# SECTION ONE: ORGANIZATION'S INFORMATION

#### 1.1 Introduction

Envisioning 'a just and peaceful society with gender equality Jagaran Nepal (JN) was established in 2002 AD as a not-for-profit non-governmental organization (NGO) in Kathmandu District Administration Office (DAO) under Organization Registration Act- 2034 BS. Since the beginning, JN has been advocating for women's access to decision making of political, social and economic sphere of the community.

Within a journey of nearly two decades, Jagaran Nepal has established itself as a leading organization working in the sector of women's equal participation in decision making, politics and governance system at every structure of community and the state. It introduced and contributed in establishing established the agenda- *Women in Politics*- in the country which has been expanded and adopted by various organizations these days. Jagaran Nepal has continuously supported and advocated for human rights, social protection, establishment of democratic practices, etc. It has implemented different programs associated with women rights, peace and governance particularly 'voter education programs in KARNALI -region', 'conflict affected and potential women leaders empowerment programs', 'women's economic empowerment', 'women's skills as well as leadership development program through RESOURCE CENTERS, women's reproductive health, girl child education, violence against women and girls and other contemporary issues such as food security, climate change, disaster and sustainable development goals (SDGs).

Based on the above mentioned issues, along with renewed energy and experience, JN will continuously be engaged for the protection and promotion of women's social, political, economic and cultural rights.

# 1.2 Organizational Vision, Mission, Goal and Objectives

Vision: A Just and Peaceful Society with Gender Equality

**Mission:** Promote Women's Equal Participation in Decision Making, Politics and Governance System of all structure of community and the state.

**Goal:** Contribute to establish a good, capable and effective women's leadership in the decision making, politics and governance system of community and the state.

# **Objectives**

- Transfer skills, knowledge and information among local, provincial and national stakeholders, political parties and communities.
- ❖ Create an enabling environment for women's equal participation in all structure of community and the state including political and public sphere.
- ❖ Facilitate and provide necessary support to enhance the leadership of existing and potential women leaders.
- ❖ Eliminate discrimination and violence against women and children through women's increased 'access to' and 'control over' the financial resources.
- ❖ Work on to address and mitigate the negative impacts of disaster, climate change, food

- security and other contemporary issues on women and girls.
- ❖ Conduct research and constantly monitor to strengthen accountability for women's equal participation.

# 1.3 Working Strategies

- → Evidence Based Lobby and Advocacy
- → Men Engagement for Gender Equality
- → Institutional Development
- → Coordination and collaboration with political parties, government and non-government/private sectors for women's equal participation
- → Capacity Building
- → Research and Knowledge/Skill Transfer
- → Develop common understanding on women's equal participation
- → Social Mobilization

#### 1.4 Thematic Areas

Women's Equal Participation in Politics, Decision Making and Good Governance

Contemporary Issues (Disaster, Food Security and Climate Change)

Women's Access to and Control
Over to Economic Resources

Violence Against Women and Girls

# 1.5 Target Groups

- Existing political women leaders and Potential Women Leaders from Political and Social Sectors
- Women & girls from excluded and marginalized communities
- Youth and disadvantaged groups
- Community people

# 1.6 Networking and Collaboration

National	International
→ NGO Federation of Nepal	→ Synergos Fellow Award Program
→ Shanti Malika	→ JUBLIEE South Asia Pacific Movement
→ Alliance Against Trafficking of Women and Girls in Nepal (AATWIN)	on Democracy and Development (JSAPMDD)
→ Women in Policy Advocacy Alliance (WIPAA)  Women Security Pressure Group (WSPG)	→ International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism (IMADR)
<ul> <li>→ Women Security Pressure Group (WSPG)</li> <li>→ Men Engage Alliance</li> <li>→ Right to Food (RtF) Network</li> <li>→ National Women Rights Monitoring Network</li> <li>→ Human Rights Treaty Monitoring Coordination Committee (HRTMCC)-CEDAW Sub-committee</li> <li>→ Human Rights Alliance</li> <li>→ National Disaster Management Network of Nepal (DiMaNN)</li> <li>→ Women Friendly Disaster Management</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>→ South Asian Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE)- Core Committee Member</li> <li>→ Association of Women in Development (AWID)</li> <li>→ Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD)</li> <li>→ International Women and Peace Group (IWPG)</li> </ul>
→ Women Friendly Disaster Management (WFDM	

