

Creating Safe Space for women in Jumla

“Change starts from self-contribution at first.” Janak Bahadur Shahi, from Jumla has exemplified. People say that men should not do household work; it is solely the women’s job. But, He has become able to change this concept and has become a role model for other men in his community. He lives with his family in Kudari VDC of Jumla. He has three school going children, and he is a farmer. Janak is a member of one of the male support groups.

His wife, Rita Shahi enjoys working together with him in the field, and they prefer to work together on household chores too. Rita Shahi says “He helps me in my work at home. He cooks, washes dishes, sweeps and does other indoor work. He has made my life easy and has encouraged me to attend meetings and do other works outside the house.”

Janak, often motivates other women in the community to be independent and expressive. Despite the dominating nature of most men in the community, he has been determined to help women to fight for their rights and freedom. Rita Shahi mentioned: “My husband asks for my views in his work too. He respects my decision on any economic transactions. This has made me confident and has helped me improve my self-esteem. AWON deserves a salute for their work on promoting gender equality and justice.”