



NATIONAL INDIGENOUS DISABLED WOMEN ASSOCIATION- NEPAL (NIDWAN)

MONTHLY BULLETIN

December 2020



International
Day of
Persons with
Disabilities
3 DECEMBER

"Build Back Better: Towards a Disability-Inclusive, Accessible and Sustainable post COVID-19 World"

Celebrating 29th International Day of Persons with Disabilities

“कोभिड(१९ पश्चातको उत्कृष्ट पुनरागमनको सुनिश्चितता: अपाङ्गता भएका ब्यक्तिहरूको पहुच र दिगो बिकासको लागि हामी सबैको प्रतिबद्धता”

“Building Back Better: Action towards a Disability-Inclusive, Accessible and Sustainable Post-COVID-19 World”
-3rd December, 2020

December Program Highlights

- ❖ National Consultation & Learning Workshop on the Impacts of COVID -19 on Indigenous Peoples with Disabilities
- ❖ National Consultation the Issues of Indigenous Youth and Women with Disabilities in preparation of 2nd World Conference on Indigenous Women
- ❖ Evaluating Workshop on the Progress made by Nepal in the Implementation of the Global Disability Summit 2018 Commitments
- ❖ NIDWAN Virtual Discussion Series- 18th Series update
- ❖ Expert Meeting on Violence against Indigenous Women and Women with disabilities (Continued)
- ❖ 4th South Asia SDG Forum 2020 organized by Government of Maldives and UN-ESCAP, SSWA Office
- ❖ Disability & Human Rights Training/Interaction- 24th-29th session updates
- ❖ Virtual Panel Discussion on Access, Challenge, Equal Opportunities and Participation of Persons with disabilities in Society
- ❖ Issues of Violence against Marginalized Women
- ❖ International Expert Group Meeting Indigenous Peoples and Pandemic
- ❖ The Role of Media in Changing Mindsets
- ❖ Discussion on the Concluding Observation of the CEDAW and its implementation
- ❖ COVID-19 STORY featuring Persons with Disabilities -V
- ❖ NIDWAN's Information Gallery
- ❖ News & Article Feature

National Indigenous Disabled Women Association Nepal

International Day of Persons with Disability



Respect the Diversity of Person with Disability and the contribution They can Make in the Society!!!



Inclusion and Diversity Matters!

December 3, 2020



For more information:

National Indigenous Disabled Women Association Nepal
nidwan2015@gmail.com | 977-9841432270; 9803916859

Toll free number: 16600191534

Website: www.nidwan.org.np | Facebook: [nidwannepal \(https://www.facebook.com/profile\)](https://www.facebook.com/profile)

**LET THE WORLD
LEAD BY US TO
MAKE BETTER AND
INCLUSIVE FOR ALL
-NIDWAN Nepal
Familv**

National Level Continuations & Workshops

National Indigenous Disabled Women Association Nepal (NIDWAN) organized three workshop in the month of December. The workshops were supported by International Disability Alliance (IDA) and Indigenous Person with Disabilities Global Network (IPWDGN) in Kathmandu at Hotel Pension Vasana.

National Consultation & Learning Workshop on the Impacts of COVID -19 on Indigenous Peoples with Disabilities

The national consultation and learning workshop on the impacts of COVID -19 on indigenous peoples with disabilities was held from the 5th to 7th December at Kathmandu. In total 20 participants from provincial level attended the workshop where the simultaneous sign language interpretation and captioning were provided. The major objectives of the workshop are:

- Sharing ground experiences: Issues and Challenges faced by peoples with disabilities and indigenous peoples with disabilities
- Policies and measures, Government, CSOs, and relevant stakeholders' initiatives on COVID response and recovery
- Plan and preparation for Post COVID 2021 Recovery

The workshop was inaugurated by the chief guest, Ms. Gita Satyal, Deputy Mayor Lalitpur Metropolitan City Office and Dr. Shree Kumar Maharjan, Deputy Secretary of Asia Indigenous People Pact (AIPP).



Day I (5th December) Formal Opening

Inaugural Session: Ms. Gita Satyal, Deputy Mayor Lalitpur Metropolitan City Office
Dr. Shree Kumar Maharjan, Deputy Secretary of Asia Indigenous People Pact (AIPP).