# 1.7 Core Values

- ➤ Social/Gender Justice and Inclusion
- Respect to Community Values
   Gender Equality
   Do no harm

- TransparencyHuman Rights and Democratic Norms
- Neutrality
- > Zero Tolerance to Violence against women

#### SECTION TWO: MAJOR THEMATIC & PROGRAMMATIC INTERVENTIONS

Jagaran Nepal have focus on five major thematic issues. Those are women's equal participation in politics, decision making and good governance, women's access to and control over to economic resources, contemporary issues like disaster, food security climate change, violence against women and girls and lobby and advocacy. Jagaran Nepal focuses on promoting women empowerment through leadership development, skill development for entrepreneurship. At the same time, we are advocate and lobby on women issues particularly violence against women and girls, contemporary social issues like disaster, right to food, tax and debts, etc.

# 2.1 Women's Equal Participation in Politics, Decision Making and Good Governance.

Since the inception in 2002, Jagaran Nepal has been continuously advocating for the women's

meaningful proportional representation in local governance and decision making. Jagaran Nepal is a pioneer organization working for women inclusion in politics and

contributing for democratic governance and is able to reach more

than 25 districts of Nepal including the most challenged Karnali zone in partnership with local organizations. It's been working towards increasing awareness on human rights, women rights, democratic governance and sustainable peace. It has also been contributing to enhance leadership of potential women leaders from different political parties, community and social institutions at different level.



Jagaran Nepal has been continuously dedicated to organize discussions and forums to spread awareness among the general public about the importance of equal women's participation in the public sphere. To fulfill its aims and objectives, Jagaran Nepal is currently advocating and creating pressure for equal women's participation in local governance, decision making level, and political

party's mechanism as well.



In recent era, leadership development of women is core issue of Jagaran Nepal similarly capacity strengthening of elected women leader is a part of our issue. Now, we are working for all level of women leader. Regarding the women's political participation, after the local, province and federal level election, Jagaran Nepal is heading to focus on issues regarding capacity development of elected women leader by providing

various types of capacity strengthening packages and educating them on law making process, roles and responsibility of elected leader and their confidence building as a leader. Thought out the project, capacity strengthening of elected women leaders, we are working at different local Government naming Kailari Rural Municipality, Gauriganga Municipality and Panchadewal Binayak Municipality, with the aims to enhance their leadership and educate them on their thematic roles, their roles and input in gender friendly law making process as well as role of monitoring for its effective implementation.

Similarly, leadership building of young women is also one of the thematic areas of Jagaran Nepal. Under this theme, we are going to coach, continuously educate and empower to community young women and provide different kinds of leadership skills. Now they are working as role model in the community.

As per working experience in different district, there are many important case study regarding on women's leadership development which we had documented during the project period. Jagaran Nepal would like to share few of them.

Case Studies: Jagaran Nepal has helped to transform my life - From the House wife at Gauradaha to Exposure visit to China with central level leader.

# Jalbarsha Rajbanshi, Jhapa

Ms. Jalbarsha Rajbanshi (Chaudhary), aged 37, has been involved in Gauradha WEG (Women Empowerment Group) since the establishment. She continued her



study even after marriage and has completed BBS. Belonging to a normal family, she has worked hard after being involved in WEG. As as a result, in less than two years, she has made herself as a role model for many women from marginalized communities in her rural municipality.

She has said, "because of Jagaran Nepal and local partner organization, I got involved in many leadership training program that has inspired and encouraged me to do better. Through such trainings, meetings, interaction programs, I learned leadership skill, especially public speaking and eventually was able to give speeches confidently in our community". According to her, she gained knowledge on many issues especially regarding politics, economics, women rights through the programs conducted under this project. She says " Jagaran Nepal has helped to transform my life drastically. I was confined within the household chores but after gaining knowledge about importance of women's participation in politics, I have been politically active in my community and I believe that political empowerment is very necessary tool to bring changes in lives of women. It provides power to make decisions". With the hard work and dedication, Jalbarsha was elected as women ward member (non reserved seat) in local level election and also won the position of executive member of Gauradaha Municipality.

