trainings Conducted
28. Financial Statement
29. Circle of Compassion 2021
30. Partners

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Respect, Educate, Nurture, Empower Women (RENEW) is a civil society organization established by Her Majesty the Queen Mother Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck to empower families affected by domestic violence and Gender-Based Violence, with a special focus on the vulnerable women and children.

The first and only CSO of its kind in Bhutan, RENEW has been working tirelessly to provide multi-dimensional services to survivors of Domestic Violence and Gender-Based Violence with a specific focus on women and children.

RENEW is pleased to bring out its annual report for the year 2021 as part of its achievement. The report is a reflection of the key advocacy campaigns, capacity building programs carried out across the country to better the lives of survivors of SGBV (Sexual Gender Based Violence) and to reintegrate them as productive members of society, as envisioned in the Organization's mission. The programs saw the engagement of diverse groups: youth, teachers, parents, caregivers, key population (LGBTIQ, People with Disabilities, commercial sex workers) community members, CBSS-MSTF members, religious leaders, policy and decision makers. This inclusive approach has enhanced an environment of shared responsibility towards creating a society free of SGBV.



Vision

A Just, Equitable
and Happy Society.



Mission

To better the lives of survivors
of gender-based violence and
to reintegrate them as
economically and socially
productive members of society.

Foreword

It is my pleasure to share with you the 2021 Annual Report of RENEW Bhutan.

The report reflects the strong partnership and collaboration between RENEW and its key partners, namely the Royal Government of Bhutan, development partners, our community volunteers spread across the twenty districts and most importantly the people we serve.

2021 has been an important year for RENEW's growth. The Covid 19 pandemic followed by frequent lockdowns meant exploring new ways of ensuring continuity of our services to the communities. Most of our capacity development work had to be conducted virtually, and different modalities of ensuring access to our services were introduced. This report is reflective of the different modalities undertaken to ensure that we are able to deliver our mandate to empower survivors of domestic violence and Gender based violence to be financially sustainable and emotionally independent and productive members of the society. RENEW was able to train personnel on a range of services it provides: Counseling, legal aid and ensure that our services are accessible during emergencies.

RENEW initiated several new programs last year. With the support of our development partners, access to legal representation for vulnerable women who cannot afford a lawyer was initiated. In 2021 alone, 5 women availed the service. In the area of sexuality education, RENEW in partnership with the Ministry of Education supported the Government in implementing comprehensive sexuality education in 10 priority schools across 17 Districts in line with the national framework on CSE implementation. Based on lessons learned from past advocacy programs, customized inclusive programs were introduced for key populations as part of its regular sensitization and awareness on SGBV. Another new focus last year has been the engagement of men and boys to address sexual gender based violence. The first ever study conducted by RENEW on "Gender norms on sexual and gender based violence among men in Bhutan" in 2021 indicated readiness of men & boys to engage in the prevention of SGBV in Bhutan.

As part of efforts to enhance coordination and collaboration among our key stakeholders, RENEW conducted a series of national dialogues with policy makers including the parliamentarians. This dialogue has enabled RENEW and its key partners to collectively assess the challenges faced in the implementation of programs and come up with a concrete strategy to help ensure violence prevention and protection of our vulnerable population.

All in all, 2021 was a year of strengthening our services, extending its reach to the far flung communities and exploring new ways of working together better. These achievements belong to many contributors without whose support the results would not have been achieved. On behalf of RENEW, I would like to thank the Royal Government of Bhutan and all our development partners including our sister CSOs and our volunteers in the field including the youth whose collaboration is deeply valued.

RENEW remains fully committed to continuing the journey that lies ahead in support of ensuring a just, equitable and happy society.

Tshering Dolkar
Executive Director



International Women's Day

'Traditional art of yoga, meditation and dance movement to promote physical and mental health'

RENEW kick started the International Women's Day celebrations with school health coordinators, RENEW counselors, CBSS volunteers and staff through a special program on art of well being. .



A total of 40 participants attended the program including 13 school health coordinators from 13 schools in Thimphu City, which was led by Ms. Charmi Chheda, an independent artist, Mr. Dorji Tshering and Mr. Murthy from Well-being center under Traditional medicine and India House, in Bhutan respectively.

The participants were introduced to the traditional art of yoga, meditation, and dance movement to promote physical and mental health. The event generated ideas on how to interlink and integrate such art of well beings to reproductive health education. The participants committed to implementing such programs in their schools.



RENEW CBSS celebrating IWD

Foundation Day 2021



Her Majesty the Queen Mother Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck's Birth Anniversary and Foundation Day of RENEW

On 11th May, RENEW celebrated its 'Foundation Day' which also coincides with birth anniversary of Her Majesty the Queen Mother Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck. The event was held at Tara Lhaden Zhingkhram Lhakhang at Pangrigzampa, Thimphu and was organized by RENEW in collaboration with the Ministry of Education.

Her Majesty the Queen Mother Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck, Her Royal Highness Ashi Euphelma Choden Wangchuck, Dasho Thinlay Norbu, the Education Minister, Health Secretaries, dignitaries from UNFPA in Bhutan UNICEF Bhutan, JICA, SNV and SCF and the Executives Directors of the Gyalyum Charitable Trust, Royal Textile Academy and RENEW attended the event. Her Royal Highness Ashi Euphelma Choden Wangchuck graciously consented to be the Patron of Red Dot Bhutan. Red Dot Bhutan is a campaign to raise awareness of issues relating to menstrual hygiene and address challenges related to menstruation faced by many girls and women in Bhutan



MoU signing between RENEW and Ministry of Education, RGoB to establish partnership to carry out Red Dot program Bhutan.

Foundation Day 2021



Coinciding with the event, Her Majesty the Gyalyum in her capacity as UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador launched the UNFPA State of the World Population Report 2021 on the theme 'My Body is My Own'



Her Royal Highness Ashi Euphelma Choden Wangchuck the Patron of Red Dot Bhutan issued a statement in support to promote menstrual hygiene



The inauguration of the bus for RENEW vocational center donated by Government of Japan was also held coinciding with the Founder's Day on 11th May 2022

LAUNCHING OF DAYS FOR GIRLS DIGNITY KIT

PILOTING MENSTRUAL HEALTH KIT



136
Girl
students
Engaged

RENEW and the Ministry of Education identified Genekha Lower Secondary School and Khabdrupchu Middle Secondary School to pilot menstrual health kit. 56 girl students from Genekha and 80 girl students in the age group 12 to 19 from Khabdrupchu School were provided with the menstrual health kits

On August 27th 2021, Her Excellency Lyonpo Dechen Wangmo, Health Minister graced the launch of 'Day for Girls' pilot project. This initiative aims to provide girls with access to washable menstrual health kit. The launch event was held at the Khasadrupchu Middle Secondary School in Thimphu on 27 August 2021.

The project is Funded by the Days for Girls Australia. The kits were distributed to 136 girls identified from rural parts of Thimphu – Genekha Lower Secondary School and Khasadrupchu Middle Secondary School. The Ministry of Education (MoE) will work along with RENEW and Days for Girls Australia to advocate and educate the young school-going girls on menstrual health and hygiene.

International Day for the Elimination of VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN 2021.

*Statement by Her Majesty the Queen Mother
Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck
International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, Paro
College of Education,
25 November 2021*



"It is indeed a pleasure to be here at the Paro College of Education to observe the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. Today, we are once again reminded of our responsibilities and obligations to build a future free of sexual and gender-based violence.

Violence against women has long been recognized as a global epidemic. Nearly 1 in 3 women around the world have been subjected to physical or sexual violence at least once in their lifetime. Sadly, the COVID-19 pandemic has escalated all forms of violence threatening decades of progress made in advancing the health and rights of women. Movement restrictions and lockdowns gravely impacted the ability of countries to respond to essential as well as sexual and reproductive health needs. Layoffs, loss of income and extended domestic stays have significantly driven up the incidence of domestic violence, abuse, sexual exploitation and teenage pregnancy at the global, regional and the national level. I was very concerned to learn that the domestic violence rate increased by almost 37%, in our own communities. The revelation that our homes are not the safest place for many women and children is not only disturbing but highly unacceptable. The high prevalence of violence against women and girls has always been one of my deepest concerns.

In my capacity as a UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador, I have advocated to end violence against women and spoken up for their sexual and reproductive health rights in various national, regional and international forums for over two decades. I am proud to be part of a team that has taken the initiative to do something about this unacceptable truth. Concerted efforts, strong partnerships and multi-sectorial responses have not only allowed us to touch the lives of hundreds of women and children in need but also enabled us to restore their dignity in a positive and productive manner.

Ladies and gentlemen, Preventing violence against women and girls is a shared responsibility. It requires a community-based, multi-pronged, sustained engagement with multiple stakeholders. If left unaddressed, the existing crisis of gender based violence and domestic violence is likely to worsen with multiple impacts on our health and wellbeing. Fundamental issues such as unmet sexual and reproductive health care if trivialized can prevent our women and girls from realizing their full potential in social, educational and economic spheres.

Lessons learnt from the COVID-19 experience clearly indicate that there is a need to improve access to support services for women suffering from violence. Prevention and protection of women and girls from gender-based and domestic violence must be an integral part of all national responses to pandemics and other emergencies. This is a critical time for women and girls and urgent action is needed.

I call upon the government, civil society and international organizations to invest in comprehensive, equitable and inclusive approaches to gender-based violence, which can be adapted to rapidly changing contexts. The unique needs of older women, women with disabilities and the LGBTQ plus community who are more susceptible to violence must be taken care of. We are deeply blessed as a nation to have been guided by His Majesty the King whose wise, compassionate and selfless leadership has ensured the safety and well being of our people during this unprecedented pandemic period.

I thank and commend Her Majesty The Gyaltsuen's noble initiative to build safe, comfortable shelters for vulnerable women and girls across the country. We owe a great debt of gratitude to Her Majesty for making mental health a national priority.

The social and economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic have sparked reactions of fear, depression, anxiety and worry affecting a significant number of individuals and families. Mental health has a crucial role in the primary prevention of sexual and gender-based violence. It is vital that we encourage conversations and address stigmas to ensure the well being of our society.

I commend the Ministry of Health, the NCWC, UNFPA, other development partners and volunteers for their concerted efforts to ensure continued essential services, care and support to our women and girls during the lock down period. It is reassuring to know that several innovative strategies are put in place today. Vulnerable women and children will now have better access to support and protection services when they require it the most. I am pleased to learn that the Paro College of Education has initiated an on line course on Comprehensive Sexuality Education and has also introduced a Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy. Such initiatives are not only relevant but essential to prepare young people for a safe, productive and fulfilling life ahead. While equipping children and young people with knowledge and skills the right attitude and values are indispensable. It is imperative to make them understand that use of force, violence and discrimination against women and girls are unacceptable. The consequences of violence in any form go beyond the visible and immediate scars. It shatters lives, devastates and disintegrates families and perpetuates an unsafe world for our children and their future generations.

I was deeply touched and impressed by the solidarity shown by our people serving in different capacities to combat the COVID-19 pandemic. Both key workers and volunteers have served their communities in exceptional- ways. I believe this strength can be applied to any crisis. It can also be nurtured and built upon to ensure a safe and secure environment for our vulnerable women and girls.

As the Patron of RENEW and UNFPA Goodwill Ambassador, I remain fully committed to end gender-based violence. It is my earnest belief, that violence against women can be prevented and eliminated if we make concerted and comprehensive efforts; if we give it the priority it deserves; if we genuinely believe that women and girls matter; and we truly value them.

I take this opportunity to thank the Government, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Allied Ministries, NCWC, our bilateral and multilateral development partners, civil society organizations, the private sector, volunteers and people across the nation who have contributed their time and effort for this worthy cause. I keenly look forward to sustained cooperation, progress and greater results.

I believe we are all responsible for creating a better tomorrow for our women and children. Each one of us must do our part to create a safe, resilient, peaceful and harmonious society. Finally, I thank each and every one of you for supporting this important event today"



International Day For The Elimination Of Violence Against Women 2021 was observed at Paro College of Education on the theme "Together we can end gender-based violence and promote psychological well-being". The global theme for the year 2021 was 'Orange the world: End violence against women now!'

The event was a joint collaboration between the Paro College of Education (PCE), National Commission for Women and Children - NCWC, Bhutan, and RENEW with support from UNFPA in Bhutan, UNDP Bhutan, JICA Bhutan Office.

Her Majesty the Queen Mother Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck, the Royal Patron of RENEW graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour. Her Royal Highness Ashi Euphelma Choden Wangchuck, national and international dignitaries and officials from partner organizations attended the joyous event.

Her Majesty the Queen Mother Gyalyum Sangay Choden Wangchuck, delivered a nationwide address to commemorate this momentous occasion.

