



MONTHLY BULLETIN

National Indigenous Disabled Women Association – Nepal (NIDWAN)

January & February (2020)

President's Opinion

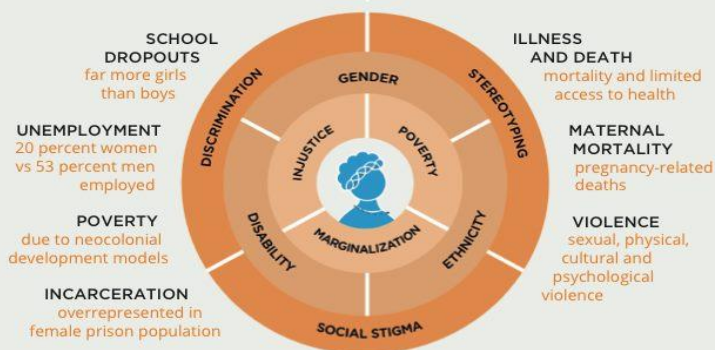
“ Empowering means that we must be at the table making decisions about the issues that affect us. ”

Pratima Gurung



Heartly Congratulation to Ms. Pratima Gurung, President of NIDWAN for being nominated for Steering Committee Member, Civil Society Co-ordination Mechanism (CSCM) for Conference of State Parties (COSP)

INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS WITH DISABILITIES SUFFER AT HIGHER RATES OF...



For indigenous women with disabilities, this triple intersection multiplies the barriers they face.

January Program Highlights

- ❖ Different Types of Impairment Skills, Training and Capacity Building of Deaf Women and Women with Disabilities
- ❖ Meeting with Mr. Parbaat Gurung, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen (MOWCSC)
- ❖ Meeting with Mr. Dipendra Kafle, Joint Secretary of the National Women Commission
- ❖ NIDWAN'S 2020 Planning Meeting
- ❖ Meeting with Mr. Parbaat Gurung, Hon'ble Minister, MOWCSC and Mr. Mitra Lal Sharma, President of National Federation of the Disabled Nepal (NFDN) on Issues of Indigenous Peoples with Disabilities and the implementation of Concluding Observation (CO) of UNCRPD and CEDAW
- ❖ 2 days Consultative session on Effects of Gender Based Violence in contexts of crisis and Human Insecurity on Sexual & Reproductive Health and Rights
- ❖ South East Asia Regional Convening of Advocates for the Rights of Women and Girls with Disabilities, Bangkok
- ❖ Guest lecture on 'Intersections of Gender, Disability and Ethnicity and its Impacts on Daily Life' at The Centre for Disability Studies, Sri Lanka



Meeting with Mr. Parbaat Gurung, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen (MoWCSC)

A meeting with Mr. Parbaat Gurung, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen was held among NIWFederation, NIWForum, INOWLAG and NIDWAN team to discuss about the implementation of Concluding Observation (CO) of UNCRPD and CEDAW on 4th January, 2020.

Meeting with Mr. Parbaat Gurung, Hon'ble Minister, MoWCSC and Mr. Mitra Lal Sharma, President of National Federation of the Disabled Nepal (NFDN) on Issues of Indigenous Peoples with Disabilities and the implementation of Concluding Observation (CO) of UNCRPD and CEDAW

A meeting with Mr. Parbaat Gurung, Hon'ble Minister of Women, Children and Senior Citizens was held to discuss the issues of indigenous peoples with disabilities and the implementation of Concluding Observations of UNCRPD and CEDAW at local level by NIDWAN and NIDA team on 13th January. During the meeting the challenges of women with disabilities, and the challenges of implementation of CO of UNCRPD and CEDAW were thoroughly discussed. NIDWAN submitted translated copies of these documents and other publications to Hon'ble Minister and to increase his awareness on the issues. The Meeting was organized by NIDWAN on the 6th of January.

The same day, a memorandum was also submitted to Mr. Mitra Lal Sharma, President and Mr. Raju Basnet, General Secretary of National Federation of the Disabled Nepal and discussion were held regarding the implementation of CO and underrepresented groups like indigenous peoples/women with disabilities.