Opening remarks: Ms. Pratima Gurung, NIDWAN
Session moderation and Resource Person: Ms. Krishna Gahatraj
Sharing ground experiences: Provincial focal persons and other participants

Group work: Social and Economic Impacts of COVID-19 in the provinces

Day II & III (6th & 7th December) Resource Person list:

1. Ms. Maheshwori Bist, Chief Women Development Officer, Lalitpur Metropolitan City Office
2. Mr. Krishna Gahatraj, Disability Inclusion Expert
3. Mr. Murari Kharel, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)
4. Mr. Bharat Sharma Ministry of Women, Children & Senior Citizen
5. Dr. Madhav Prasad Lamsal, Ministry of Health and Population
6. Mr. Mitra Lal Sharma, President, NFDN



Day I (8th December) Formal Opening

Inaugural Session: Mr. Gokul Pd. Gharti, Vice-chair, NFDIN

Ms. Manju Dhimal, General Secretary, NIWF

Opening remarks: Ms. Pratima Gurung, NIDWAN

Session moderation and Resource Person: Ms. Krishna Gahatraj

Individual reflection & sharing: Provincial focal persons and other participants

Group work: Province-wise issues, concerns and possible solutions

Day II & III (9th & 10th December) Resource Person list:

1. Dr. Krishna Bhattachan, IPs Expert
2. Ms. Binda Thapa, Gender Inclusion Officer, UNDP
3. Hon. Parliamentary Member Mr. Prakash Pantha
4. Mr. Bibek Luitel, Researcher
5. Ms. Kailash Rai, Indigenous Women Expert and Researcher
6. Dr. Shree Kumar Maharjan, Indigenous Expert and Deputy General Secretary AIPP

Solidarity night, cultural exchange, and audio video sessions were conducted in between the workshop and at the last day participants discussed and presented their specific and prioritized action plans for the period of 6-12 months after going back to their origins. They had identified mainly 3 most prioritized actions to be implemented (for whom, how, why and how much resources required), the potential stakeholders (including the supporters and opponents).

National Consultation the Issues of Indigenous Youth and Women with Disabilities in preparation of 2nd World Conference on Indigenous Women

Issues and challenges faced by the indigenous women with disabilities are overshadowed by the nation's blanket approach i.e. women as homogenous group while they face a critical barrier as their unique and different multiple identities has yet to be recognized by the Nation's constitution. Poverty, injustice and marginalization with compound effect of gender, ethnicity, disability, geography further complicates and exacerbates the extent of discrimination, social oppressions, and violence against these women. With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the situation has turned to more serious conditions due to restricted movement, nation-wide sudden and abrupt lockdown, and widespread of the virus among the people. The foremost and critical issue regarding them is the exceeding rates of domestic violence and sexual exploitation of these groups. These events have been termed as 'Shadow Pandemic' to the indigenous women and girls including other marginalized groups and non-indigenous girls and women. Even national and global data reflect and support the existence of violence against women. Celebrating the 16 Days of Activism against Gender- Based Violence, "Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect!" from 25th November to 10th December 2020, National Indigenous Disabled Women Association (NIDWAN) organized 3 days Residential Workshop from 8th to 10th of December 2020. The major objectives of the workshop are:

- Hear voices from the ground: Barriers of indigenous girls and women with disabilities
- Highlight on the status of UNCRPD and UNDRIP documents and Status of CO of UNCRPD and CEDAW and its way forward
- Bridging the gap, issues of indigenous girls and women with disabilities for integrating in 2nd World Conference on Indigenous Women in 2021.

'कोभिड १९' पश्चातको उत्कृष्ट पुनरागमनको सुनिश्चितता: अपाङ्गता भएका व्यक्तिहरूको पहुँच र दिगो विकासको लागि हामी सबैको प्रतिवद्धता'

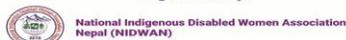
अपाङ्गता भएका व्यक्तिहरूको श्रद्धा अन्तराष्ट्रिय दिवसको अवसर

'हाम्रो सवाल हाम्रो नेतृत्व'

Evaluating the Progress made by Nepal in the Implementation of the Global Disability Summit 2018 Commitments

11th Dec 2020
Kathmandu Nepal

Organized By:



National Indigenous Disabled Women Association Nepal (NIDWAN)

Supported By:



International Disability Alliance



Indigenous Peoples with Disabilities Global Network



Evaluating Workshop on the Progress made by Nepal in the Implementation of the Global Disability Summit 2018 Commitments

The UK Department for International Development (DFID), along with the International Disability Alliance (IDA) and the Government of Kenya, hosted the first Global Disability Summit in London on 8th of July 2018. The summit also highlighted the global attention and focus on the neglected areas such as: brought in new voices and approaches to broaden engagement; mobilized new global and national commitments on disability; & showcased best practice and evidence from across the world. National governments and other organizations made 170 sets of commitments around the four central themes i.e. ensuring dignity and respect for all, inclusive education, routes to economic empowerment, and harnessing technology and innovation of the Summit, as well as the two cross-cutting themes: women and girls with disabilities and conflict and humanitarian contexts, and data disaggregation. Nepal being one of the nine nations announced the commitment to pass or formulate new or revised laws for disability rights

Two years after the summit, NIDWAN organized a national workshop in regards to the summit and with the following objectives to:

- ❖ Discuss and highlight about the commitments done by the Government of Nepal and its implementation of the commitments to share with persons with disabilities, CSOs, OPDS, stakeholders, governments, development partners, Department for International Development, UN agencies and others'
- ❖ follow up and prepare for the 2nd Global Disability Summit in 2022