The key highlights were:

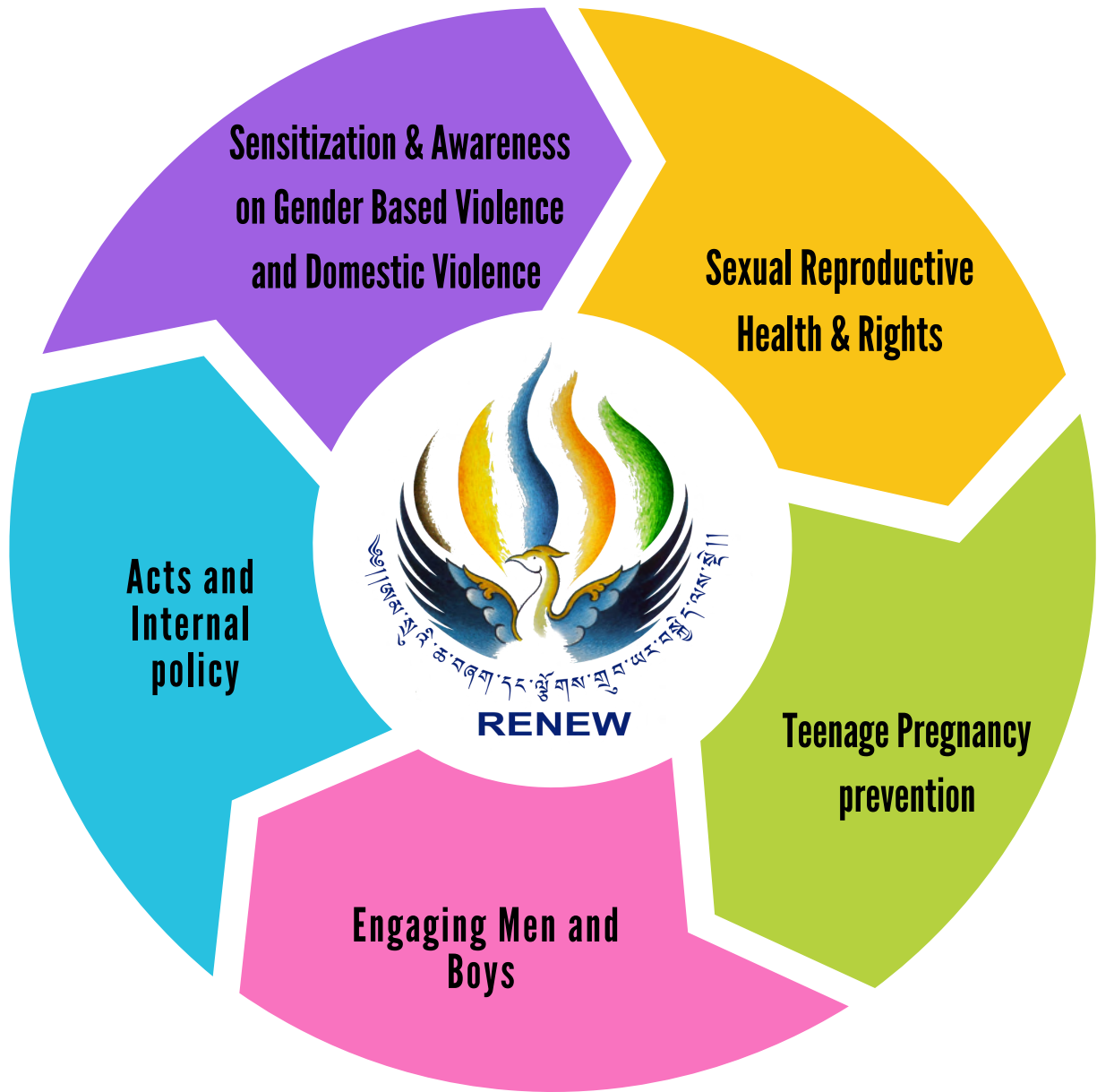
- 1) Launch of the Audio visual – We can do it! Nga Che Gyi Bay Tsub
 - 2) Launch of Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy and E-Module on Comprehensive Sexuality Education
 - 3) Impact Assessment report of COVID 19 and Mobile Apps
 - 4) Launch of Druk Global Positioning System (DGPS)
 - 5) Awarding of Prizes for Innovative livelihood Products.
-

RENEW's Community Volunteers

RENEW's Multi-Sectoral Task Force (MSTF) and Community Based Support System (CBSS) members in all 20 dzongkhags celebrated International Day for Elimination of violence against Women on 25th November. iDesire provided RENEW with the financial support.



Sensitization & Awareness



Sensitization
&
Awareness on GBV and DV



200 RTC students participated in the sensitization program on SRHR, April 2021.

RENEW in partnership with UNFPA conducted a series of sensitization workshops on the Sexual Reproductive Health Rights, Gender-based Violence, types of violence, the Marriage Act and Child Care and Protection Act.

The main focus was on ‘Bodily Autonomy’ the power to make choices over ones own body and future, without violence or coercion.

Officials from RENEW and UNFPA jointly conducted a session with the young undergraduates of Royal Thimphu College. Presentations on “Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in Bhutan” followed by a discussion on “Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights for young people” was held.

The same training session was also provided for taxi drivers, Thimphu Bikers and Bus conductors over a three day period.

Similarly, a four-day sensitization and awareness session was conducted for the women taxi drivers, Desuup Gojays, taxi drivers registered under Bhutan Red Cross Society, and the street hawkers at Gawaling Happy Home from 08th June to 11th June 2021.



10 members from Thimphu Badgers attended on the 16th of April.



18 Members of the Bhutan Taxi Association attended the session on 17th April.



22 City Bus service staff attended on the 18th of April.

After each training workshop, the participants came up with various ideas for advocacy materials on Gender-based violence prevention and ensuring Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights for all.



Female taxi drivers



15 super-zone Gojay (Captains/Leaders)



20 Red Cross Society taxi volunteers



20 Thimphu street vendors.

Likewise RENEW reached out to different target groups such as Taxi Association, Dessups and Thimphu Badgers with the objectives:

- To explore the potential of the participants to promote SRHR and GBV prevention

- To develop user friendly advocacy materials beyond posters, banners and brochures.

- To sensitize targeted groups on Sexual Reproductive Health Rights, Gender based Violence, types of violence, Marriage Act and on Child Care and Protection Acts.

- To encourage engagement and promote partnerships for vibrant community volunteers



Sensitization in Schools on 'Gender-based violence and Adolescent health'

With the current social issues such as an increase in the number of teenage pregnancies, child abuse, sexual abuse and domestic violence in the communities, RENEW aimed at disseminating accurate and informative messages to the youths, who are the agents of change and change-makers in the communities to spread awareness. A series of sensitization and awareness programs on gender-based violence and adolescent health covering pertinent social issues such as domestic violence, intimate partner violence and sexual and reproductive health and rights with the theme "**Empowerment, Leadership, Dignity for Girls**" was disseminated with financial support from DAI (Dignity Alliance International) and IPPF.

Sessions on DAISAN (Druk Adolescent Initiative for Sexual Awareness Network) were introduced to further strengthen the capacity of the students and the teacher coordinator in the selected schools.

THE PROGRAM WAS CONDUCTED IN

20 SCHOOLS

ENGAGED

7125 STUDENTS

RENEW also distributed a set of toolkits on Gender-Based Violence, Adolescent Health, HIV and mother and child Care for the school for roll out in the future to remind the students on domestic violence and SRHR. Books and color painting books were also donated to the school library. RENEW also donated a couple of posters with the advocacy messages on domestic violence and covid-19 for use in the school campus to make the students aware on how best they can address these issues.

Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights



Engagement
of young
people from
diverse
groups

National consultation meeting.

A key focus of RENEW's sensitization program in 2021 was to have tailor made programs with the key populations based on the needs of the key population.

One such program was held in August with 17 participants from the Queer Voices of Bhutan, Pride Bhutan, Red Purse, Lhaksam, drayangs and street vendors. The two day national consultation helped identify the issues faced by the groups in terms of GBV and SRHR issues and services. The groups also came up with a plan of action to address the challenges.

The objective of the meeting:

1. Understand barriers to accessing SRH services among key affected populations.
2. Understand sexual reproductive health needs and related policies for key affected populations
3. To contribute to the policy dialogue on key affected populations.



Strengthening SRH services

On October 28th 2021: RENEW Executive Director handed over a laptop for Adolescent Friendly Health Service (AFH) center at JDWNRH.

RENEW & Adolescent Friendly Health center believes in shared responsibility to strengthen the outreach and SRH services for the youth and adolescents,



Health and Awareness program.

To identify how best to ensure easy access to health services to the LGBTQA+ communities RENEW in partnership with the Adolescent Friendly Health Service Center (AFHS) conducted a "Health and Awareness" program with the members of QUEER Voices of Bhutan and Pride Bhutan with the theme "Celebrating Diversity" at Gyaltsuen Jetsun Pema Wangchuck Mother and Child Hospital on 21st December. This was possible with support from IPPF, South Asia Region and Campaign for Australian Aid.

TEENAGE PREGNANCY PREVENTION

To expand and strengthen MSTF-CBSS Network and to identify champions to carry out the roll-out training in their communities, RENEW in partnership with UNFPA initiated a series of workshops with Micro Finance institution members (MFI) and Non-Formal Education Instructors (NFEI) members.

Two days of training workshop on Teenage Pregnancy prevention was conducted for MFI and the NFEI of Punakha, Mongar and Thimphu Dzongkhags.

A total of 46 MFI members, 26 NFEI and 27 (Department of Road) DoR Workers were trained on GBV and SRHR toolkits.



TOTAL OF

1483

COMMUNITY MEMBERS WERE REACHED BY THE
IDENTIFIED CHAMPIONS.



Gender Norms on Sexual and Gender based Violence among men in Bhutan: a qualitative assessment

Engaging Men and Boys

With support from IPPF, a qualitative assessment of existing gender norms and attitudes on SGBV was conducted among men and boys from 3 districts (Paro, Thimphu & Chukha) in August & September 2021. This survey was conducted by iDruk consultancy.



OBJECTIVE

The study aimed to explore narrative accounts of men’s perceptions of SGBV and existing gender norms. By analyzing the beliefs about the causes of GBV, the study sought to complement existing quantitative data on the prevalence of and attitudes toward GBV and to inform future prevention efforts.

METHODOLOGY

The study adopted the qualitative method. A total of ten focus group discussions (FGDs) were held in Thimphu, Paro and Chukha. The recruitments for FGD participation were through convenience sampling. In terms of local community members, most of the participants were chosen randomly through communications with the local leaders of the respective community.

RESULTS

Research findings show that the FGD participants had a limited understanding of DV and SGBV. They only consider physical violence and rape cases as the only form of violence, emotional and psychological violence were not seen as violence by the participants. Participants were under the general notion that victims were only women and girls and that perpetrators were only men and boys.

TOTAL OF

180

PARTICIPANTS

PARTICIPANTS AGE

17-45

PERCEIVED RISK FACTORS FOR DV AND SGBV

The participants believed that the following factors are the root cause of DV and SGBV.

- 1) Financial Dependency.
- 2) Extra-marital affair.
- 3) Pornographic content.
- 4) Use of mobile phones and social media.
- 5) Influence of western culture
- 6) Substance and alcohol abusers.

CONCLUSION

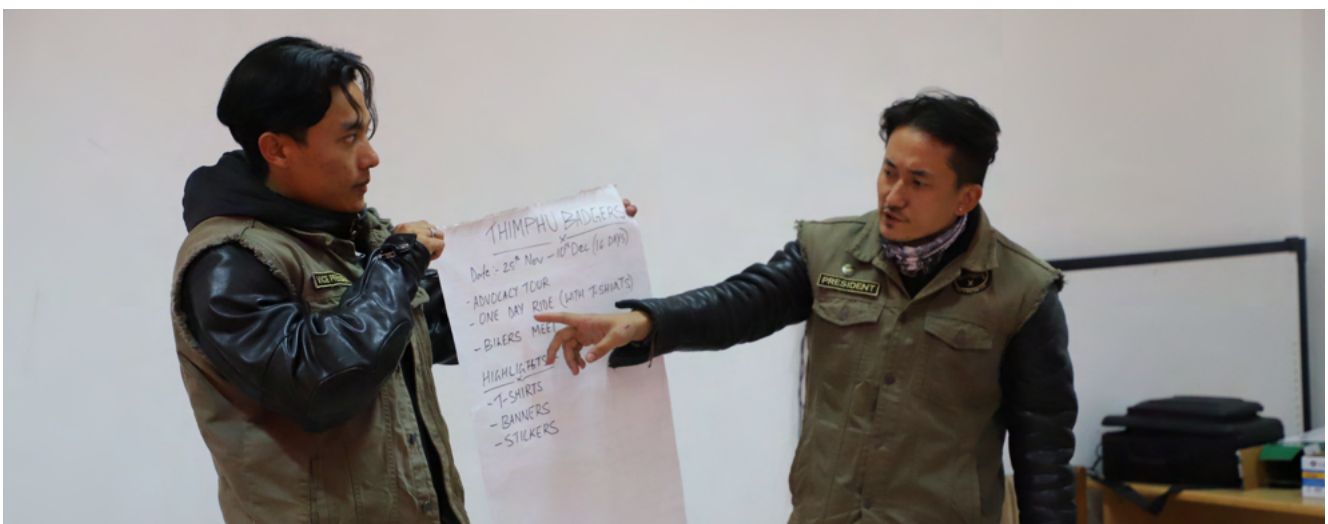
Although the study shows that most participants have a limited understanding of DV and SGBV, however an overwhelming number of responses from men and boys in the FGDs indicate there is an inclination and readiness to engage on issues of gender equality and prevention of SGBV in Bhutan.



Taxi Association, Thimphu Badgers and Film Association of Bhutan

With the findings and understanding of the perception of men on pre-existing gender norms and attitudes on SGBV, RENEW met with members from the Taxi Association, Thimphu Badgers and the Film Association of Bhutan.

The objective of the meeting was to create advocacy materials and an awareness campaign during the 16 days of activism (25th November to 10th December) to raise awareness on how men can be engaged as gender advocates, as active agents of change and stakeholders to transform social norms, behaviors and gender stereotypes that perpetuate discrimination and inequality.