Different Types of Impairment Skills, Training and Capacity Building of Deaf Women and Women with Disabilities

On the 2nd of January, an interaction with employment stakeholders was held in Lalitpur Municipality. Deaf women and women with disabilities were there to consult and inform the invited stakeholders. The main topic of the interaction was about the different types of skills, trainings, entrepreneurship, market and job placements for deaf people and women with disabilities. Lalitpur Municipality provided employment possibilities for deaf women and women with disabilities in different areas and spaces. NIDWAN was honored to share deaf culture and provide information on issues regarding deaf people. Additionally, NIDWAN provided input in the consultative meeting with all stakeholders and groups. In the future, NIDWAN member's aims to learn sign language and include deaf people in its program



Guest lecture on 'Intersections of Gender, Disability and Ethnicity and its Impacts on Daily life' at The Centre for Disability Studies, Sri Lanka

Ms. Pratima Gurung, President of NIDWAN, held a guest lecture on 'Intersections of Gender, Disability and Ethnicity and its Impacts on Daily life' at The Centre for Disability Studies, University of Kalaniya, Colombo Sri Lanka, on the 31st of January. The presentation highlighted the importance of intersections in the field of disability. Discussions between faculty members of different universities in South Asia were held for further collaboration. A conclusion was made to hold a South Asian level conference to create a diverse dimension within disability studies.

**The Centre for Disability Studies
of the Department of Disability
Studies, University of Kalaniya
invite you to a lecture by
Pratima Gurung**

**Intersections of Gender,
Disability and Ethnicity and its
Impact on Daily Life**

**Date: FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2020
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Venue: Lecture Hall, Department of Disability
Studies**

Ms. Pratima Gurung is a leading academic activist from Nepal. She is a Faculty member of Padmakanya College, under Tribhuvan University, one of the single women's colleges in Nepal. Her research interests include gender, disability, indigenous communities, and issues of marginalization and inclusion. She is currently pursuing her PhD on disability and gender. She has worked with people with disabilities for the past 15 years, especially with marginalized and underrepresented groups. She has published a number of articles on these issues nationally and internationally. She brings 'voiceless voices' from the margins through her research and engages in activism through organizations like the National Indigenous Disabled Women's Association Nepal (NIDWAN), Indigenous Persons with Disabilities Global Network (IPWDGN), International Disability Alliance (IDA), and the Disability Advocacy Rights Funds (DRAF) both in the local and global arena. She works closely on policy formation on issues of marginalization. You can learn about her work at www.cultural-survival.org/publications/cultural-survival-quarterly/nothing-about-us-without-us/struggle-indigenous-indigenas and [https://www.facebook.com/pratima.gurung.3194](https://www.uswomen.org/en/news/stories/2018/4/compilation-indigenous-women-claim-their-space-and-follow-her-in-face-book-at-https://www.facebook.com/pratima.gurung.3194)

NIDWAN's 2020 Planning Meeting

NIDWAN's 2020 planning meeting was held with its' team members on the 12th of January. Discussions were held on various topics that closely linked with issues of women with disabilities, for example, the impacts of climate change, grooming capacity, leadership of women with disabilities, representation in different local regional and global events, strategies of cross movement collaboration, learning from ground based activities including inclusive education, health, employment, implementation of CO of UNCRPD and CEDAW on the ground, and research. The documentation and strengthening of NIDWAN's network, by bringing members of different constituencies were discussed as priority issues for 2020.



Overall organizational Developmental

- Skill Oriented Training
- Capacity Building & Strengthening
- Robust Mechanism
- Effective Strategies

- ❖ Issues and challenges of IPs, IPWDs, IWWDs,
- ❖ Climate change and its impacts
- ❖ Strategies: Cross-movement Collaboration, Twin track Approach





Meeting with Mr. Dipendra Kafle, Joint Secretary of the National Women Commission

On the 9th of January, a meeting between Mr. Dipendra Kafle, Joint Secretary of the National Women Commission and NIWFederation, NIWForum, NIDWAN and INOWLAG was held to converse about the UNCRPD, CEDAW, CO and its implementation at three levels and updates.. During the event, current issues and challenges, need for lobby and advocacy mechanism and way forward to move collectively were discussed jointly.

2 days Consultative Session on Effects of Gender Based Violence in contexts of crisis and Human Insecurity on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

On the 14th and 15th of January, a consultative session "Effects of Gender Based Violence in contexts of crisis and human insecurity on sexual and reproductive health and rights" was hosted by the Feminist Alliance for Rights Steering Committee, the Center for Women's Global Leadership, and Forum for Women, Law and Development. This session reunited activists, advocates and frontline workers from India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Philippines and Nepal, as well as FAR Steering Committee members from six regions, who provided guidance throughout the process. On the second day, an interactive round table discussion on the strategic advocacy using HR mechanism was held. The goal of this consultation was to widen the consultation process spearheaded by FAR, and to contribute to the Working Group on Discrimination against Women and Girl's forthcoming thematic report on SRHR in contexts of crisis and human insecurity.



