The Impact of Male Migration on Women’s Reproductive Health Outcomes in Nepal
Understanding Migration in Nepal

• Nepal has a long history of migration
• 7.2% (1.92 million) of Nepalis migrate out of the country for work
• Rates vary by ethnic group – i.e.; 50% of Hill Dalits & 46% of Muslim households
• 32% of married women have husbands living outside of Nepal
Comparisons

• Sub-analysis of prospective, quasi-experimental evaluation of Pragati intervention
• We compared the responses of left wives with those of other married women
• Ages: 15 – 25 years old
• Topics (including)
  – Fertility awareness,
  – Autonomy in decision-making,
  – Couple communication,
  – Family planning use.
Results

• Increased knowledge of fertility
• Increased spousal communication
• Increased community acceptance of FP use and couple communication
• Increased intention to use FP was associated with:
  • Pragati communities, spousal communication, & perceived community acceptance of FP
  • Left wives were half as likely to intend to use FP compared to other married women