In total 46 participants attended the consultation workshop where majority of the representative were from various Disabled People led Organizations (DPOs). Guests and speakers of the workshop includes: Advocate Sudarshan Subedi from Disability and Human Rights Promotion Society, Neeta Kesari Bhattatai, President Shruti, Mr. Jamuna Mishra, Joint Secretary Ministry of Women, Children & Senior Citizen, Mr. Shiva Acharya, Humanity & Inclusion Nepal, Mr. Mitra Lal Sharma, President, NFDN, Ms. Ms. Pratima Gurung, President NIDWAN. Ms. Gurung and Ms. Kesari highlighted on the commitments made by the Nepal Government while rest of the guests and chief guests shared on the activities and implementation status of the commitments both through the national and UN agencies. After the presentation and sharing sessions, representatives from DPOs discussed on the ongoing challenges and issues regarding the mainstreaming of disability agenda in the national and local level followed by the agendas for the preparation of 2nd Global Disability Summit 2022.

NIDWAN Virtual Discussion Series Continuation

18th NIDWAN VIRTUAL DISCUSSION SERIES
१८ औं निडवान सम्वाद श्रृंखला
 19th December 2020, Saturday (२०७७ साल पुस ४ गते, शनिवार)

"Discussion on the Shrinking Space of CSOs and Its Role in the Present Context with Recommendations"
बहिलेको बढिले गरेको परिस्थितिमा नागरिक समाजको वर्तमान स्थिति बबस्था, भूमिका र सुकावहरु सम्बन्धी छलफल



Guest Speaker: Mr. Jit Ram Lama
President, NGO Federation of Nepal



Moderator: Ms. Prathima Gurung
President, NIDWAN

Time: 11:00am - 1:30pm
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81446603548>
 Zoom ID: 814 4660 8548
 (Sign Language Interpretation will be provided simultaneously)

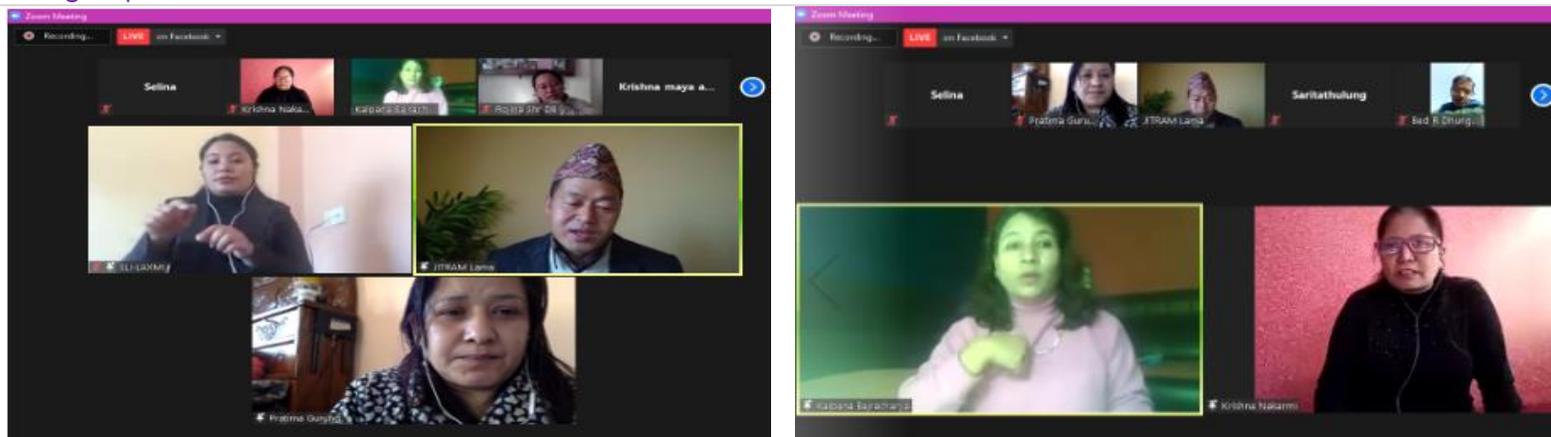
राष्ट्रिय बादिवासी जनजाति अपाङ्ग महिला संघ नेपाल (निडवान)
 NATIONAL INDIGENOUS DISABLED WOMEN ASSOCIATION NEPAL (NIDWAN)



18th NIDWAN Virtual Discussion Series: Discussion on the Shrinking Space of CSOs and Its Role in the Present Context with Recommendations

Guest Speaker: Mr. Jit Ram Lama, President, NGO Federation of Nepal (19th December)