Internal Reviews & Planning Meetings



Three-day annual review and planning meeting was held early April 2021. The meeting focused on the programmatic progress and the lessons learned; Operations and management with the objective to broaden our programmatic areas for more effective services; enhanced visibility; ensure financial sustainability and ensure strengthened team. The three day meeting was conducted with support from IPPF SARO.

Outcomes:

1. Development of 2021 program calendar for RENEW
2. Finalized RENEW monitoring and Evaluation policy
3. Standardized program templates.

Legal Initiative



RENEW signed an agreement with Bhutanese Legal Solutions, a boutique law firm based in Thimphu in November to kick start a legal aid program for vulnerable women.

This is the first such initiative in the country, which aims at enhancing access to legal representation for vulnerable women who cannot afford a lawyer.

Legal representation entails a Legal Counsel appearing before court proceedings on behalf of a client (vulnerable women in this case), drafting pleadings that are incidental to the court proceedings and interviewing and preparing witnesses in consultation with the client.

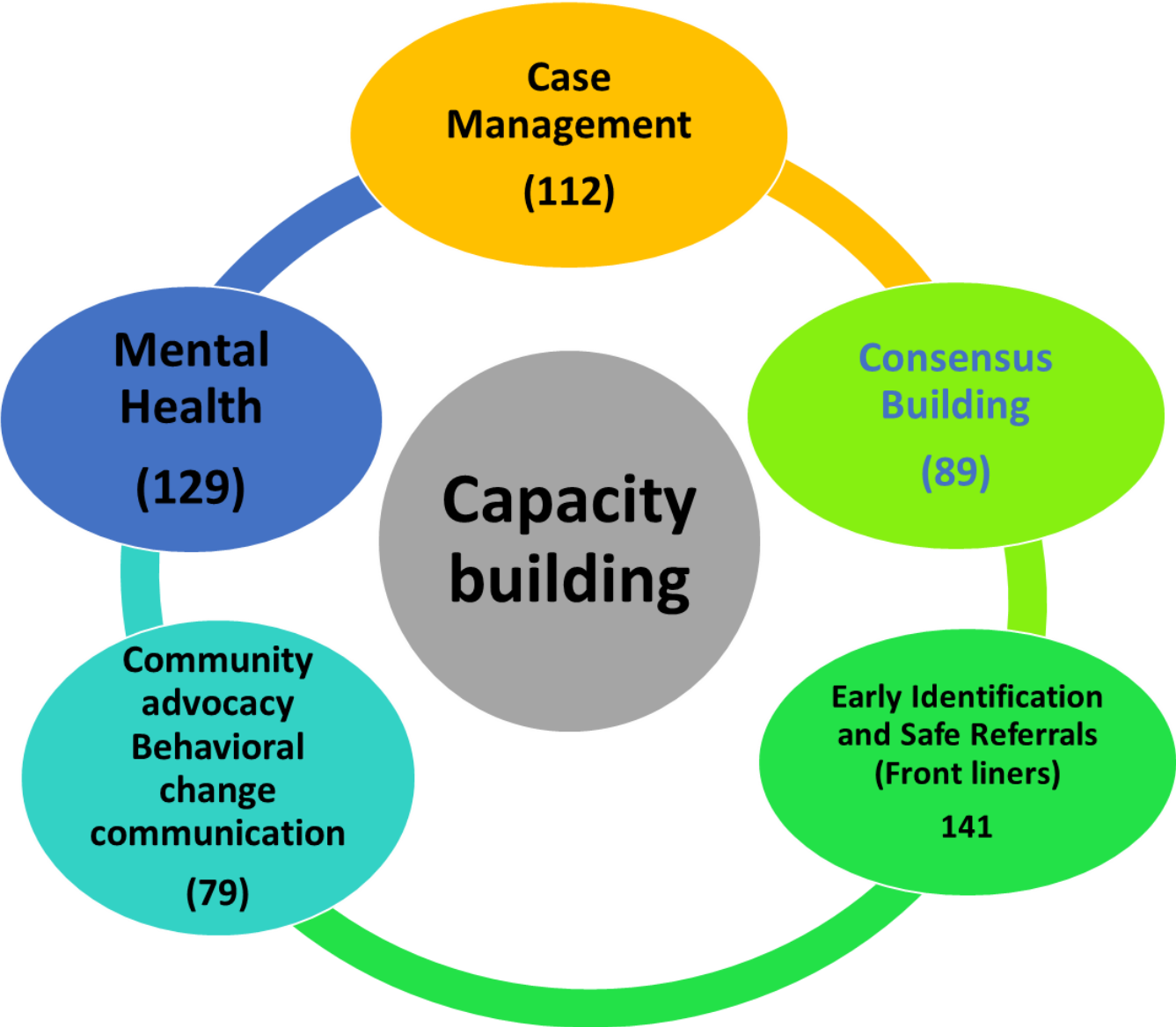
Although at present there are many types of free legal advice and services being offered by different agencies, entities, and individuals, legal representation by way of legal aid in an institutionalized manner is not available.



Institutional Partnership Between RENEW and JSW School of Law's Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Clinic.

As a part of experiential learning through clinical legal education initiated by Jigme Singye Wangchuck school of Law, four students from JSW Law's ADR Clinic underwent internship with RENEW for practical application of their theoretical learnings. The students got an opportunity to work with clients and they have developed confidentiality guideline for the happy home.

Capacity Building Trainings



Mental Health Facilitators Trainings



Capacity development for Counselors and CBSS Case managers

To support and strengthen the counselling services reach to adolescents and women who are affected by gender based violence and sexual violence, a total of 59 participants were trained through Mental Health Facilitators Training (MHF).

From 2nd to 6th September, 32 counsellors from 32 schools from 11 Dzongkhags successfully completed 30 hours of training sessions in Bumthang. Different topics such as child abuse, child protection, mental health issues, trauma response, suicide prevention, human health development, sexual reproductive health and facilitation in crisis, disasters, abuse and violence and other related issues were covered. The main objective of the training was to reduce the gap between mental health care needs and resources in the community and complement existing care resources to increase mental health services for underserved and never-served communities.

The second batch of the training conducted in September was attended by 27 participants from different agencies (Youth, CSOs and government agencies) and Desuup Gojays (leaders of national social service). Desuup Gojays are front liners deployed during national emergencies such as the COVID 19 pandemic for monitoring and patrolling in the communities. They are also the first point of contact for the people in the communities.



Strengthening services for women and girls with disabilities through partnership with CSOs and institute of deaf.

As part of efforts to strengthen the capacity of service providers who attend to people with disabilities and survivors of violence, RENEW in collaboration with the Bhutan Board for Certified Counselors organized a facilitators training on Sexual gender based violence and mental health. 20 participants from CSOs such as Draktsho, Disability Peoples Organization, Ability Bhutan Society, Phensem Parents Association and Wangsel Institute of Deaf in Paro attended the five day training held in November in Thimphu. These participants are spread across the nation working in different capacities. After the completion of the SGBV and MHF training, these trainees will be front liners to respond to violence in their respective workplace more professionally.

Understanding the Mental Health and Helping Skill

On 7th -8th December 2021, RENEW in collaboration with Draktsho and the SEN (Special Education Needs) school organized two batches of 3-day training on 'Understanding the Mental Health and Helping Skill workshop for 51 constituting caregivers, person with disabilities and officials from the agencies. It was held at Gawaling Happy Home, Wangsisina, Thimphu.

The main aim of the program is to make them aware of the issues related to GBV and SRHR and also self-care management. The most important was the parenting session for those parents and the caregivers.



25 participants from Draktsho attended the 1st batch of the three-day program held in December at Gwaling Happy Home, Wangsisina. The 2nd batch had 26 participants from SEN school in Changangkha, Thimphu.



Sensitization & awareness program was organized for 27 workers from Department of Road (DoR) in Paro Dzongkhag.

Awareness program on the issues of gender based violence and sexual reproductive health & rights was first time for the participants. The sessions provided them with the opportunity to discuss social and health issues they are experiencing and the related legal provisions. The participants are aware of prevention measures and services that they avail in case of emergency.

Community Advocacy, behavioral change Communication and Gender Based Violence

To ensure robust community-led support interventions and strengthen networking between the MSTF-CBSS members in addressing domestic violence and gender-based violence in the rural and unreached Communities.

RENEW in collaboration with the Ministry of Health initiated a 'Community Advocacy Behavioral change communication and Gender-based Violence training with support from Asian Development Bank (ADB). The program also explored ways on strengthening collaboration between local leaders at grassroots and MSTF-CBSS network at district level to reach the unreached populations in keeping with the sustainable development goals of leaving behind and National Key Result Areas (NKRAs).

Community Advocacy Behavioral change communication and Gender based Violence' reached out to 75 MSTF-CBSS members constituting Health officers, Gewog Administration Officers and CBSS volunteers from Dagana, Bumthang, Zhemgang, Trongsa, Trashigang, Mongar, Trashiyangtse, Pemagatshel Dzongkhags.



The **first batch** was conducted from 5th -8th August for 27 participants (17 female and 10 male) constituting 6 Gewog administrative officers (GAOs) and MSTF-CBSS members in Kanglung, Trashigang. The closing of program was graced by Dasho Dzongda. MSTF-CBSS members pledged to contribute towards addressing gender based violence issues in their dzongkhag.

The **second batch** of training continued from 10th-13th August 2021 at Deothjung, Trashigang where another batch of 27 (10 female & 17 male) MSTF-CBSS members from 4 Dzongkhags (Mongar, Pemagatshel, Bumthang and Trashiyangtse) attended the training. There were 6 participants from each Dzongkhag constituting Dzongkhag health officers, CBSS focal and Gewog administrative officers.

The **third batch** of training workshop was held at Rinchenling Guest house in Bumthang for 25 MSTF-CBSS members (14 males and 11 female) from Dagana, Trongsa, Zhemgang and Bumthang dzongkhags.

On the last day of workshop Dasho Dzongda graced with her presence to welcome the members. She expressed her appreciation for all the works of MSTF-CBSS are doing in the community and encouraged them to keep up the work. Dasho also committed to supporting the cause.

The **4th batch** training workshop was conducted virtually on 1st-2nd October 2021 for 45 participants (22 female and 23 male) from Samdrup Jongkhar Dzongkhag. The participants constituted school principals, school counsellors, teachers and MSTF-CBSS members. Since the Dzongkhag was under the red zone for long time, the workshop proved to be very important. The MSTF-CBSS members were able to visit all the gewogs with the advocacy messages and most important they could contact community people during difficult time due to pandemic.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS FROM THE WORKSHOP

Chart out action plan for roll out of trainings in the community by the participants

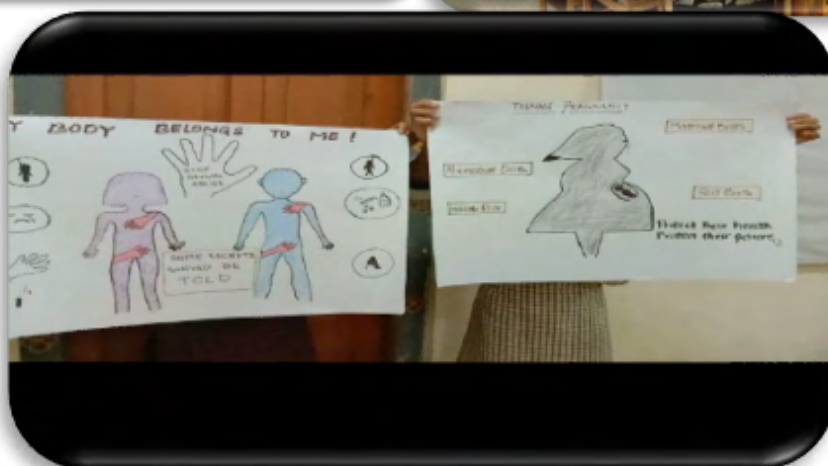
Able to bring the most important key stakeholder together to Collaborate and further strengthen the network

Garnered commitments from the key stakeholders for implementation of programs to respond to the needs of vulnerable population

Implementation of action plan by the members who attended the training workshop on community advocacy

DAGANA & ZHEMGANG

As committed by the members, awareness and sensitisation programs were carried for students of Dagapela MSS, Gesarling CS and Gangzor PS under Dagana dzongkhag, and Zhemgang LSS and Zhemgang CS. The students were made aware of Teenage pregnancy, gender based violence and trafficking in person.



SAMDRUP JONGKHAR & TASHIGANG

The members in Samdrup Jongkhar reached out to 9527 people across 12 gewogs including Thromde. Awareness and sensitization was also carried out in schools and communities.

Sl/No	Gewogs	Male	Female	Total gender wise
1	Orong	569	542	1111
2	Gomdar	426	547	973
3	Wangphu	174	207	381
4	Martshalla	458	439	897
5	Pemathang	138	181	319
6	Phuntshothang	747	755	1502
7	Samrang	25	17	42
8	Deothang	272	297	569
9	Lhanchenphu	266	230	496
10	Serthi	353	403	756
11	Lauri	144	154	298
12	Thromde/Deothang SamdrupJongkhar	1010	1173	2183
	Total population reached	4582	4945	9527

SL #	Name of gewogs	Number of Participants
1	Kanglung	55
2	Kangpar	38
3	Merak	37
4	Bidung	38
5	Sakteng	50
6	Radhi	48
7	Shongphu	49
8	Udzorong	46
9	Lumang	65
10	Khaling	61
11	Yangneer	46
12	Bartsham	40
13	Thrimshing	45
14	Phongmey	55
15	Samkhar	60
	Total	733

Trashigang MSTF-CBSS members reached out to 733 people in 15 Gewogs. They carried out awareness program on adolescent health, HIV/AIDS, mother and child health, gender based violence and alcohol harm reduction using the four teaching tools on the subjects.

COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION INITIATIVES



CONSULTATIVE MEETING WITH MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

On November 16th, 2021, a consultative meeting between Ministry of Education and RENEW was held to strengthen interagency collaboration and service delivery for children and adolescents in schools. The two will focus on major areas of collaboration to inform, educate and empower children and adolescents. Twenty 20 priority schools were identified where RENEW in close partnership with the MoE will conduct CSE programs.



GUIDELINE PACKAGE FOR COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION

RENEW representatives attended a five-day workshop to develop a training guidelines package for Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) implementation in schools in Punakha from 27th November to 1st December 2021. The workshop was organized by School Health & Nutrition Division, Ministry of Education with support from UNFPA.



Three day workshop on ‘Comprehensive Sexuality Education Facilitation’ was conducted for 20 priority school counselors in December 2021. This program was funded by IPPF SGBV-CSE & UNFPA.

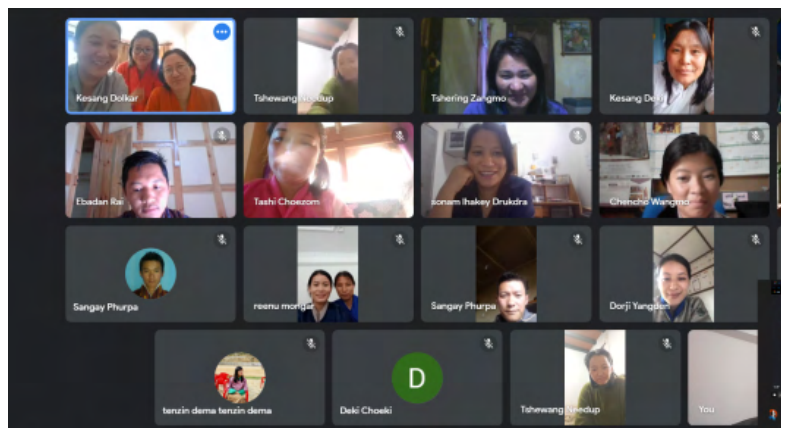
OUTCOME

A series of rollout sessions in their respective schools were planned out. The guidance counsellors suggested rollout sessions of CSE to the parents before rolling out in schools as they believe that the parents need to have basic knowledge of it, which will make it easier for the counsellors to integrate CSE with students in schools.

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE ON GENDER BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE AND EARLY IDENTIFICATION AND SAFE REFERRAL

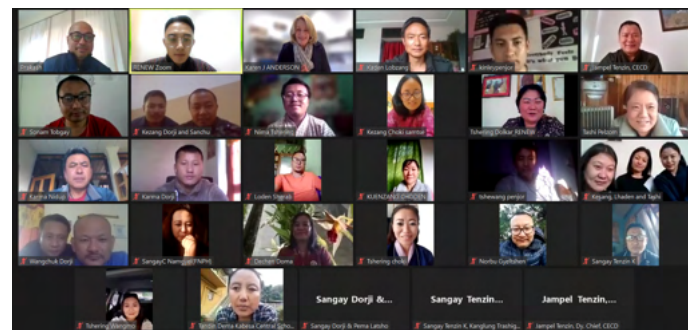


In order to train all RENEW CBSS volunteers as frontline responders to GBV and Child Protection concerns, a two day rollout training on Standard Operating Procedure on Gender Based Violence Prevention and Response, and Early Identification and Safe Referral, a virtual training was spread over 6 batches and trained over 141 (82 Female; 59 Male) registered CBSS volunteers across the country. The training was facilitated by RENEW with support from UNICEF.



CLINICAL SUPERVISION TRAINING

The Clinical Supervision Training(Level-1) for counseling Supervisors was conducted by BBCC (Bhutan Board for Certified Counsellors) in collaboration with Edith Cowan University (ECU), Perth, Australia.



The core objective of the supervision training was to strengthen the capacities of social service workforce to provide quality and inclusive child care protection and GBV services. A total of 34 counseling professionals at a supervisory level across different fields attended the training virtually. The participants were mostly School Guidance Counsellors, Lecturers from Royal University of Bhutan and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). The four day training was facilitated by Dr. Karen Anderson, Professor, ECU and Dr. Sonam Peldon, Lecturer, ECU.

CONSENSUS BUILDING INITIATIVE TRAINING

Consensus Building initiative (CBI) is a dispute resolution method designed to provide individuals involved in certain type of dispute, access to a facilitated process by which they can resolve their dispute amicably, and sustainably. Consensus Building Initiative is one of the special services that a client can choose to solve their disputes. The consensus builder shall work closely with Case Manager to meet the requirement of National Standard Operating Procedure on Gender Based Violence. A five day training was rolled out in three dzongkhags from 6th- 24th September 2021. The program was supported by The Asia Foundation



FIRST BATCH 6TH -10TH SEPT

Rollout training in Mongar

The first batch of rollout training in Mongar was conducted with 36 participants(19 female and 17 male) consisting of 16 local government (Gewog Administrative Officers), RENEW Community Volunteers (MSTF-CBSS members), RBP Officials, and Legal Officials and Health officials of the Dzongkhag.



SECOND BATCH 14TH-18TH SEPT

Rollout training in Lhuntse

The second batch of rollout training on the Consensus Building Initiative in Lhuntse was conducted at Phayul Resort, Autsho. 29 participants (16 males and 13 females) including officials from RBP, Local government(Gewog Administrative Officer), School Counselors, and Health officials. Dasho Dzongda graced the opening and the closing ceremony of thw workshop.



THIRD BATCH 20TH- 24TH SEPT

Rollout training in Trashigang

The third batch of rollout training on the Consensus Building Initiative in Trashigang was conducted for 24 participants (12 female and 12 males) consisting of local government (Gewog Administrative Officer), MSFT-CBSS member secretary, RENEW Community Volunteers (MSTF-CBSS members) of the Dzongkhag.

Gender Based Violence Case Management



RENEW with support from UNICEF Bhutan successfully conducted 3 batches of Gender-Based Violence Case Management Training for the MSTF-CBSS volunteers. The training took place in Paro in August, in Bumthang in September, and in December in Punakha.



The training saw

112

Participants

Paro, Haa, Thimphu, Trongsa, Bumthang, Mongar, Zhemgang, Lhuntse, TrashiYangtse, Trashigang, PemaGatshel, Punakha, Dagana, Gasa, Chukha, Wangdi Phodrang and Tsirang.

The main objective:

The main objective of the training was to standardize case management procedures for gender-based violence (GBV) cases and provide case management services to survivors of GBV including during emergencies in line with the guidelines and the Standard Operating Procedures on GBV.



Four days of training on GBV Case management for the MSTF-CBSS volunteers were held in Paro and Bumthang. The participants consisted of a wide range of volunteers from different professions. The training focused on the set of standards for the quality, compassionate care for GBV survivors and provision of case management services. GBV case management is a globally recognized response to GBV and a structured method for providing help to a survivor.

Life Skill Education

An Initiative with Monastic institutions



A sexual harassment (SH) prevention guideline for Monastic Institutions workshop was organized at IMS in Thimphu from 9th August 2021. 14 participants were invited from religious organizations including Nuns for 5 day workshop.



Review of Life Skills Educations (LSE) modules for Monastic Institutions

10 national experts from Religious Organizations came together to review 42 modules on LSE for monastic institutions. They have come up with final draft of revised LSE for further consultation with the key stakeholders. The modules on LSE has been a part of monastic training program for those institutions who were initially engaged in the training workshops on gender based violence and sexual reproductive health and rights. Considering its importance and relevance in today's day to day practice, the religious organizations have come forth to support the efforts to address sexual & gender based violence in the country. The LSE will also be used by the religious organizations to disseminate messages on health and social priorities during their discourse for healthy growth of the community.



Training for trainers on LSE in progress.

ToT was held at Trashiyangtse for 26 participants from 9 Religious organizations.

Two of the monastic institutions - Goekar Tashi Thongjaling & Rangjung Foundation successfully rolled out the LSE in their institutions as per their action plan.





DRUK GPS

A LIFE SAVING TECHNOLOGY



In 2021, Druk GPS in collaboration with RENEW provided training to 835 Bhutanese citizens as a protection measure during the pandemic. The team supported service providers in saving lives and protecting women and children in distress situations.

Druk GPS team has carried their Awareness Program to 10 Dzongkhags, Thimphu, Paro, Trongsa, Bumthang, Lhuntse, Mongar, Trashiyangtse, Trashigang, Pemagatshel and Zhemgang.

On 19th October 2021: Druk GPS team trained 23 RENEW staff on the coordination System. Similar training was held at RENEW Gawaling Happy Home. where they trained 50 participants.

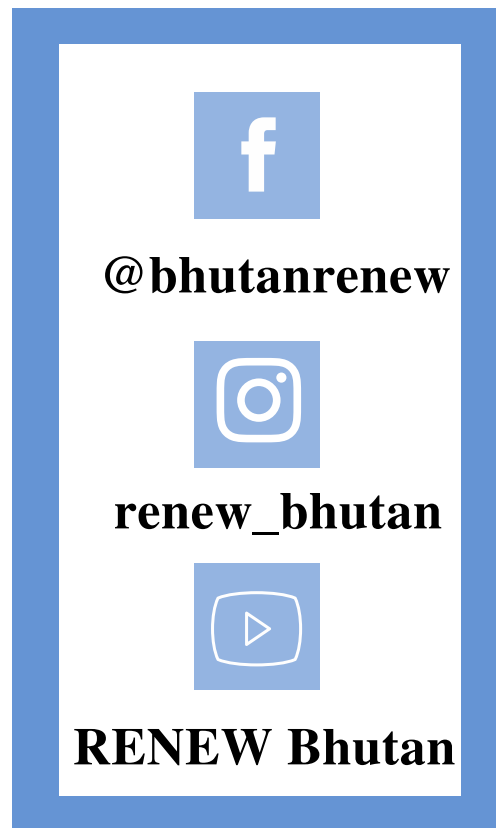


COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES AND CAMPAIGNS

As a Civil society organization, it is necessary to build trust and visibility between the organization and the public.

EXPRESSION THROUGH ART AND LITERATURE

Creative writing, art work and film making are ways to open the door to express ourselves and what we're experiencing. Writing down our thoughts, drawing our emotions and capturing it through artist lenses can serve to transform the intangibility of emotions and experiences into something more. They serve as a way for us to make our feelings tangible and real. There competitions were held in Royal Thimphu College, College of Natural Resources and Sherubtse to enhance awareness and involve the youth.



EXPRESSION THROUGH WORDS

My Body is my Own Essay competition-Royal Thimphu College

The competition was held on the following theme:-

1. Factors influencing Bhutanese Youth on sexual and re-productive health decision.
2. Whose responsibility is it to teach comprehensive Sexuality Education? Parents or teachers and why?
3. How do you define a healthy relationship between partners?

Root of a Healthy Relationship

"These days we see many young girls being the victim of rape, child pregnancy, social humiliation and one of the reasons why our young girls drop out from schools. I feel it is because when they are in a relationship, there is a lack of consent. It is true that once people are in a relationship, they often get physical and sometimes they lack each other's consent, whether they are ready or not for that physical relationship. Not only are the girls victimized but even the boys too"



Sarita Poudel.
BA in English Studies.
Royal Thimphu college.



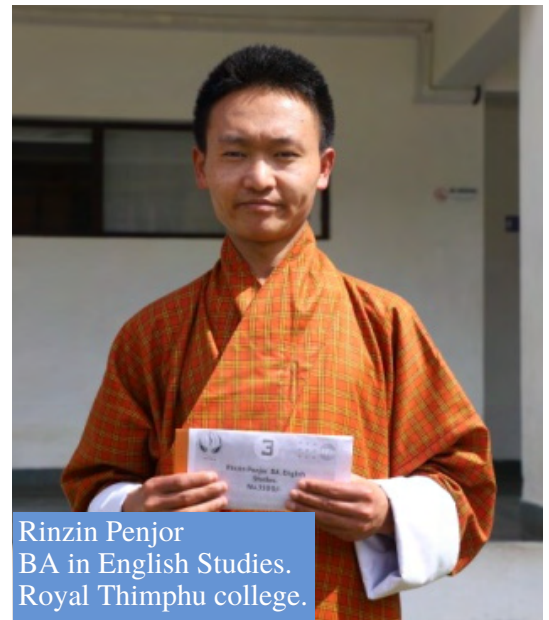
Yam Kumar Poudel
BA Mass Communication.
Royal Thimphu college.

Whose responsibility is it to teach children about Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE)?

