

Make Nisha Dahayat from India a female mayor !

More than 192,000 local women councilors have already been trained in our program in India. In this way women have been politically empowered and their presence in local governments has increased significantly.

According to the 73rd state constitutional amendment of 1992, one-third of mayoral mandates in India are reserved for women. In some Indian states even the 50 % quota applies. This is a revolutionary step with enormous consequences. For the first time, women have, at least in principle, the mandate and the political influence to stand up for their concerns with the villagers and to mobilize the resources of the state for this purpose. However, implementing this law in practice is a great challenge. Deep-rooted, patriarchal and feudal structures often stand in the way.

Thanks to your support for our Empowerment Program we have been able to achieve a lot in India recently. In 2019, THP Global supported 1,577 local mayors in so-called "panchayats" in 6 states and 42 districts. More than 6,8 million people were able to benefit from our work and improve their access to basic services.



«One woman can make a difference, but together we can change the world.»

Author unknown

278'000 face masks

In the fight against the pandemic, THP has mobilized more than 500'000 volunteers and leaders in 13 countries. «Sewing armies» have been formed in some areas. Globally, we

- reached more than **3.6 million people** with our Covid-19 education campaigns, providing information on infection risks and distance and hygiene rules.
- distributed more than **200,000 food rations** to community members in need
- produced and distributed over **278,000 cloth masks** in village communities
- distributed over **65,000 kg of hand sanitizer and 210,000 kg of soap**

Too young to marry

Every three seconds, a girl is married off somewhere in the world - this has worsened significantly due to the impact of COVID-19. Child marriage forces girls out of school and they often fall pregnant before their bodies are fully developed, creating a cycle of malnutrition and taking away their opportunity to create their own future.

When girls marry later, a new world opens up for them: they have the opportunity to be educated and healthy. Not only do they benefit as individuals, the whole society benefits! Educated girls take an active role in their communities to ensure the rights of other women are upheld, and they also go on to have healthier children – effectively interrupting the cycle of poverty and malnutrition.



What we do about it:

1. We educate girls to make them aware of their rights and empower them to speak up for themselves and others.
2. We train animators (local volunteer leaders) to work within their communities and educate people on the negative consequences of child marriage for girls.
3. We run school programs to equip girls with negotiation skills so they can have conversations with their parents about child marriage.



Sumaiya's story

I have been living in my grandmother's house in the city of Charghat in Rajshahi (Bangladesh) since I was a young. Although I am only in the eighth grade, I have faced some difficult times in my life. Once I reached puberty, my family arranged my marriage.

Having to leave school and get married was terrifying to me and I did not want to get married, especially because I knew the risks and consequences of child marriage. Of course, I was not able to stop the mar-

riage alone. Rita Apu, a volunteer of the Hunger Project helped me tell my mother and grandmother about the consequences of child marriage. She also highlighted the legal aspects of child marriage in Bangladesh. Knowing all of this, my family stopped my marriage.

I am grateful to Riya Apu and The Hunger Project, thanks to whom my life is my own. I want to continue my education and be a doctor when I grow up.



Thank you very much for your support, which is particularly important at the moment!

Alexandra Koch, Managing Director THP Switzerland