Program Highlights: Initially Mr. Lama shared the Federations' goals and objectives where he highlighted the federation as the umbrella organization of all the CSOs located in all the seven provinces and 77 districts of Nepal. he shared that federation aggregates all the CSOs and enables the working environment of these organization at national level and also advocates on their works in the international level, and works in close coordination with other federations like forest, poverty eradication, youths, children, women, Dalits, water, disaster, journalists, health, education, climate change, etc. While working federation has been active in human rights related activities (protection, advocacy and lobby) and also linked with Bar association and NHRC. It also represents the overall CSOs and peoples voice at national and ministerial level and interacts with international level for implementation of various programs and treaties. Likewise for the mainstreaming, implementation and monitoring of SDGs, NGO federation has been closely working with Nepal Government to meet and attain its targets and goals. He also informed on the initiatives taken by the federation: for the relief distribution and coordination, COVID-19 information dissemination, supply of health related materials, coordination with the Nepal Government for mobility and use of resources to provide relief by CSOs to local people during the lockdown, advocated to outline the importance and need of more focus by all the agencies towards marginalized groups, persons with disabilities, daily wage and migrant workers, pregnant women, elderly people, children, underrepresented groups, landless farmers and others, use of media for information dissemination, instruction from the federation on short term, mid-term and long term plans to be adopted by the CSOs against COVID-19 (relief distribution, focus on employment activities, livelihood related activities, mitigation and adaptation measures of COVID-19, etc.), focusing on the above mentioned groups the federation with the support of MoWCSC formed a Directorate (nirdesan) committee and formation of Institution Coordination and Operational Committee under the presidency of a member from National Planning Commission and under the supervision of Social Welfare Centre, management of food distribution and holding centers for migrant workers. Likewise, he mentioned on the frequent violation of Human Rights in many cases during the emergencies and issues of racial discrimination, food security and discrimination faced by the marginalized and underrepresented groups, persons with disabilities, Dalits and Madhesi people in the pandemic. In order to monitor and evaluate such issues even during the time of COVID-19 lockdown, he mentioned the formation of monitoring team under the leadership of NHRC, NGO federation, Journalist federation, Nepal Bar Association, legal justice providing and human rights agencies, and CSOs. Under this provision a central level secretariat was formed at national level followed by provincial level committees and district level committees were formed to monitor overall issues during the pandemic at local level followed by constant reminding the government on the issues, releasing press release, and based on the activities and outcome, a status report during the pandemic was published by the NHRC.



He then explained the activity and changing roles of NGO Federation as collaborative partner of government, CSOs, other federations and sometimes as a 'watch dog' to constantly monitor and evaluate the task performed by the government focusing on the human rights of local people and protection of their rights. He also then highlighted the need to prioritize the role of government in emergency and non-emergency situation where as the role of non-governmental organizations is to provide necessary support to the government entities, coordinate with them and link them to the international agencies, constantly remind them in their task, form alliance during emergencies and work accordingly. After that he mentioned on the changing laws and regulations for the registration of the new non-governmental organization, the renewal process and the tedious procedure for getting permission (tax approval certificate, permission from both district and local level authorities, etc.) to establish non-profit organization. He strongly mentioned on the necessity to improve such laws and policies as there gradual ling decrease in the space of CSOs both at national and international level. But at the same time what could be the roles and responsibilities of CSOs and NGO federation to widen the space of CSOs sector in the recent context and during the pandemic itself. Despite the Nepal being vulnerable to disaster and natural calamities, the roles and responsibilities of the federation and CSOs with the combined effort of the government could ensure the rights and needs of local people and ongoing developmental works including the implementation of international treaties and programs. During the session he also shared the need of coordination and collaboration like in the time of earthquake to conquer the present condition and plan for long term policies that analyzes and addresses the needs and requirements of the marginalized groups.

The complexities and challenges for the low income based organizations and those started by the marginalized groups regarding the policies and procedures for the registration and renewal process were shared. Further, he also shared some facts related to the CSOs established in the country i.e. nearly 1 lakh 50 thousand institutions are spread all over the country, nearly about 50 thousand of them are enlisted under Social welfare council, and another interesting fact includes approximately 75% of those organizations do not go through the renewal process after 5 years due to various reason. One of the reason behind it is lack of investment and budget. Current fiscal year also reflected that among one lakh institutions only 25 thousand (25%) of them went through the renewal process. And to remove the blanket approach adopted by the government, federation is continuously coordinating and advocating in this aspect. Likewise, the institution registration through the local level and the contradiction policies with the federal level policies were also highlighted in the session. Similarly the challenges to sustain these institutions, initiations made by the federation, lack of resources, national budget and resources used by these organization from the national treasury were also discussed in the session.

Suggestions: It has been recommended to the government to minimize the tedious process to simplify the process for registration and renewal of the organization so that not only normal people but also the marginalized and underrepresented groups and even persons with disabilities could easily established non-profit organization. It is very essential to stock the basic necessities and goods during the emergency and for such emergencies government should prioritize the persons with disabilities, marginalized and underrepresented groups and at the same time mainstream these groups under the provisions of the nations and services provided by the government to improve their living conditions.