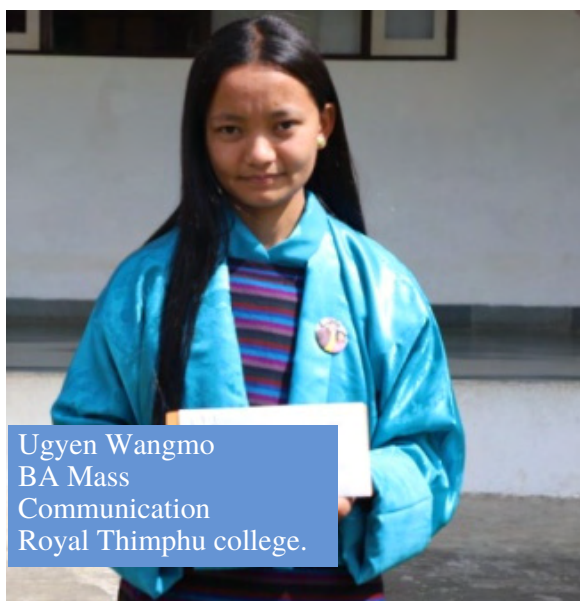
"CSE if incorporated by parents at home and teachers at school, children will learn core values such as tolerance and respect for each other. On a daily basis, a child spends six hours on average with teachers at school and approximately eight hours with parents back at home"

Understanding each other in a healthy relationship

"The bond between partners guided by the principles of healthy relationship is the most beautiful sacred knot of care and love that no man can undo. Healthy relationship is the very foundation of love, harmony and everlasting peace between partners. This type of relationship is necessary for lasting marriage bond, deepening understanding and joyful marriage life. In fact, no love between partners can be considered as true without the elements of healthy relationship. Healthy relationship can be defined by less expectation from one's partner, taking up equal responsibility and tolerance towards each other."



Rinzin Penjor
BA in English Studies.
Royal Thimphu college.



Ugyen Wangmo
BA Mass
Communication
Royal Thimphu college.

Understanding each other in a healthy relationship

"Being in a relationship with loved one makes people happy but being in a healthy relationship makes them happier. In life, people meet different individuals at different times for various reasons. Some people treat them right and some don't. In order to have a long-lasting and respectful relationship, it is vital to have a healthy relationship between partners; romantic partners, couples, and also between friends. Like two hands needed to make a round of applause, both partners need to work together to have a strong- healthy relationship. One-sided effort in the relationship does not last long."



RYoesel Choden
BA.Mass
Communication
Royal Thimphu college.

Consent in a healthy relationship

"Being in a relationship means thinking about happiness and giving consent. This will make the relationship of a person staying in be happy and safe. Giving consent plays a major role in a relationship because consent shows if the person is feeling secure with the partner, and the partner who is waiting for the consent gets a firm no or a hesitant no, the partner should understand and back away"

Communicating in a Healthy Relationship

"Having a healthy sexual relationship is always required. This would avoid unnecessary teenage pregnancy, conflicts between partners and misunderstanding. It should be comfortable to discuss and resolve any matters that is concerning. This is because healthy relationship depends upon the needs of each individual. Therefore, it is important to have open communication and must resolve the issues together."



Migma Dema Ghishing.
BA Mass Communication.
Royal Thimphu college.

Expression Through Art Poster competition -College of Natural Resources-



Theme: Education, Empowerment, Leadership and dignity of girls

Art has the power to tell stories, change perspectives, and help unite communities on various causes and issues. We can use art to engage people in dialogue about a particular cause or idea that is important to us or others in our community.

The Poster Competition on the theme 'Education, Empowerment, Leadership and dignity of girls' was organized by RENEW with support from Dignity Alliance International (DAI) for the students of College of Natural Resources on the theme Education, Empowerment, Leadership and Dignity for girls The top three winners were:-



1st Prize winner Yeshey Pelden.
Masters in Development Practice



2nd Prize Winner Tashi Tshering.
Master in Development practice



3rd Prize Winner Karma Yeshi.
Master in Development practice

Together we can stop violence against Children (VAC): We Must – Stop Sexual VAC: Every child matters: Child safety, Our responsibility

Bhutan continued to experience trends that indicated an increase in the cases of sexual violence against children in the country. The Ministry of Health recorded 330 cases of child & teenage pregnancy in 2020. As per reports a total of 237 cases have been recorded in 17 dzongkhags across the country. Thimphu has the highest number of child & teenage pregnancy with 55 cases followed by Chukha with 30 cases, Trashigang with 20 cases, Mongar & Wangdue with 18 cases each, Paro with 16 cases, Sarpang with 13 cases, and Bumthang and Samdrup Jongkhar recorded 12 and 9 cases respectively. RENEW received several new cases of sexual abuse post lockdown.

RENEW with support from UNICEF organized 9 episodes through TV talk show raising young people's awareness on their rights and responsibilities through an interactive, engaging and entertaining platform. A popular actor Tandin Sonam hosted the talk show. The program invited guest of Honour in every episode starting from Policy maker to Religious Leader, service providers, children, parents and caregivers to discuss violence against children and preventive measures that needs to be in place. His excellency, Dr. Tandin Dorji, Minister of Foreign Affairs who is also the chairperson for National Commission for Women and Children graced the first episode and concluded with auspicious presence of Tsugla Lupon from Dratshang Lhentshog. The awareness program continued through radio to reach out to those in rural areas.

BAYTSHUB

WE CAN

Since it was in our local language and hosted by a popular actor, people across the country watched the program. The reach was more through social media viewers have appreciated and commented on the program as much sought for TV program.



Messages to our parents and caregivers:

- As parents and caregivers, listen to children, monitor what children are doing and guide them.
- Don't leave them on their own.
- Give children quality time. Reach out to service providers for support.
- There are experts who can help you and your child. Do not stay silent, report cases.
- As children, learn what are the risks of sexual violence.
- Know what good touch and bad touch is. Do not keep quiet about violence.
- Talk to someone you trust if you feel uncomfortable or experience sexual violence. Or call the help lines: NCWC -1098: RBP- 112; RENEW -17126353

EXPRESSION THROUGH FILM: SHORT DOCUMENTARY COMPETITION.

Sherubtse

A short documentary competition was held in Sherubtse college among RENEW youth volunteers DAISAN -Ypeer. The competition aimed to enable groups of youth to produce a short advocacy film, which will help them explore gender and SRHR issues affecting them in their college life.

The theme for the competition were:-

SRHR – Teenage pregnancy

GBV – Healthy and unhealthy relationship.



Team: Tale Of Woe

"While making a short documentary video about GVB, I have comprehended what GVB means and how the social stigma is being influenced.

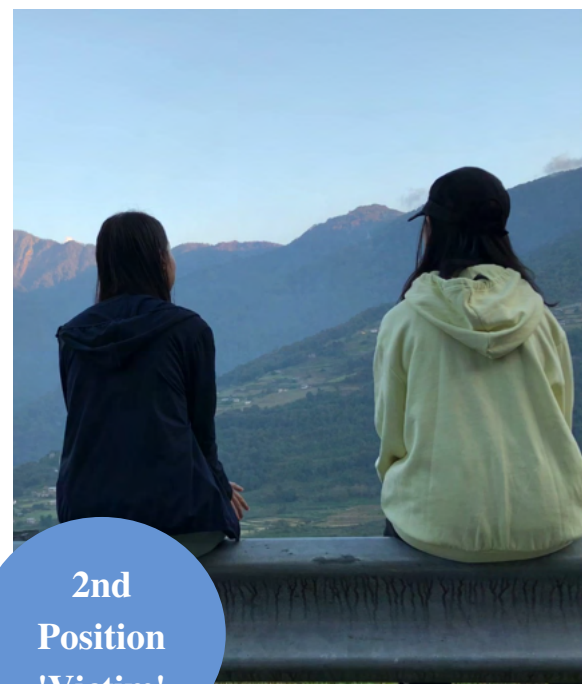
Sexual harassment can be through physical contact, social media, eve-teasing and through body language or signs. Sexual harassment can happen to both females and males but most probably sexual harassment is happening to young female teenagers.

"Girls aren't toys which are found in the market or a chewing gum where we throw after the sweetness is finished."

Team: Victim

"Initially, when the three of us came together as a team and started to discuss the script on Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV), our focus was only on the competition. However, when we contributed each one of our ideas to come up with the script, it turned out to be more than just a mere competition. We came up with a story of a girl who was raped before she could comprehend the meaning of rape, later coming to realize she was attracted towards women when she was growing up to one from a young, innocent, and vulnerable girl. That's when I felt a strong urge for this story to be known and watched by everyone, especially the young girls out there.

Shooting the documentary was the favorite part for me. I am always amazed and I idolize how stories can take different forms. Stories can change mindsets. I hope the documentary made a difference, though it might be just a speck"





Team: What is GBV?

"This documentary contest gave us a platform to explore gender-based violence in its depth and the factors that lead to it. Moreover, it gave us an opportunity to experience to write a script and be on screen, and work with members having unique capabilities. This diversity brought us together into working together and presenting a documentary on one of the sensitive issues that prevail in our society."

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD

Digital generation, Our generation.

Due to gender gaps in digital literacy and access, young vulnerable girls are at risk of online predators, harassment, abuse and cyberbullying. It falls to the hands of CSO, media and IT cooperation's, youth leaders and social media influencers to bring light to the issues and educated the masses on the matter, irrespective of gender.

On 11 October, 2021, to observe the International day and create an online conversation on the subject, RENEW collected statements and opinion from IT experts, social media influencers and youth leaders on? What are the rising issues/ concern and challenges in Bhutan in terms of digital literacy and online exposure?



**ZULKEE CHODEN RINZIN
MEDIA RELATION OFFICER
FOR THIMPHU THROMDE.**

We need to always check our privacy settings and adjust them according to our needs. There are also several online guides we can refer to on how we can protect ourselves and ensure that our data isn't used against us. As women, we need to empower and help each other navigate the digital world without fear.



**PEMA CHODEN
YOUTH ADVOCATE ON SRHR**

Digital platforms are a lifeline for all young people. Leveraging on technologies and the right usage gives us the opportunity to drive innovation and creativity which can slowly promote orange and digital economy in Bhutan.

**SONAM DEKI
THE FOUNDER FOR WOKE CULTURE**

Online platforms are used to spread hate, including heinous sexual comments. Obviously, they do not know about the cyberlaw and think they can get away with it. Lack of awareness on the proper and safe use of the internet. The proper use of the internet and knowledge of how to protect yourself online must be taught to our youth at school, along with the consequences of breaking cyber laws.



**RINCHEN NIKSUM DORJI
CO-FOUNDER, WOKE CULTURE**



There are complaints of online sexual harassment, hate comments and even the exchange of child pornography. While many have started creating fake accounts, there are instances where pictures are posted on social media to lure the victim for money or fame. Such pictures are posted on various groups on Facebook to character assassinate the victim who might then fall prey to mental trauma. Not to forget, the issues of online fraud and transactions.

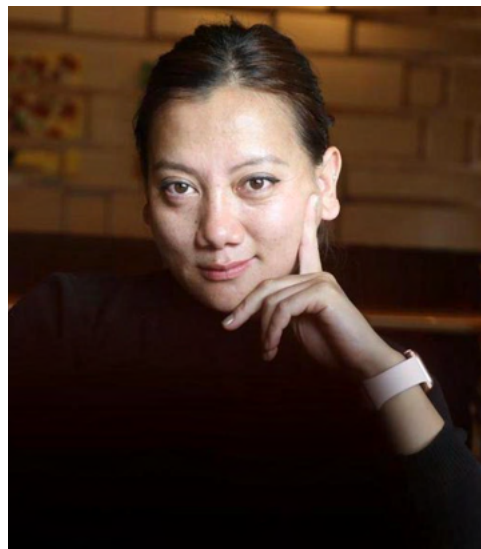


**YESHI LHENDUP
FILMMAKER**

I personally think that women and girls are always safer in our beautiful country. Yes, the risk is more when they are using online platforms. One can meet anyone or visit any platforms online so; there are many cases of people luring young girls into illicit activities. As said before, if used well, the online platforms are miracle. Women and young girls can use it as a platform to raise their voices.

**TSSHERING DENKAR
TRAVEL BLOGGER AND VLOGGER**

Lack of cyber security and literacy concerns me. Millennials misusing digital platforms, elderly exposing the vulnerable minorities online and youth's engagement into cyber bullies. In order to overcome the pertaining issues concern stakeholders should advocate on digital literacy to ensure young people feel safe and included in online platforms.



**YESHEY CHODEN
BHUTAN'S FIRST SATELLITE ENGINEER**

It is a grave concern that many of us are not digitally literate and thus become vulnerable to online risks. Especially, young girls fall victim to sexual cyber crimes endangering their personal safety and well-being. In addition, girls are also exposed to unhealthy content about their body, fashion, diet and lifestyle. This creates unrealistic standards for living and being a young woman. It further leads to mental health issues such as depression and anxiety.





**KUENZANG DEMA
YEEWONGBHUTAN
CREATIVE CONSULTANT**

Every rose has its thorn, the internet has its advantages but it has its disadvantages too. Some of the cons of the internet would be trolling, cyber bullying, stalking, identity theft and scamming out of this sharing or promoting pornographic and violent images of young women has been a serious issue.

**ALISHA GURUNG
THE SYSTEM ENGINEER
FOR BHUTAN TELECOM.**

We see a lot of younger generations hooked on to the internet. Social media requires an individual to attain a certain age for them to have an account but we see a lot of them already with an account. This only leads to more cyber bullying, online sexual harassment and more. This issue is not only evident in the younger generation but also among women and other adults who lack digital literacy.



**KINLEY PHUB
THE FOUNDER OF YOUNG GIRLS' CIRCLE.**

In the digital age, the right to digital literacy is every child's basic right. Digital Literacy therefore becomes inevitable to create awareness on the safe and constructive use of digital devices and the internet to dwindle the exposure of young girls to online risk.