Ms. Rajbanshi expressed that, if one is willing to work hard, one can achieve the desired goal. She was appreciated and praised in the community for her social works and eventually was also able to participate in international event (week long China tour) as well. She is thankful towards Jagaran Nepal for conducting such project that has been able to bring changes in her life. She expressed her commitment to eradicate

malpractices in the community and contributing in raising awareness for economic and political empowerment of women.

Case Study: "I became District Coordination Committee Member from House Wife through the JN

support "



Bhagawati Chamling , Hanggum-3 of Panchthar

Born in 2028 B.S. in Hanggum-3 of Panchthar, Ms. Chamling has shown adore interest in social service since her youth days. Because of this, she has been involved in group formulation and group facilitation process as well. She started her social life after being members of women groups and paralegal committee. With the help of different NGO's , she got knowledge on legal issues, basic knowledge on social movement and started to advocate on women and children issues. She has completed formal education till plus two and has been involved in various coordinating activities.

She got married to Mr. Min Bahadur Makhiya and is a mother of two children. Since then she has been successfully carrying out her role both as homemaker as well as social worker in her community. She has been involved in Hangum Women Empowerment group created and supported by HUCODEC and JN. After being involved in the group, she attended various workshops and trainings, quarterly meetings, interaction programs and also got chance to work in Women agriculture cooperative as a member. She also submitted her nomination for women ward member after her regular involvement in political upfront at ward no 5 but, she couldn't win the position. However, due to her active involvement in the social activities and politics and her continuous advocacy for women rights, she was elected to district coordination committee member. She says "The training and capacity building programs of SMARCO Project has enhanced my confidence in myself. I learned leadership skills and got the chance to be DCC member as well. I will perform my duty and responsibility towards community and will continue to advocate for women rights"

# 2.2 Women's Access to and Control over Economic Resources

Jagaran Nepal second major thematic area is women's access and control over economic resources. Under this theme, JN is continuously advocating for women's access on resources, the resources are government budget, natural resources, market and productivity as well. Due to continuous support by skill development trainings, counseling's, education on government services; women's are able to claim the resources and able to find out the long-term economic resources.



Jagaran Nepal has been utilizing resources available at the local level to uplift women and make resources more accessible for them as well as to help them develop crucial skills. Jagaran Nepal has been designing and developing program which helps to uplift their economic status and it has been contributing significantly towards the improvement of their quality of life. This theme is helping to bring peace in the community by bringing together women and children from marginalized and underdeveloped

#### communities.

Under this theme, Jagaran Nepal is organiging various kind of skill development opportunities, which are mostly related to technical skills such as computer training, boutique training, beautician training, mobile repair training, etc. Through such extra skill development opportunities, local women have been able to generate a monthly income or they became financially strong. Throughout

the theme, nearby 150 men and women are able to find out the economic empowerment opportunities only in year of 2018. Women have now become self reliant by increasing their financial access and enjoying their quality of life. As per working experience in different districts, there are many important case study regarding on women's Economic Empowerment, we had documented during the project period. Jagaran Nepal would like to share few of them.



Case study: " Jagaran Nepal has helped me to become independent financially and able to earn money for myself and my family"



#### ChandarakalaGautam, Taplejung

Elected women ward Member: ward no 4, Sidingwa rural municipality, Taplejung

Ms.Gautam has been involved in Mehele Women Empowerment group since its beginning that was created in support of NWEA and JN. After local election, it has changed into Sidingwa rural municipality and she is member of ward number 4. She and her whole family member were involved in traditional agriculture farming .Due to her less income in agriculture, she was having trouble to sustain her family. However, after being member of group under SMARCO, she was referred for member of Nepali Congress Party. Her involvement in politics has widened her knowledge and understanding on need of women involvement in politics for changes in the society.

Despite of her political involvement, she had an urge to actively participate in all the activities conducted by SMARCO and improve her financial stability. Under this project, women were selected from poor communities who were deprived of basic resources for skill development training. She was selected as participant for skill development training. She says "I used to attend different kind of workshop and training provided by rural municipality, but the workshop couldn't even provide proper food/ lunch to participants. I searched alternatives for this and I got a chance to run the bakery near high school after attending 11 days bakery training at Fungling municipality". After the workshop, she has started work on her own bakery shop at her own village and sells around Rs. 1500 per day. She has been saving Rs. 500 per day from her income which has helped her run her family and has been getting support from her husband and family for conducting bakery shop and to participate in programs relating to political empowerment.