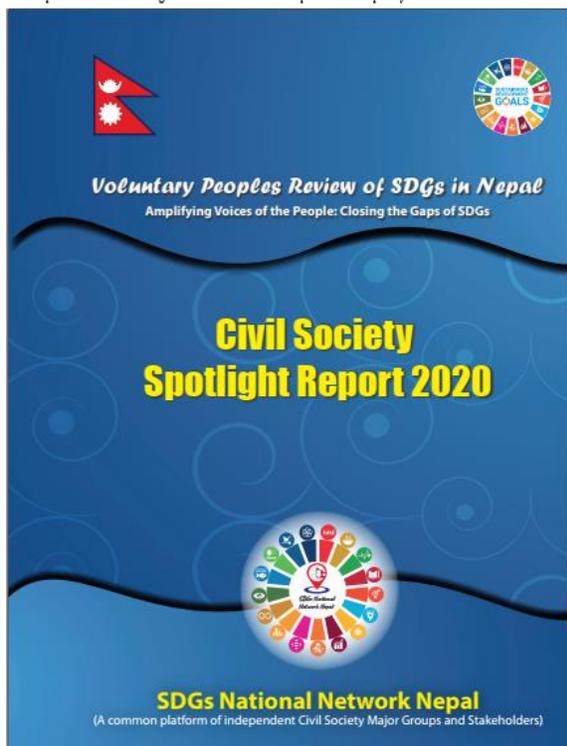
1. Dedicate targeted spending at the regional and national level focusing health, social, economic, mental health measures including sustainable local measures as per the needs of on the ground and also embrace a fragility, conflict and violence lens across all response and recovery strategies.
2. Prioritize gender-based prevention strategies in national response plans, recovery packages and budgeting of resources and engage local governments, stakeholders, rightholders, CSOs, multistakeholder stakeholders engagement and partners who can directly influence COVID-19 responses and promote affirmative actions, behavior, perception for peace, security and stability.
3. Enforce emergency measures in a fair, just and proportionate manner and make people our partners at all levels.
4. Ensure the implementation of SDG at local level and target people-centered data and evidence to understand, design and implement solutions for current and emerging challenges and invest in intersectional and disaggregated data by caste/ethnicity, gender and disability.
5. Build more equal and inclusive societies by forging a new social contract rooted in rebuilding trust in public and private institutions.
6. Leave no one behind by adopting twin track, integrated approach with inclusive, holistic, cultural, comprehensive and design accountable and transparent fiscal policy to build back better.

Expert Meeting on Violence against Indigenous Women and Women with disabilities (Continued)

Continuing the expert meeting on Violence against Indigenous Women and Women with disabilities for the ongoing research supported by MADRE, a virtual meeting was conducted on the 24th December 2020. Activist, Ms. Rama Dhakal gave presentation in the session based on the following outline:

- Forms of Violence against Indigenous Women/Girls and Women with disabilities
- Differences in the nature and types of violence in regards to Indigenous Women and non-Indigenous Women in Nepal
- Access to justice mechanism of Nepal, Gaps & Challenges
- Updates on the cases filed in the past (forms of violence), success and unsuccessful attempts, specific cases during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Initiated activities and way forwards

After the presentation, Mr. Prabindra Shakya initiated discussion where more case studies and cases were discussed and Ms. Dhakal provided the in brief violence related data during the COVID-19 and in the year 2020.



4th South Asia SDG Forum 2020 organized by Government of Maldives and UN-ESCAP, SSWA Office

On behalf of the South Asia Civil Society Organizations Ms. Pratima Gurung from NIDWAN presented the statement from the Civil Society Organizations from South Asia on the opening session of the 4th South Asia SDG Forum 2020 organized by Government of Maldives and UN-ESCAP, SSWA (2nd & 3rd Dec 2020).

Ms. Pratima Gurung, President of NIDWAN expressed gratitude towards the different Governments in South Asia for submitting and commitment for the VNR report next year. Then she highlighted on the COVID-19 impact on the implementation and integration of SDG Goals, deepened pre-existing inequalities and exposure of gaps within the systems due to ongoing pandemic, shrinking spaces of CSOs, elevated scenario of inequality, increased violence against women, marginalized groups including harassment and abrupt shutdown of the civil society organizations. Likewise she added on the monitoring, follow up and review process have proven to be critical in understanding, managing and mitigating the human, social and economic impacts in COVID so systematic intervention is required to reach the most marginalized groups.



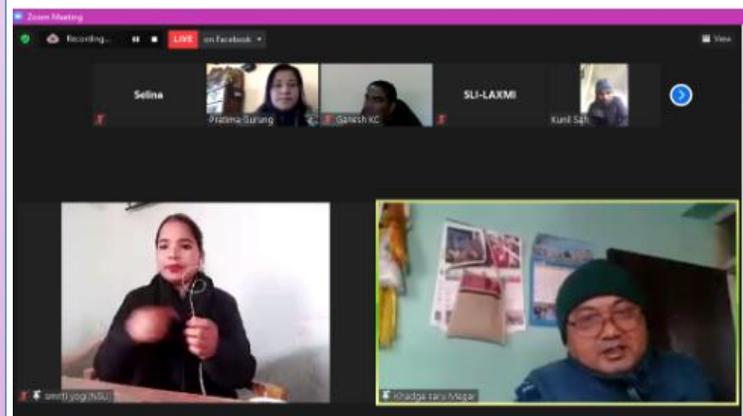
Virtual Panel Discussion on Access, Challenge, Equal Opportunities and Participation of Persons with disabilities in Society