JITSHEN RIKA
YOUNG LIFESTYLE VLOGGER

To advocate safety for women online, I believe one should be properly educated on cyber safety through educational classes in schools and awareness campaigns. Simple actions such as leaving one's webcam on can be a big threats so such does's and don'ts should be properly channeled towards women.



YANGCHEN LHAMO
YEEWONGBHUTAN
MARKETING EXECUTIVE

Online platforms are used to spread hate, including heinous sexual comments. Obviously, they do not know about the cyberlaw and think they can get away with it. Lack of awareness on the proper and safe use of the internet. The proper use of the internet and knowledge of how to protect yourself online must be taught to our youth at school, along with the consequences of breaking cyberlaws.

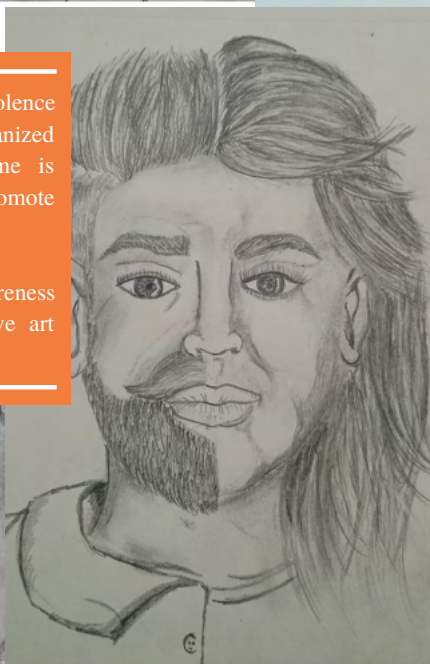


SOCIAL MEDIA ART COMPETITION



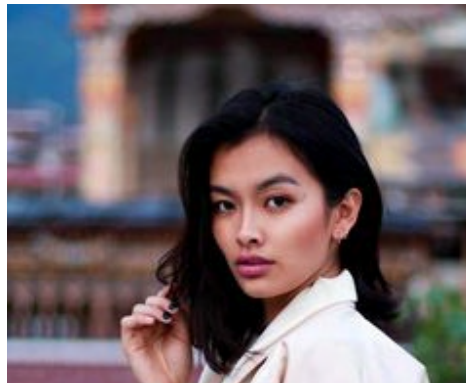
To observe International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women, RENEW with support from iDesire organized a social Media Art Competition on the local theme is "Together, We Can Stop Gender Based Violence and Promote psychological wellbeing"

The competition was organized in order to raise awareness towards ending gender based violence through creative art form.



Voicing out against Gender-Based Violence

RENEW observed the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (25th November- 10th December 2021) by sharing collection of statement and opinions from social media influencers, youth leaders, inspiring entrepreneurs and artist.



"The stigma associated with gbv and mental well- being can stop women from addressing their experiences, reporting an incident which will then lead to misdiagnosis or being unable to access the support they need. It takes a toll on the contributions, women and girls can make to the national development and growth. Changing our outlook to the social norms that support gender based violence is a key aspect."

**TASHI CHODEN CHOMBAL
MISS. BHUTAN**



"Domestic violence and Violence against women in general seems to be big problem everywhere in the world. So if we want to fight against injustice and discrimination against women we must start from our own home because if we can't have safe place from her own house than she cannot expect to be safe anywhere in the world"

**CHENCHHO GYELTSHEN
PRO FOOTBALL PLAYER**



"Healing is about creating the change we choose for our society as an individual. So, let's do our part in spreading love collectively and promote psychological well-being for all of us. Yes, together we can!"

**PARSU RAM BISWA
FOUNDER OF I-DESIRE**



"Young Children and Youth are generally the most Vulnerable and become easy victim of Domestic Violence which is why every youth and young children deserves special attention and protection by law, and the opportunity to live and grow in a safe environment especially at Home."

**JAMPEL YESHEY PAYLDON
YOUTH AMBASSADOR**



"I feel that the word "violence" is always misinterpreted. We were taught that violence is only associated with women but that's not the case. All Gender faces violence. So let's start with zero tolerance for violence against everyone"

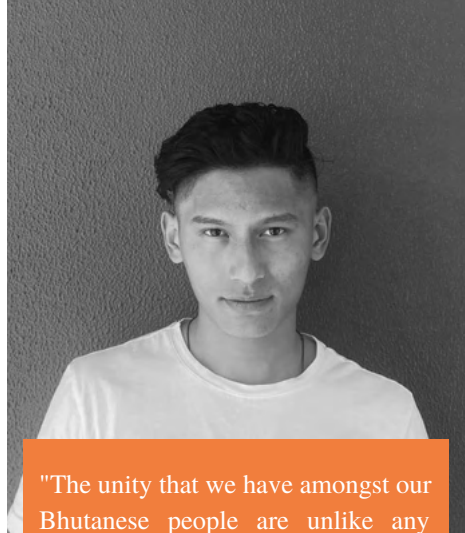
**DECHEN CHOKI
CHASING STARS ACTRESS**

VOICING OUT AGAINST VIOLENCE.



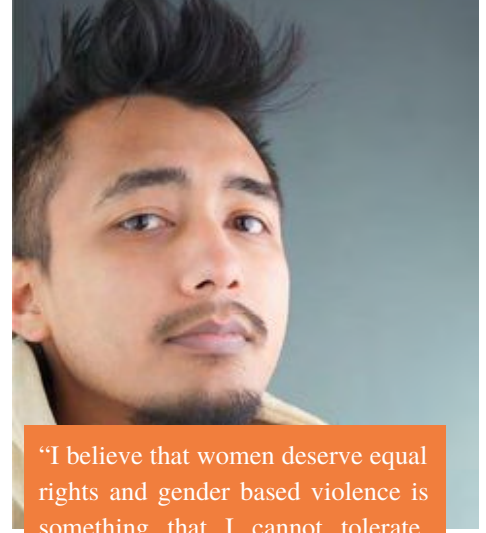
"Women have been and are an integral part of our past, future and present existence. It is unequivocal that women bear a lot on and for the entirety of our civilization. Therefore, we need to constantly strive for their protection, empowerment and excellence."

KINLEY WANGCHUK
LEGENDARY RAPPER



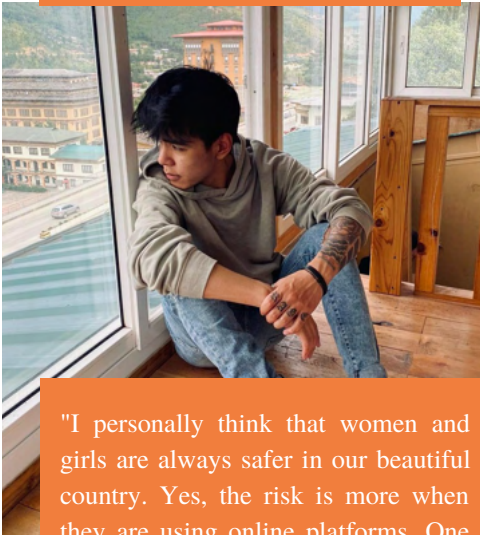
"The unity that we have amongst our Bhutanese people are unlike any other countries and we have stood firm and overcame any issues that arises. Therefore I believe that together, gender based violence and ignorance of mental well-being will be a thing of the past soon enough."

KENNY LHENDUP
SINGER



"I believe that women deserve equal rights and gender based violence is something that I cannot tolerate, I've seen how mothers have sacrificed their whole life and their freedom for their children just so that they could grow up and be someone in this world. For someone who does such a noble job like that deserves all the love and respect in this world."

DRONA BASNET
MUSIC DIRECTOR AND PRODUCER



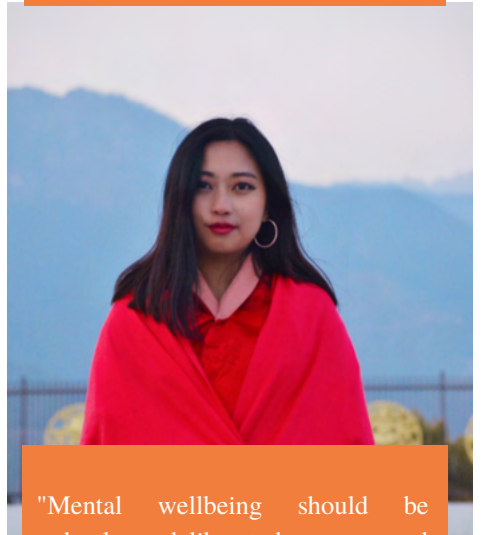
"I personally think that women and girls are always safer in our beautiful country. Yes, the risk is more when they are using online platforms. One can meet anyone or visit any platforms online so; there are many cases of people luring young girls into illicit activities. As said before, if used well, the online platforms are miracle. Women and young girls can use it as a platform to raise their voices"

KUENZANG CHOgyAL
ROYAL HEIR ENTERTAINMENT ARTIST



"GBV can have profound and lifelong impact on the mental health of survivors who are in increased risk of depression, anxiety, and PTSD. So therefore mental health interventions play a very important role. Together we can end GBV and promote psychological well-being. "

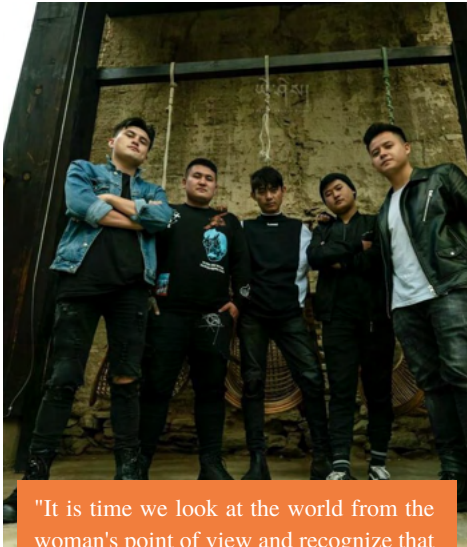
SONAM GIRI
COUNSELOR AND TIK-TOK STAR



"Mental wellbeing should be ardently deliberated on and promoted, and as a society we must actively propose solutions and mechanisms to aid us in our journey towards a society free of violence and aware of the importance of mental health."

JURMEY CHODEN RINZIN
SINGER AND ACTRESS

VOICING OUT AGAINST GENDER BASED VIOLENCE



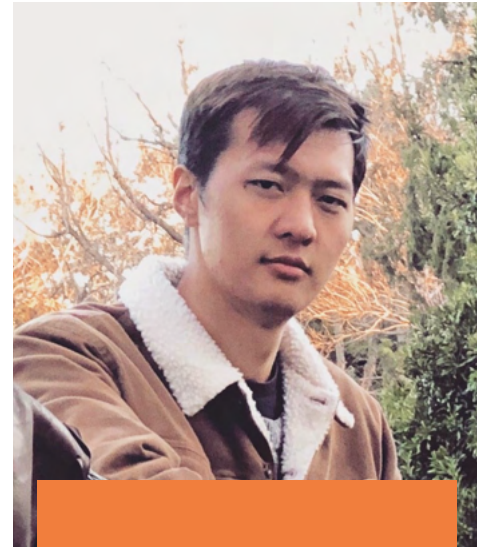
"It is time we look at the world from the woman's point of view and recognize that violence against women not only devastates women's lives and divides families but it also threatens a strong democracy and peaceful society"

ARUN BHATTARAI
INDEPENDENT FILMMAKER



"It is time we look at the world from the woman's point of view and recognize that violence against women not only devastates women's lives and divides families but it also threatens a strong democracy and peaceful society"

ARUN BHATTARAI
INDEPENDENT FILMMAKER



"Violence in any form especially against women in culture cannot be abolished without changing culture "

TSEWANG PSY
VIDEO CREATOR

AGENTS OF CHANGE

Engaging Men

RENEW collaborated with Thimphu Badgers and Bhutan Taxi Association to observe the International Day For The Elimination of The Violence Against Women.

They shared the important information on RENEW services and how people can avail help from RENEW.

They also distributed the stickers and posters of stopping violence against women and children.

"In a country where the King shows unmatched compassion and benevolent leadership, it is also a responsibility of the people to lend a helping hand to those who are in need. We look forward hopefully for a country without any violence against women and children"

Thimphu Badgers

THIMPHU BADGERS



BHUTAN TAXI ASSOCIATION



FILM ASSOCIATION OF BHUTAN

RENEW in collaboration with Film Association of Bhutan conducted a live Social Media musical performance to close the 16 Days of activism campaign and celebrate the International Human Rights Day.

The live stream was performed by Mr. Nidup Dorji and fellow artists.



RENEW SERVICES

2021

Counseling

RENEW provides counselling services free of cost for all family members affected by Domestic Violence and Gender Based Violence throughout the country.

Micro-Finance

RENEW introduced the Microfinance Project in 2012. RENEW-Microfinance Project has been certified as a Deposit Taking MFI by the RMA and has been incorporated as Private Limited Company under the Companies Act of Bhutan 2016. The Company now covers ten Dzongkhags.

Livelihood Training

Gawailing Happy Home provides an environment of physical and psychological safety for individuals and families. Happy Home is available 24 hours a day for those who find themselves in an emergency situation.

Safe Home

Gawailing Happy Home provides an environment of physical and psychological safety for individuals and families. Happy Home is available 24 hours a day for those who find themselves in an emergency situation.