# 2.3 Violence against Women and Girls

One of the thematic areas of Jagaran Nepal is violence against women and girls. Jagaran Nepal, since the beginning has been advocating for the elimination of violence against women. In coordination, collaboration and partnership with various national and international women's rights organization, JN involves in community awareness, policy advocacy and violence survivors socioeconomic and legal empowerment. Organization has involved in various national, local and sometimes international meetings, gatherings and workshops and raises its concerns about eliminating violence against women and girls.

Under this theme, Jagaran Nepal has one of the major and continuous task that is, documentation and analysis of the violence and discrimination cases. To support on elimination of violence against women's and girls, violence against women (VAW) news collection, analysis and disseminate to the all level of related stakeholders on the forms of report, bulletin, news and articles. Similarly

organizing different trainings, workshop orientation, participation in rally and mobilizing all form of media, jagaran Nepal is going to contribute in this issue.

Similarly, Under the project Upholding rights of Minorities beyond borders —South Asia UTBM, Jagaran Nepal is also working to eliminate the harmful practice, so called chaupadhi as extreme form of violence against women.

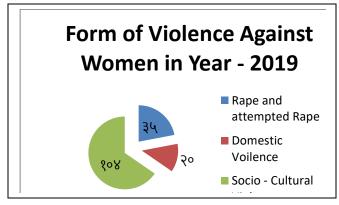
To support on elimination and control violence against women, Jagaran Nepal has been working in close collaboration and coordination with different local, national as well as international networks for achieving its set goals. From the date of its establishment, it has been showing its solidarity and has been actively participating in different campaigns and initiatives of national and international networks working in field of all kind of discrimination against women, and women rights. Jagaran Nepal is working actively on the gender based violence, caste based



discrimination and awareness campaign against harmful practices. To contribute the issue, Jagaran Nepal has active participation in international day celebration, rally camping and memorandum submission.



With the source of different news papers, JN used to analysis and document the VAW news of year 2019 January to December. There are 159 VAW cases which are published or documented. Among them Case of rape or attempt to rape cases are 35, domestic violent against women cases are 20 and social and cultural violence against women cases are 104, that are documented.



Chaupadhi Pratha is an Extreme form of gender based discrimination against Women & Girls (Upholding Rights of Minorities beyond Borders - South Asia (URMB)

Under the project **Upholding rights of Minorities beyond borders** – **South Asia UTBM**, Jagaran Nepal is also working to eliminate the harmful practice, so called chaupadhi as extreme form of violence against women.

Jagaran Nepal is also currently working for elimination of harmful ill practices prevalent in Nepali society in far western region's of five district Achcham, Bajhang, Dadeldhura, Doti and Bajura. Such



harm-full practices are still alive in our society, especially in far western region of Nepal, so-called "Chhaupadi". Chaupadi is a kind of practice, which is promoting extreme violence against women and girls. A lot of factors are going to contribute in making it alive; including family member's,

society, cultural norms, values and practices, traditional beliefs, religion and religious leader as well. Among them religious leader (Sorecerer-*Dhami, Shaman-Jhakri, pundits and pujaris*) are playing dominant role to present this harm-full practices.

The practice of chhaupadi originates from the superstition that menstruation causes women to be temporarily impure, based on the myth that, Indra created menstruation as a means to distribute a curse. In this logic, it is believed that if a menstruating woman touches a tree, it will never again bear fruit; if she consumes milk, the cow will not



give any more milk; if she reads a book, Saraswati, the goddess of education, will become angry; if she touches a man, he will be ill.

The practice persists in rural areas primarily in Far Western Nepal. It is also called 'chhue' or 'bahirhunu' in varius far western district of Nepal. The tradition begins with an adolescent

girl's menarche, in which she remains in the shed for up to fourteen days; afterwards, she must spend the duration of each monthly period in the shed, until she reaches menopause. Additionally, women who have just given birth must stay in the shed with their child for up to two weeks.