Celebrating 75th Years of United Nations, a virtual panel discussion on Access, Challenge, Equal Opportunities and Participation of Persons with disabilities in Society was organized on the 23rd of December. The panelists of the discussion includes Ms. Pratima Gurung, Academic Activist and President NIDWAN, Mr. Pratigya Shakya, Artist, Ms. Shristi Kc, Founder and Director, Blind Rocks, and Mr. Gajendra Budhathoki, Writer and Journalist. Ms. Malvika Subba, Media personality moderated the discussion. Ms. Gurung elaborated on the understanding of disability, emerging concept of disability in our country, provisions regarding disability in the national policies and UNCRPD, types of disabilities, functional limitation, discrimination and violence faced by these groups basically indigenous women and women with disabilities. She emphasized that disability is a social and common issue and it has to be reflected and sensitized to all at all level and both from private to public spheres.

Disability and Human Rights Training/ Interaction Continuation

Virtual training/interaction entitled 'Interaction on Disability and Human Rights' in joint collaboration of Center of Independent Living for Persons with Disabilities- Kathmandu (CIL Kathmandu), National Indigenous Disabled Women Association Nepal (NIDWAN), National Association of the Sign Language Interpreters Nepal (NASLI- Nepal) and in the coordination of National Disabled Journalist Association Nepal Disability Development Forum- Bajhang, Disability Women's Association- Rupandehi, ReCed- Tanahu, Rural Disability Concern Center-Dhanusha & Disability Development Association- Udayapur. In the month of December, three sessions of virtual training entitled 'Interaction on Disability and Human Rights' were continued. Mentioned below are the session details:

1. Session 24: Ms. Pandu Pariyar, Activist & Central Committee Member (1st December)
Title: *Issues of Dalit Persons with*
2. Session 25: Mr. Pawan Ghimire, Chairperson of Nepal Blind Cricket Association (8th December)
Title: *Understanding on UNCRPD*
3. Session 27: Ms. Pratima Gurung, Disability Rights Expert & President, NIDWAN (15th December)
Title: *Understanding Underrepresented Groups within Disability and Linking with CRPD (22nd December)*
4. Session 28: Mr. Khadga Saru Magar, Activist and President, Nepal Indigenous Disabled Association
Title: *Issues of Indigenous persons with disabilities*
5. Session 29: Mr. Maheshwor Ghimire, Activist, Disability Right Expert (29th December)
Title: *Implementation of CRPD and Concluding Observation of CRPD*



COVID-19 STORY featuring Persons with Disabilities -V

Story 5: I am a **69 year old unmarried women with disability** from Sindhuli, currently dwelling in Kathmandu with 8 family members. I **became disabled at the age of 6 after being hit by a buffalo** in my village. In the early years after the incident, I could walk and move a bit but was bedridden after the age of 10. **If I had received medical treatment at that time, I would have been able to live a normal life today but due to poor financial condition of my family, they were unable to afford for my treatment.**

Today my life is limited to the four walls of my room and hospital. I cannot walk or move without others help and have to excrete laying on the bed. Living life like this is very difficult and I hope no one has to ever live their life like this. I don't see any meaning to my life either. In addition to my disability, I am suffering from pneumonia which has impacted my respiration. Today I am alive only because of my niece who works so hard to take care of me. I told her to leave me and let me die alone but she insisted on taking care of me. She is 35 years old and couldn't get married as she spends most of her time with me. I have to visit hospital 4 to 5 times a month and have to get admitted. I wish no one would have to suffer like me as this respiration problem is no less than dying. In a month, I stay in the hospital for 23 days and spend only 7 days at home. I have no idea how I am supposed to survive like this, I need to take medicine every day and if small problem are not taken care of it results in big complications. I don't have money for all these treatment and medicines. Previously, Guru from *Gumba* used to pay for my medical bills but he has also died. Think about these expenses worries me a lot.

To add more to my problem, **abrupt lockdown has been implemented by the government which has restricted my hospital visits. Since the onset of the lockdown, I have not been able to receive my regular treatments.** Even if I somehow manage to reach hospital due to current situation they won't agree to treat me.

Story 6: My disability comes under the category of Dwarfism (Physical Disability) and currently living in Boudha, Kathmandu with my family. Originally I am from Sindhuli. I work at Tusal Vehicle Business and **we are frequently bullied and teased due to our condition** in our office however I used to live a dignified life as I earned for myself. But due to recent lockdown, it has been extremely difficult for me.