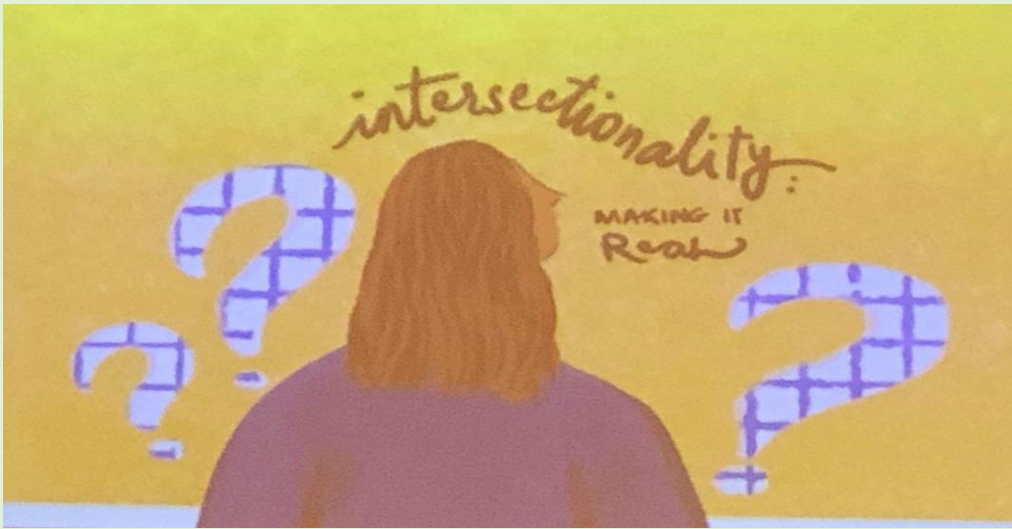
NIDWAN envisions reaching the most marginalized group and reaffirms "Nothing about us without us towards leaving no one behind."



**South East Asia Regional
Convening of Advocates for
the Rights of Women and
Girls with Disabilities,
Bangkok**

Ms. Pratima Gurung, president of NIDWAN, participated on South and South East Asia Regional Convening of Advocates for the Rights of Women and Girls with Disabilities, organized by Women Enabled International (21th-25th of January) in Bangkok. As a panelist, Ms. Gurung presented on 'Issues of Indigenous women with disabilities in Nepal and Achievements of Cross Movement Collaboration and shared her local to global advocacy.'





Asia-Pacific, Eastern Europe and Central Asia Feminist Equality Fund Consultation Meeting

The Asia-Pacific, Eastern Europe and Central Asia Feminist Consultations Meeting was organized by The Women’s Fund Asia, The Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights Asia and Pacific with the Association for Women’s Rights in Development (AWID) and the Equality Fund on the 3rd and 4th of February in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The consultation meetings brought together thirty feminists from Asia, Pacific, Eastern Europe and Central Asia to develop strategies and in-depth recommendations for the design and build phase of the new Equality Fund. Discussions focused especially on the strategy on grant making, investment, governance, and resource mobilization. It provided input and guidance to the Equality Fund’s accountability mechanisms for feminist movements including communication and feedback channels, as well as best practice for feminist consultations and pathways to engage with movements to continue throughout the life of the Fund. NIDWAN, as a partner of Equality Fund actively engaged in all the process to provide insights and allocate resources for groups working on intersectionality, disability and indigenous issues.

February Program Highlights

❖ Asia-Pacific, Eastern Europe and Central Asia Feminist Equality Fund Consultation Meeting

❖ Disability Rights Convening in Asia

❖ Inclusive Education Sharing and Framing Inclusive Education Policy at Lamjung District

❖ Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Consultation and Report Preparation Meeting 2020

❖ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Consultation and Report Preparation Meeting for Indigenous Peoples' Major Groups and High Level Political Forum 2020

❖ 2 Days National Consultation on Gender, Environment and Natural Resources

❖ 3 Days Legal Orientation Workshop for Blind Women





Inclusive Education Sharing and Framing Inclusive Education Policy at Lamjung District

On the 11th and 13th of a February, a municipality level consultation with Mr. Sukbir Thapa Mayor, Ms. Dhan Kumari Gurung, Deputy Mayor of Rainas Municipality, Principals and teachers of 42 schools, School Management Committee members, parents, students, Child Club members, local leaders was held at Rainas Municipality, Lamjung. The consultation meeting discussed existing situations, resources and challenges to frame Inclusive Education Policy and ensure access to quality education for marginalized children at local level. The concerned stakeholders shared their experiences with the representative Ms. Rachael Burten from Bank Information Center and organizers Mr. Bibek Luitel from Balkhestra Nepal and Ms. Pratima Gurung from NIDWAN. They also visited inclusive education model school and segregated school settings where deaf children were studying. The consultation program was organized by NIDWAN and Balkhestra Nepal with support from BIC. On the 14th of February, a debriefing meeting was also held among three organizations (BIC, NIDWAN and BKN) in Kathmandu.