Legal aid

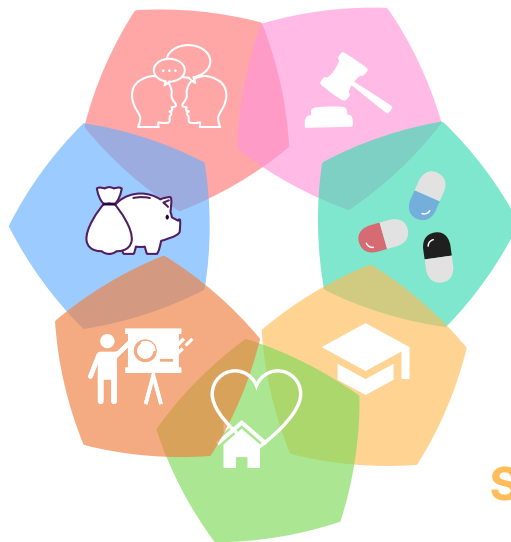
Free legal aid is provided. Ninety-five percent of all clients require legal aid of some form. Legal aid provided varies from writing legal letters to representing the case in court.

Medical Aid

With utmost care and confidentiality, we offer our clients the safety and freedom to take part in any of our service-oriented programs.

Scholarship

The RENEW Scholarship program has been providing educational support to vulnerable children since 2011. The children are survivors of domestic/ sexual/ gender-based violence, and abandoned/neglected. The national program provides financial support to students from the pre-primary level till the 12th grade. The project also works closely with schools where scholarship beneficiaries are enrolled.

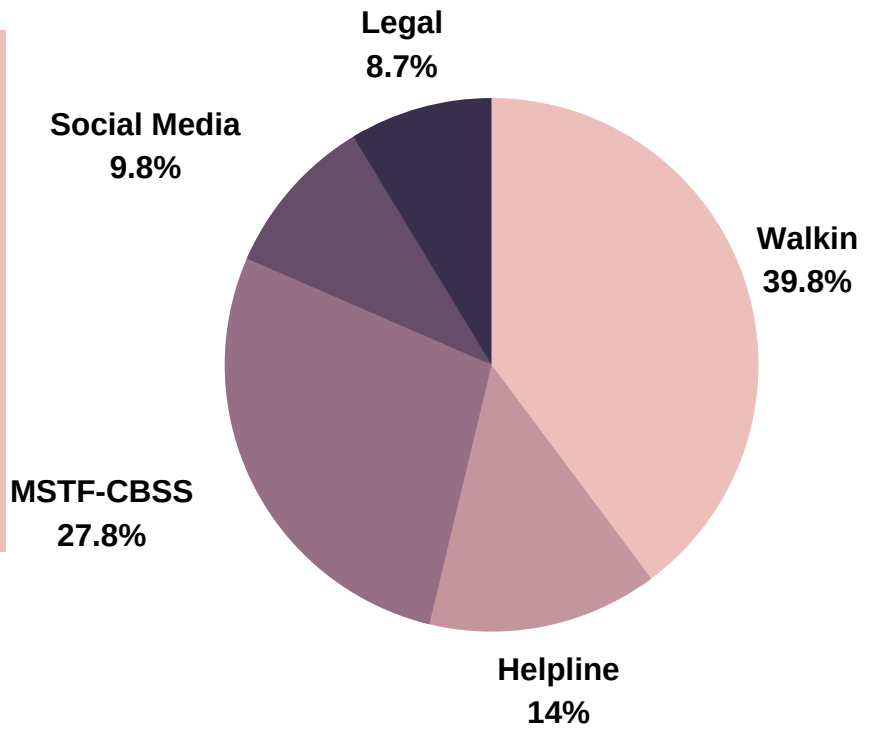


NUMBER OF CASES REGISTERED THROUGH DIFFERENT PLATFORMS IN 2021

A total of

774

cases were registered through 5 different platforms, namely: social media, legal aid, walk in clients, through helpline, multi sectoral task force and community based support systems.

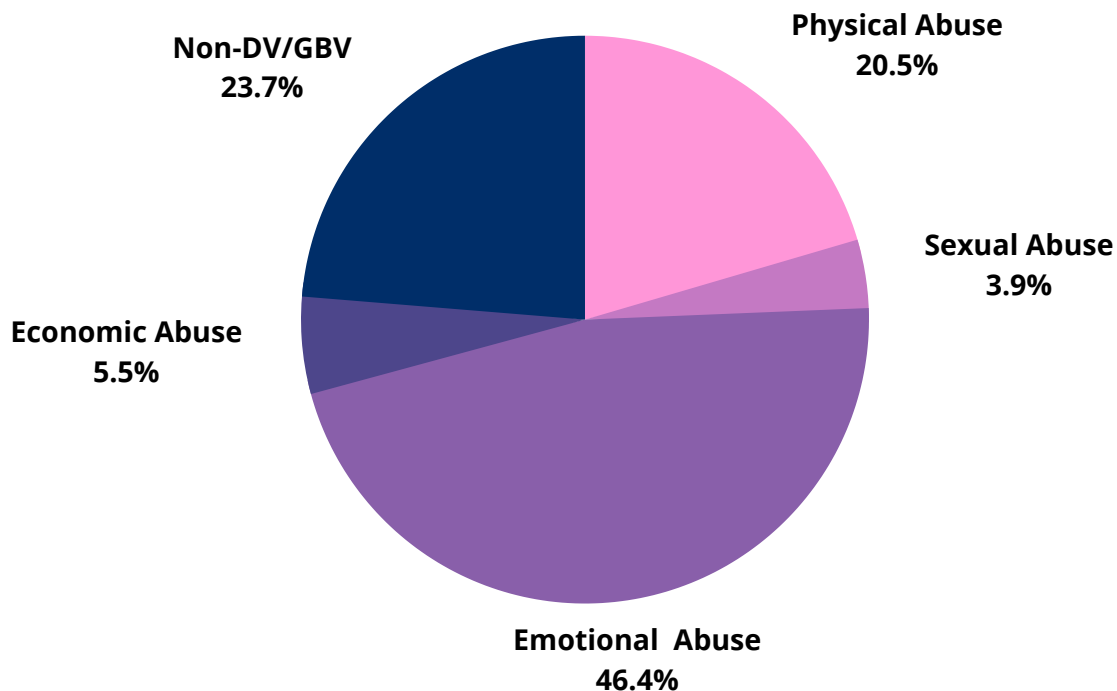


CASE CLASSIFICATION

A total of

315

people faced different types of abuse. 31 of them were male and 284 were female.



DISTRICT WISE DISAGGREGATED

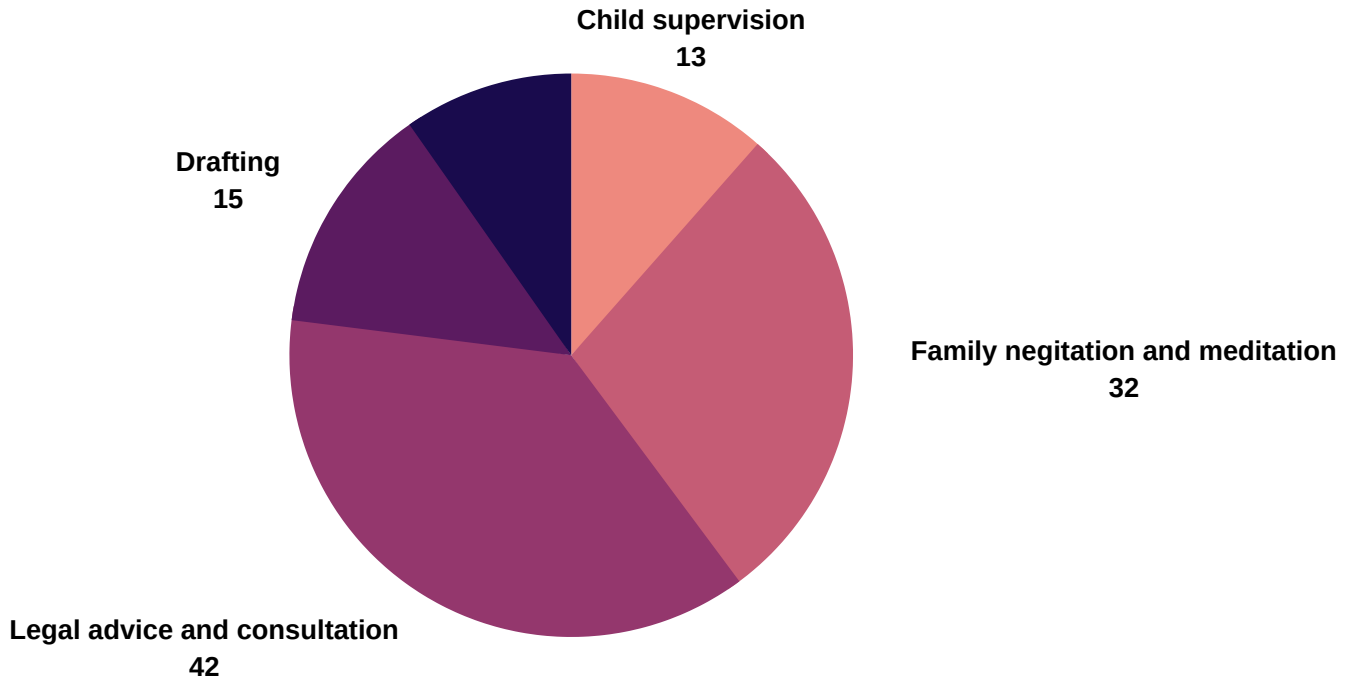
Dzongkhag	Walk - in	Helpline	MSTF - CBSS
Bumthang	3	1	
Chhukha & Phuntsholing	20	20 / 1	2 / 39
Dagana	32	8	
Haa & Wangdue Phodrang	2 / 19	2 / 6	40
Lhuentse	14	8	
Mongar	12	1	8
Paro & Punakha	13 / 9	22 / 12	41
Pema Gatshel	9	0	
Samdrup Jongkhar	15	3	25
Samtse	38	17	18
Sarpang & Gelephu	24	1 / 1	
Thimphu	24	51	5
Trashigang	22	1	
Trashiyangtse	9	0	3
Trongsa	7	6	13
Tsirang	26	10	9
Zhemgang	6	4	10

LEGAL SERVICES 2021

A total of

113

people availed the legal services such as child supervision, family negotiation & meditation, legal advice & consultation, drafting and referral to other agencies.

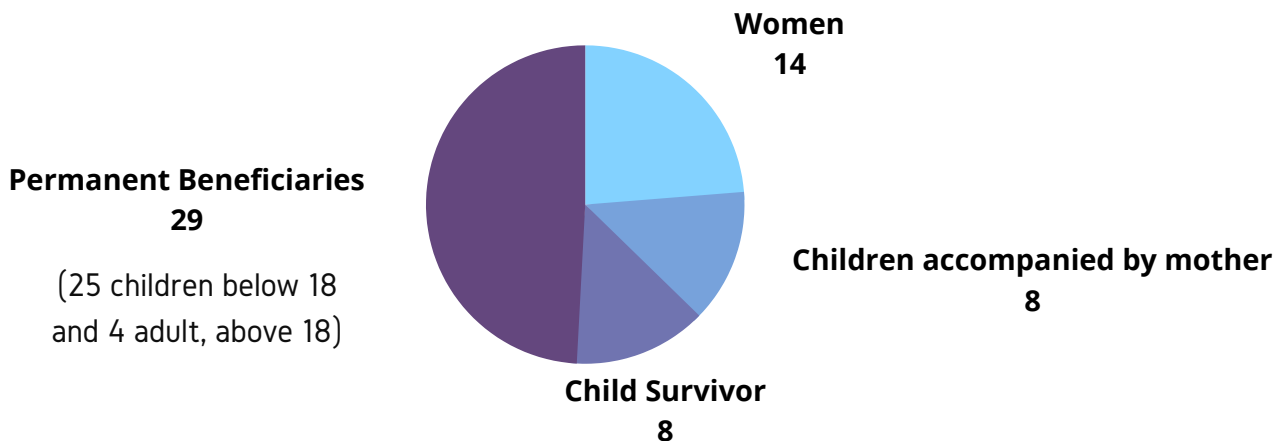


GAWAILING HAPPY HOME NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES IN 2021

From a total of

29

beneficiaries, 25 of them were children and 4 adult women. 8 were child survivors and 8 accompanied by their mothers.



POEMS
WRITTEN
BY SANJITA
MONGAR OF
GAWALING
HAPPY HOME

Far Away

Don't go far away
Let me hold your hand
Taking step by step
To the place we never land.
Passing through the world of fantasy
together let's create a history
afraid of losing you
But you, not even mine.
Don't wanna talk,
but even can't hold back
hold my hand again
Trust me I won't let go
thought of walking a road of
happiness
together but i choose to stay along
rather
It all started as a friend
never knew this was the end

Autumn Leaves

Autumn leaves are falling,
slowly on the ground
I thought you remembered
But it seems you already forgot.
Promise that was made,
you said you will stay forever
I should have known, it was never
still then I wanted you,
But you already got new.
My body getting numb
I still got your photo on my phone,
Your name on my heart
Breaking that barrier of our love
I'm moving on,
starting to fall like autumn leaves
slowly on the ground

I'm the only one

I slipped and fell in drain
I did everything to regain
waited for my family and friend
But no one came, all they did was
pretend
I cried and cried,
Then I realized, they were never
there
Did my best to get back,
I fell again and again
I tried again and again
Sun went down and moon rose up
still nobody helped me
They all wanted to be free
with my last strength
I pushed the lid and climbed out
Now i know I'm the only one
between me and success.

