


# Female. Rural. Innovative.

Professional Women. Strong Networks.  
Empowered Rural Areas.





**The German Association of Rural Women** - Deutscher LandFrauenverband e.V. (dlv) - is the country's largest association representing women and their families living in rural areas. Since its foundation in 1948, it has sought to improve the quality of life, working conditions, as well as social and political participation in rural settings. On a national political level, the dlv represents the interests of all women in rural regions throughout Germany as well as the professional interests of women farmers. The dlv comprises around 450,000 members who are organised into 22 regional associations, more than 430 district associations and 12,000 local associations. As a strong nationwide network for women in rural areas, the dlv offers training programmes, lobbies for women interests, implements projects and provides a supportive community.

Equal political and social participation for women

Income security and fair pay for women

Strengthen the role of women in agriculture

Improved quality of life in rural areas

Securing, promoting and recognising voluntary work

Promotion of everyday skills and nutritional expertise



dlv international

Taking advantage of its collective strength and decades of experience, the dlv has been involved in international development cooperation since 2017. The international projects are implemented by the dlv-LandFrauen gGmbH as a representative of the Deutscher LandFrauenverband e.V.

**Background.** Women living in rural areas have a key function that is largely unrecognised: Making up more than 40 per cent of the workforce in the agricultural and food sector in countries of the Global South, women are playing a decisive role for rural development, agricultural production and food security worldwide. Gender equality and women's empowerment are also cross-cutting throughout the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda. This underlines that rural women are key to achieving the transformational economic, environmental and social changes required for sustainable development.

**Objective.** The overall objective of the dlv's international engagement is the empowerment of women in rural areas and therefore the promotion of equal participation, especially in the agricultural and food sector to improve rural development, food security and agricultural production.

**Implementation.** The dlV implements its projects by applying a bottom-up and participatory approach. Collaborative knowledge creation and transfer based on a “from women to women” philosophy are key components of the activities. The dlV also collaborates with local partner organisations and trainers to ensure sustainability.

## Intervention areas



Organisational/Association development  
Networking and strengthening of women’s groups



Lobbying and advocacy



Skills development: leadership, entrepreneurship, business development, agricultural practices, etc.



Nutrition education

## Methods



Participatory workshops



Training of trainers



Tandem concepts



Exposure visits



International exchange

Rural women

together we stand



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#### Bildnachweis

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