Since Boudha is one of the most expensive area in the city, the rents are also comparatively very high including the market rates (vegetables and other commodities). Due to abrupt lockdown, our office has been shut down and since then it has been very difficult to afford the daily necessities of my family. I have children and they are very young, I have nowhere else to go and in the current pandemic, I am scared to even wander around to seek job. This scary virus has affected the whole world and have no treatment or vaccine at the moment. In Nepal as well, I have heard from the news that many people have been infected and few of them lost their lives. **Worldwide thousands of people are dying because of the coronavirus but I don't understand why in Nepal no one is dying. I am worried whether people are not dying in Nepal or the deaths have been kept secret by the government to reduce the panic among the citizens.** I have also heard that a lot of people are being diagnosed with mental health issues and stress due to the current situation. In the mist of it, receiving the news of people being recovered bought us positive vibes.

Despite the fear against the virus, there is a huge issues of managing daily necessities in low-income family and daily wage workers like mine. The relief provided by the government is not enough as they didn't last for a week. With no work and little savings, we are in dilemma, whether to pay rent or to buy food grains to survive.



My health is deteriorating day by day but still I could not get the treatment. My niece also lost her job and it is very hard to afford my medical expenses and our daily necessities. The respective government authority should take immediate action and necessary steps for people with disabilities like us who need regular medical assistance and have poor financial condition. Relief materials do not fulfil my immediate medical needs which is equally important as my daily diet.

Issues of Violence against Marginalized Women

Jagaran Media organized a virtual discussion in celebration of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence 2020 on the 11th of December. The panel included Ms. Pratima Gurung, President of NIDWAN, Ms. Sima Khan, President of Nepal Muslim Women's Welfare Society, Ms. Bindabasini Harijan, Dalit Activists, Kapilvastu, and Ms. Shilpa Chaudhary, Sexual and Gender Minority Community Activists. Ms. Gurung highlighted on the forms of violence against indigenous women and indigenous women with disabilities. She highlighted the collective violence and indirect violence occurring to front line human defenders. She also reflected on the violence taking place at private sphere among women with disabilities and linked the discussion with the current pandemic, and shared way forwards.

Story 6 cont.: This is not only my problem but is the story of each and every single person with disability. The relief was provided to those who have citizenship and are the permanent resident of the ward. Most people who have connections with political parties and having access to information received the relief. Some even received the relief multiple times whereas poor, elderly and needy people who are most in need of those support were left out. It is very sad to see the people who need the relief in greater extent had to stay empty stomach for many days. A lot of people didn't even get the 5 kg rice despite visiting the ward office numerous times while some had to even fight with others to get that 5 kg of rice. Right now, just by providing that 5 kg of rice government and ward officials are claiming to have helped all. Moreover, people who are trying to help by providing relief materials are taken into custody. Our government is not doing anything to recognize the problem of the citizen however are enthusiastic about stopping those who want to help and support people like us. People had to go through a tedious process to get permission to distribute relief food materials.

Rather than trying to stop people from helping, the government should have encouraged such deeds. The government should have considered these situations before announcing a sudden lockdown and prepared in advance to make sure that people would not have to suffer so much. Many people are suffering from the lockdown more than the virus itself and the people with authority should consider that well and make activities accordingly.

International Expert Group Meeting Indigenous Peoples and Pandemic

International Expert Group Meeting on Socio-economic Impacts and Consequences of Pandemics on Person/Women with Disabilities was organized by UNDESA and UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous on the 8th of December. The panelist included indigenous experts from different parts of world, EMRIP members and members from Indigenous Persons with Disabilities Global Network (IPWDGN). Ms. Pratima Gurung, representing IPWDGN highlighted the challenges faced by peoples with disabilities during COVID globally and in particular to Asia. She highlighted to mainstream disability inclusion during pandemic for accessible information, health and economic support at all levels and prioritize the COVID response and recovery immediate and long-term measure targeted to peoples with disabilities. She also focused on the importance of disaggregated data, information and support required for peoples with disabilities and consultation at grass root level.



Discussion on the Concluding Observation of the CEDAW and its implementation

NIDWAN also participated in the meetings with National Indigenous Women Federation and National Indigenous Women Forum on the concluding observation of the CEDAW and its implementation. The meetings were held with different mainstream women movements, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare Council (MoWCSC), Women Commission and others on 27th and 30th of December 2020. The issues of diverse women including the issues of women with disabilities and groups having multiple identities were stressed in the workshop.



The Role of Media in Changing Mindsets

On the 8th of December, the second dialogue series by UN agencies in Nepal: The Role of Media in Changing Mindset, One Story of Gender Based Violence is One Story too many was conducted. The speakers of the dialogue series included Ms. Salma Khatun, Deputy Mayor, Pokhariya Municipality, Mr. Esan Regmi, Intersex Rights Activist, Mr. Gopal Budhathoki, Acting Chairperson, Press Council Nepal, Mr. Kosmos Bishwokarma, Editor-in-Chief, Kathmandupress.com, President, Nepal Forum of Environmental Journalists, Ms. Nirmala Sharma, Producer/Director, Samakon, Former President, Sancharika Samuha, Ms. Pratima Gurung, Academic activist, President NIDWAN, Mr. Ranjit Acharya, CEO/Founder, Prisma Advertising, and Ms. Reecha Sharma, Nepali Movie Actor/Producer.