It's Winter!

Cool and freezing winter
morning
Warm sweater with a paddy
jacket
A cup of tea, hot and warm.
The taste of cookie,
crunchy and sweet
A favorite song
and a favorite dance
Dry weather and a dry footpath
A warm winter bath
with a sip of coffee
sound of freezing wind blowing
Bright blue sky glowing
Today here and off tomorrow
wishing for snow to fall
Yeah! It's winter

Miss You!

How much more days should I want?
How much more night should I spend
without you, mom?
How much longer? How much?
Dying of thirst for your love.
Just wanted to see you once
Every night, every day
Hoping you to come back from that
way
Need you around me,
Nothing right without you
Tired of trying now I'm just a hopeless
girl.
Missed your smile, your laughter and
touch
of a loving hand of yours'
I never told you that I love you
because I'm still searching if there is
more true word than love.

RENEW SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

RENEW believes in access to education, social inclusion, and social transformation. RENEW strives to address gender inequality and discrimination through scholarship program with special focus on underprivileged children (social orphans, survivors of domestic violence, gender based violence) across the country. The scholarship is funded by the Australian Himalayan Foundation (AHF).

The modest scholarship covers school essentials. The scholarship aims to provide opportunities for those children who would otherwise not be able to go to school. The RENEW Scholarship program has been providing educational support to vulnerable children since 2006 with support from international & national donors and have reached out to 1000 children. Currently, 241 students are being supported by the program through AHF.



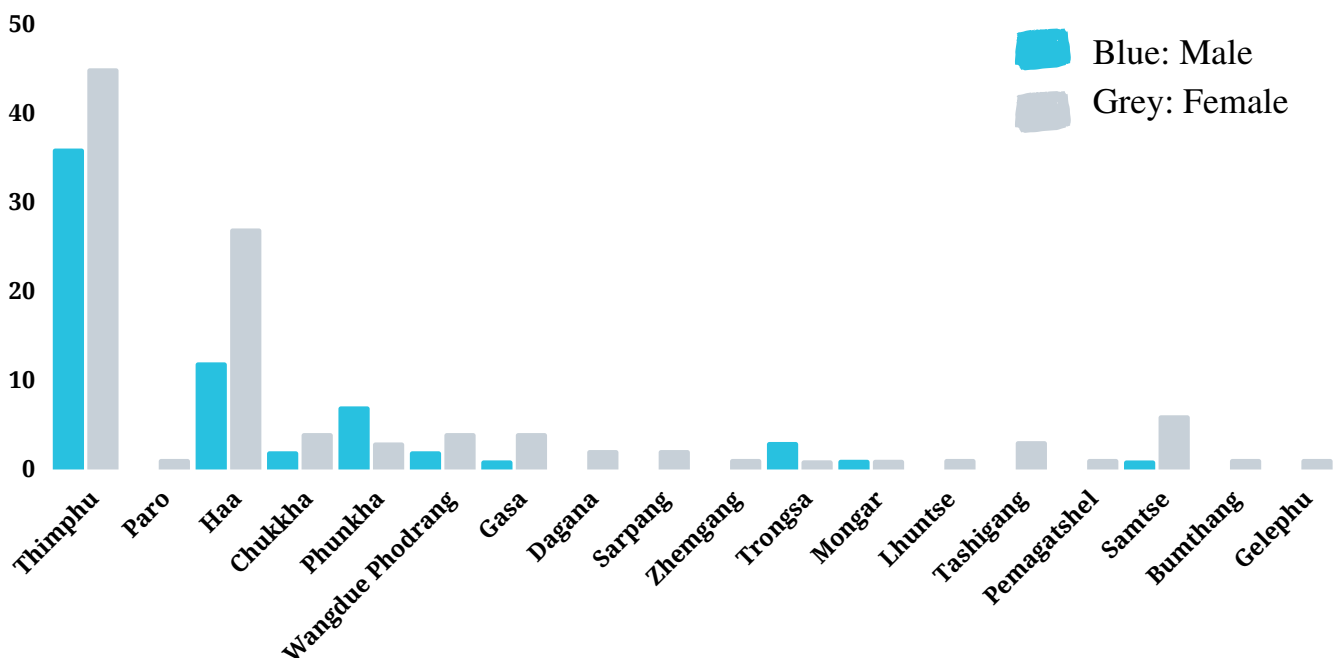
RENEW SCHOLARSHIP DZONGKHAG BREAKDOWN, 2021

Educational support provided to

174

students across 18 Dzongkhags

Total of 66 Male Students and 108 Female Students





SCHOOL MONITORING VISIT

The scholarship monitoring visit is conducted quarterly in different schools across Bhutan to monitor and evaluate the scholarship program, conduct situation assessment of the scholarship children, discuss safeguarding issues with the teachers/principal/guardians.

QUARTERLY SCHOOL MONITORING VISIT IN

28 SCHOOLS

COVERING

130

SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS

TRAINING ON CHILD CARE & PROTECTION ACT, CHILD PROTECTION POLICY AND POST-TRAUMATIC THERAPY.



TO RENEW COUNSELLORS

Objective:

- To ensure RENEW Counsellors are qualified to respond to and support vulnerable children with post-traumatic therapy.
- To build capacity of RENEW counselors and relevant staff in order for them to mitigate and address risks to children in difficult circumstances, specifically those experiencing abuse and neglect.



RENEW CBSS VOLUNTEERS AND FOCAL TEACHERS

Objective:

- To ensure RENEW CBSS Volunteers and focal teachers in schools where children receive scholarships understand child protection requirements and RENEW Child Protection Policy.
- To ensure RENEW CBSS volunteers and school focal persons will be confident to identify, address and report child abuse & neglect/or violence against children.
- To aid in the overall professionalism of the volunteers.

RENEW-FIDA Livelihood Trainings Conducted

Vulnerable people's right to an adequate standard of living has improved as a result of the RENEW's livelihood actions. In 2021 despite remarkable challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the livelihood program trained 306 individuals to strengthen their livelihood and employment opportunities.

Sl. No	Type of Training conducted	Duration and Venue	Total no. trained	Supported By
1.	Financial Literacy and Entrepreneurship Skills	5 days, Folk Heritage Museum	21 trained: 13 Women, 8 Others	UNDP
2.	Mushroom Cultivation	8 days, RENEW Vocational Institute, Sisina	15 trained: 11 Women, 4 Men	JICA
3.	Weaving	2 months, RENEW Vocational Institute, Sisina	9 trained: All women	MoLHR
4.	Home Care and Hospitality 1 Batch	1 month, RENEW Vocational Institute, Sisina	15 trained: 14 Women, 1 Man	MoLHR/UNDP
5.	Basic Entrepreneurship Course 3 batches (Eastern)	15 days each in Trashigang, Yangtse, Zhemgang and Dagana	75 trained: 52 Women, 23 Men	MoLHR
6.	Felting Training	15 days, Bumthang	15 trained: Female (STUDENTS)	UNDP/Fida
7.	Baking	15 days, RENEW Vocational Institute, Sisina	18 trained: all Women	UNDP
8.	Basic Tailoring	2 months, RENEW Vocational Institute, Sisina	20 trained: 15 Women, 4 Men, 1 Others	MoLHR/Fida
9.	Floriculture	15 days, RENEW Vocational Institute, Sisina	15 trained: 12 Women, 3 Men	
10.	Advance Tailoring	2 months, RENEW Vocational Institute, Sisina	13 trained: 11 Women, 2 Men	UNDP/Fida
11.	Felting Training	15 days, Chamkhar, Bumthang	15 women	Fida
12.	Baking Training	13 days, RENEW Vocational Institute, Sisina	36 trained: 34 Women, 2 Men	DAHE/IPPF
13.	Advance Tailoring Training (Western garments)	2 months, Bumthang Chamkhar	17 (All women)	FIDA
14.	Advance Tailoring Training	2 months, RENEW Head Office	7 trained: 6 Women, 1 Men	FIDA
15.	Recycling Training	15 days, RENEW Vocational Institute, Sisina	15: All women	IPPF
	TOTAL		306 Trained	




RENEW-Fida Livelihood Skills Training

Testimonies

“I am Choden Lhamo from Trashigang Dzongkhag. My everyday life was as same as any ordinary person living in the city, working hard and trying to make a living. I used to work as one of the travel agents, then because of the COVID pandemic I lost my job. There wasn't much to do since I lost my job, I just stayed home doing house chore. Then one day, I saw a post on social media about free basic tailoring training at RENEW and I immediately decided to join the programme.

Even though it was just for two months, we gained a lot of new knowledge about tailoring like how to operate tailoring machines, how to cut and sew different types of fabrics, and many more. After the training, we were able to make carrying bags, small makeup pouches, tote bags, side bags, masks, and many more.

Since then, I bought a sewing machine and practiced sewing at home. More practice at home made me gain new ideas and knowledge on sewing and tailoring works, and I have learned a few new things from YouTube/ social media to sew different products and even design face mask and sold it to a few friends of mine. Though I am not selling in large quantity I am at least trying my best to do something to earn. I am proud of myself. I am not an expert in this field (tailoring), but I am very interested, enthusiastic, and ready to learn new things. Lastly not forget, I am very thankful to RENEW for allowing me to undergo tailoring training” said Choden Lhamo. “It started on 15th of September 2020, it was the first time in my life attending a Skills training. On the first day, I was excited and nervous to take part in the training. But after a few days I enjoyed the training as all the trainees in my class are friendly.



Day by day, we learned and gained new knowledge that I never expected in the beginning. Learning new things each day made me wake up in the morning with energy and excitement.

I am thankful to RENEW for empowering me and will never forget those days I spent at the training place made me who I am today. After completing the training at RENEW Vocational Institute, Thimphu, I came back to Chaskhar, Mongar my hometown/ village. Right after returning to my hometown, I started looking for a job and even asked my friends to help me look for a job.

After a week of job searching, I received a call from one of the tailoring shops known as 'Pema Tashi Tailoring' offering me a job at his shop in Monger town. That was the day I will never forget, that one phone call changed my life. I use to babysit for my cousin since I was 9 years old and now I am a proud tailor.

It's been more than a year working in the Pema Tashi tailoring shop and I am very much proud of myself as I have become independent.

Moreover, I am happy that I can help and support my parents. I am who I am because of the support that I received from RENEW. Thank you!” stated Chimi Wangmo

RENEW Financial Statement

Receipts and Payments Statement

For the Year 1st January 2021-31st December 2021

RECEIPTS AMOUNT (Nu)			PAYMENTS AMOUNT (Nu)		
Particulars	Schedule	Amount(Nu)	Particulars	Schedule	Amount(Nu)
Opening Balance:	1		Expenditure		
i. Cash at Bank		11,893,452	i. Project Expenses	5	36,827,889
ii. Cash at Hand		43,198	ii. Capital Expenditure	6	5,910,539
			iii. Administration Expenses		
			a. Employment Benefits	7	8,088,927
			b. Other Administrative Expenses	8	2,654,021
Fund Received					
Grant Received	2				
Cash		48,526,204			
Kind		5,723,338			
Other Income	3	11,074,742			
Recoveries	4	923,842	Remittance	4	923,610
Employee Loans & Advances	4	3,977,919	Employee Loans & Advances	4	4,097,332
			Closing Balance	9	
			i. Cash at Bank		23,304,554
			ii. Cash at Hand		355,824
		82,162,695			82,162,695

Circle of Compassion

TAKIN CIRCLE (DONATION ABOVE NU. 1,000,000)

- Pilots - Druk Air

BLUE POPPY CIRCLE (DONATION ABOVE NU. 100,000)

- Dasho Sonam Tobgay - Lhaki Group of Companies

CYPRESS CIRCLE (DONATION ABOVE NU. 10,000)

- Keysang W. Samdrup
- Dr. P.W Samdrup
- 8 Eleven
- Metta Resort & Spa

Sl#	Name	Designation	Organisation	Amount in Nu
1	Yab Dhondup Gyeltshen	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
2	Captain Sonam Choeda	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
3	Captain Chhimi Dorji	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
4	Captain Chenda Wangchuk	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
5	Captain Kinga Tshering	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
6	Captain Tshering Galey	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
7	Captain Ugyen Dema	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
8	Mr. Tenzin Namgyal	Pilot	Druk Airline	73,200.00
9	Ms. Sonam Lhamo	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
10	Mr. Karma Shedrup Tshering	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
11	Mr. Namgyal Wangchuk	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
12	Mr. Tshering Penjor	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
13	Mr. Tshering Sonam	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
14	Mr. Yeshey Jamphel Dorji	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
15	Mr. Sanga Dorji	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
16	Mr. Kelzang Wangchuk	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
17	Mr. Tshering Penjore	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
18	Mr. Kuenga Yarphel	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
19	Mr. Tshering Norbu Jigme	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
20	Mr. Sonam Younten Wangchuk	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
21	Mr. Thinley Norbu	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
22	Mr. Tandin Wangchuk	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
23	Mr. Tashi Tshering	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
24	Mr. Yosel Rangdrol	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
25	Mr. Jigyel Jamtsho	Pilot	Druk Airline	36,600.00
26	Dasho Sonam Tongay		Lhaki Group	120,000.00
27	Kaysang W. Samdup			15,000.00
28	Dr. P.W Samdup			10,000.00
29	8Eleven		8Eleven	40,000.00
30	Metta Resort & Spa		Metta Resort & Spa	14,790.00

International Partners



The Asia Foundation



National Partners

