



Ira Sharma Prasai

President, Business and Professional Women Nepal - Budanilkantha Chapter

Ira Sharma has been involved in Social work since an early age when she started a club for persons with speech and hearing impairment, one of its first kind in Nepal. She learnt sign language and worked with speech and hearing impaired persons for many years.

She holds a Bachelor in Economics & Sociology and a Masters in Sociology & Anthropology from Tribhuvan University in Kathmandu. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts in Tourism from South Delhi Polytechnic in India.

She worked as Senior Public Relation Officer for Everest Air at Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu. After which she worked with the National Trading Limited, a government agency that handles all aspects of trading in Nepal for 17 years. She was the chief of sales promotion at the National Trading until recently when she fully committed herself to working with women and tourism.

In 2013 she started the Business and Professional Women Network in Budhanilkantha, Kathmandu. BPW Budanilkantha has been involved in relief and rebuilding work since the Earthquake in 2015. Ira and her team along with many volunteer distributed essential supplies, water, and conducted held health camps in more than 30 different areas in more than 10 districts in Nepal. Through Project Shelter, they've built more than 50 earthquake resistant houses in Chagdol – Nagarjun Municipality and Nuwakot, an indigenous community which was massively destructed.

She has done tremendous work with women in Taulung community. The BPW Nepal, Budhanilkantha serves as a forum for professional business women to enhance their leadership and business potential through advocacy, mentoring and skill building. She runs the economic empowerment program which includes literacy and income generation programs. BPW Budanilkantha also provides health care awareness programs and services to these communities.

She currently works on tourism with a specific goal to empower women through training, entrepreneurship and employment.