Disability Rights Convening in Asia

The Disability Rights Convening for Women with Disabilities and Trans People in Asia was organized by Women's Fund Asia in Colombo, Sri Lanka from 6th to 8th of February. Ms. Pratima Gurung, President of NIDWAN and Member of the Steering Committee of the Disability Convening held a presentation on 'Cross Movement Collaboration and Linkages with Disability Movement'. Ms. Rashmi Tamang, General Secretary of NIDWAN also participated in the program. More than 35 participants from different countries from Asia gathered to discuss about the understanding of women with disabilities issues, movement and to strengthen the network within women movement and Trans peoples. Different right holders activists, academia and donors perspectives on working on disability, funding and resources, understanding disability issues through human library including organizational development were the topics discussed in the convening.

UPR Consultation and Report Preparation Meeting 2020

Series of meetings were held among Indigenous Peoples Organizations (IPOs) and Consortium of Marginalized Groups organizations of Nepal to integrate issues of indigenous women with disabilities under the UPR process. Nepal is preparing to submit the Indigenous People Joint Submission Report for second UPR review on March 19, 2020. Ms. Pratima Gurung and Vice President of NIDWAN, Ms. Ganga Chantyaal and Ms. Krishna Ghale, Ass. Program Officer including other team members from NIDWAN regularly took part in those meetings to reflect on the issues of disability. Ms. Pratima Gurung on behalf of NIDWAN took the lead to write and integrate the emerging issues such as disaggregated data regarding disability, participation of peoples with disabilities, multiple and intersectional discrimination faced by indigenous women with disabilities, exclusion of indigenous peoples with disabilities in Disability Act 2017, including the situation of indigenous peoples with disabilities and recommended the State to implement the CO of UNCRPD and CEDAW in the UPR report with different organizations and constituencies.



SDGs Consultation and Report Preparation Meeting for Indigenous Peoples' Major Groups and High level Political Forum 2020

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Consultation and Report preparation meetings were held among Indigenous Peoples' Organizations to prepare the Report of Nepal's Indigenous People's for Voluntary National Review (VNR) of Nepal under the UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, 2020. The report was prepared by Indigenous People's Network for SDGs Nepal. Three organizations from Nepal, LAHURNIP, NEFIN and NIDWAN, took the lead to prepare the report. Ms. Pratima Gurung from NIDWAN drafted the report on behalf of indigenous women and peoples with disabilities and recommended disaggregated data by ethnicity, disability and gender, highlights upon multiple discrimination faced by indigenous women with disabilities, exclusion of indigenous peoples issues in Disability Act 2017. NIDWAN strongly recommended working on 'Intersectional Approach' to state mechanism, civil society organizations, Indigenous Peoples Organizations and development partners and heeding the importance of 'Intersectional Approach'. The text acknowledge the value and goals of 2030 development agenda of leaving no one behind in the report. The report will be submitted to Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) and Indigenous Peoples' Major Group at global level by 20 March 2020.



2 Days National Consultation on Gender, Environment and Natural Resources

The two days National Consultation on Gender, Environment and Natural Resources was organized by Dhaatri and TEWA on 27-28th of February. NIDWAN's President Ms. Pratima Gurung, held a presentation on 'Linking Local to Global Campaigns of Indigenous Women with Disabilities: Sharing Achievements and Experiences' at the program. She provided a comprehensive understanding of indigenous women and intersectionality approach. The workshop was conducted to sensitize women, indigenous women, and women with disabilities on current issues due to developmental practices on environment and on women, legal provisions available for Environmental Justice, collect current issues, seek solutions, and frame possible strategies to tackle such issues. Various women's organizations gathered to discuss the impact of development projects, road expansions and other topics. They also discussed about free, prior and informed consent, accessible environment and participation, and representation of indigenous women and women with disabilities in the issues that affect their lives. Ms. Ganga Chantyaal, Vice President, Ms. Rashmi Tamang, General Secretary, Ms. Krishna Ghale, Ass. Program Officer and Ms. Selina Nakarmi, Program Officer of NIDWAN attended the consultation program.



3 Days Legal Orientation Workshop for Blind Women

Ms. Pratima Gurung, President of NIDWAN conducted a presentation on 'Intersectionality: Framing Feminism, Disability and Ethnicity Lens' on 3 days' Legal Orientation Workshop for blind women. The workshop was organized by Pahichaan Nepal from 25th to 29th of February and the workshop was conducted with the goal to sensitize women with disabilities on the laws, policies and legal provisions, and instruments available to women with disabilities. During the workshop, discussions were held about the understanding of UNCRPD and national laws such as the Disability Act 2017. NIDWAN's members, Ms. Ganga Chantyaal, Vice President, Ms. Mira Tamang, Secretary, Ms. Krishna Ghale, Ass. Program Officer, Ms. Selina Nakarmi, Program Officer and Ms. Kopila Tamang attended the workshop to understand the laws and issues related with blind women and women with disabilities.



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