NIDWAN's Information Gallery

16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence 2020

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND ENVIRONMENT

Indigenous Peoples comprise of 5% of world population but preserve 80% of the global biodiversity.

Source: National Geographic, 2017



The 5% of Indigenous Population consists of women, youth, person with disabilities, elderly, sexual and other minorities.

Indigenous Peoples are guardians and custodians of global biodiversity in order to respect the ancestors and secure the future.

For more information:
Website: www.nidwan.org.np
nidwan2015@gmail.com | 977-9841457270; 9803016859
Toll free number: 16600191534
Facebook: [nidwannepal](https://www.facebook.com/profile) (<https://www.facebook.com/profile>)

कुनै पनि मनोसामाजिक सहयोग वा परामर्स चाहिएमा निडवान हेल्पलाइनमा सम्पर्क गरौं

Please remember for any kind of psychosocial support

निडवान
हेल्पलाइन

१६६००१९१५३४

NIDWAN Toll Free Number

HELPLINE

16600191534

News and Article Feature



World Directory of Minorities and Indigenous Peoples

Minorities and indigenous peoples with disabilities

Link:
<https://minorityrights.org/trends2020/nepal/?fbclid=IwAR19bplz6aYEZj1sKJzJIEQQsnWKb1k3X>

For minority and indigenous persons with disabilities in Nepal, the challenges are even more acute: in their case, the risks of physical inaccessibility, social stigma and related issues such as discrimination in employment opportunities are heightened by racism. Furthermore, minority and indigenous women with disabilities may be confronted with added barriers around gender, including not only the threat of violence and abuse from non-indigenous groups but also restrictive roles and expectations within their own communities.

Minority and indigenous issues

There are many factors that contribute to the high levels of disability among minorities such as Dalits and indigenous peoples as well as other marginalised communities living in rural areas of Nepal. Besides facing an increased exposure to risks such as environmental degradation, climate change impacts, natural disasters, conflict, violence, dangerous working conditions and accidents including in foreign employment, they also experience higher poverty levels, lower standards of health care, inadequate nutrition and a lack of suitable rehabilitation services, meaning that in the event of an accident or a debilitating illness they are less likely to recover from its effects.

Pratima Gurung says "Do Your Homework" before attending EMRIP



Link:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=76xJz8pX2Ts>

FUTURE EVENTS

- NIDWAN Advisory Meeting 2021
- NIDWAN Annual General Meeting 2021
- NIDWAN 2021 Activities Planning

CONTACT

National Indigenous Disabled Women Association-Nepal (NIDWAN)
 Lalitpur Metropolitan City, Kusunti
 nidwan2015@gmail.com, info@nidwan.org.np
 +977-9841457270, +977-9863191534
 www.nidwan.org.np
 Social Media: Facebook-Nidwan Nepal Twitter: NidwanNepal



Learn about Cultural Survival's response to Covid-19

Cultural Survival The Issues Our Approach Get Involved Latest

Search



Cultural Survival Quarterly Magazine

Nothing About Us Without Us: The Struggle for Inclusion of Indigenous Women with Disabilities

"... we want Indigenous women at the table, we want them to make their decisions, we want them to make their concrete ideas known about the issues and concerns that are affecting their lives. We don't want others who would make a decision and an agreement on behalf of us. Indigenous women with disabilities have to be brought to the frontlines by their effective and meaningful participation."

Link:
<https://www.culturalsurvival.org/publications/cultural-survival-quarterly/nothing-about-us-without-us-struggle-inclusion-indigenous>



UN Women Nepal

December 3, 2020 · 🌐

प्रत्येक दिन ५ देखि ६ जना बालिका वा महिलाले हिंसा वा बलात्कारको शिकार भोगेको अवस्था छ।

UN Women Nepal

December 3, 2020 · 🌐

प्रत्येक दिन ५ देखि ६ जना बालिका वा महिलाले हिंसा वा बलात्कारको शिकार भोगेको अवस्था छ। महिला वा बालिकालाई लैंगिकताको साथै

- >> महिलाको असक्तताको प्रकार
- >> जात जातीयता
- >> सचेतनाको स्तर

>> सामाजिक सांस्कृतिक पृष्ठभूमि लगायत थुप्रै पहिचानहरूसँग अन्तरसम्बन्धितका कारण हिंसा भोग्नु परेको अवस्था छ।

- प्रतिमा गुरुङ्

प्राज्ञ अधिकारकर्मी; अध्यक्ष, राष्ट्रिय आदिवासी जनजाति अपाङ्ग महिला संघ नेपाल

Pratima Gurung @Nidwan Nepal

Link:

<https://www.facebook.com/unwomennepal/videos/2728094180782808>