Menstruating women and girls are required to remain isolated from their family, and are forbidden from entering homes, kitchens, schools, and temples. During this time, they remain in what is often a menstruation hut, usually made from wood or stone. In some locations, women may stay isolated from their



family in a separate room attached to the house, such as a shed used for storing tools.

In this menstruation period, they are also restricted from participating in family, religious or social functions, such as attending the weddings or going to the temple, and girls are prevented from going to school. They are barred from consuming milk, yogurt, butter, meat, and other nutritious foods, for fear that their impurity will cause cows to become ill.

Due to this practices, girls and women stay outside the home, infant children as well as juvelines also stay in the shed with their mother. This may cause sexual violence, rape cases, attract by animal, especially snake and other animal. Within the last two years, more than twelve women's and girls died while living in the menstrual shed. Similarly, numbers of children were dead with their mother, which is called force death for women and girls.



As per Jagaran Nepal's fact-finding through field visit, data

collection & verification and target group discussion & orientation with different stakeholder like Student, local political and social leader, women's group, local religious leader and government authorities as well, we consider that this practice is extreme religious factor, where the religious leader are playing vital role for institutionalization of Chhaupadi issue in Nepali society. It seems that, this practice is an extreme discrimination against women and girls. To eliminate this kind of harm-full practices of society, different kinds of awareness program should be designed. To control, illuminate and contribute this issue, Jagaran Nepal has been developing different kind of awareness campaign.

To eliminate and reduce such extreme form of violence, Jagaran Nepal is committed to work on affected groups and continue to advocate on Women Human Rights in the context of different time period according to the situation of violence against women.

# 2.4 Contemporary Issues (Disaster, Food Security , Climate Change and Tax Justice)

JN has been involved in advocacy for gender sensitive disaster risk reduction plans and policies.

Immediately after the devastating earthquake on 25th April, 2015, JN massively involved in relief package distribution to the affected people as well as strongly advocated for initiating some specific programs for earthquake affected women and children . It implemented livelihood support program focusing earthquake affected communities. Community Resource Centre (CRC) and Habitat Resource Centre (HRC) has been built using Build Back Better & Safer (BBBS) approach in Kavre and Dolakha district where various awareness programs, seminars, trainings are conducted .



JN conducts periodically advocacy and lobby events either at national level or community level and advocates for the women's participation and inclusiveness in the issues of climate change in coordination with Climate Change National Networks (to which JN is a member). Likewise, JN works in the fields of agriculture, food security, food sovereignty and right to food which are directly concerning the women and children. In affiliation with various national and international networks, it has been working in several advocacies, litigation as well as capacity building programs.

Being an active member of National network on Right to Food, it has been conducting activities to fight against challenges such as food insecurity and has carried out activities by making the common citizens aware and giving financial empowerment to women so as to consume pure, healthy and quality food.

Therefore, Jagaran Nepal has continuously advocating, lobbying in different national and international forums like Right to Food Network (RtFN) being active member, as well as in workshops and conference for promoting human rights to food especially which are directly related to women, their rights to food and health. Besides, it also uses advocacy tool like press meet, which is disseminated widely to pressurize the government for implementation of agriculture friendly policies, raising voices of vulnerable groups.

#### 2.4.1 Women and Natural Disasters

Jagaran Nepal has been working on disaster preparedness, humanitarian support by providing relief materials as well as providing psychosocial counseling to the traumatized victims of disasters. Jagaran Nepal's working areas are earthquake affected area like Sindhupalchowk, Dolakha and Ramechhap from the beginning. Jagaran Nepal had developed program for support on Architecture & Development with the support of



Cites Unies France (CUF) built three Community Resource Centers (CRC) in these districts. During the program, a special priority was given to vulnerable groups particularly women, children, and elderly people among those affected by the earthquake.

Jagaran Nepal support to build community centers with aim to manage local level disaster and handover to the target community. Including CRC some equipment to use for rescue during disaster had been provided. Such as, mike (loud speaker), First Aid Kit Box, Stretcher, tripal (tarpaulin/canopy/tent) rope, pick, shovel, scissors, hand Shaw, lever (iron), mat, hammer, buckets, axe, flex print of various useful telephone numbers. As demanded by the local women group, 4 sewing machines to the most vulnerable, identified by the women group, were provided for income generation.

Women's group of community people was established with name of Jagaran Women group's and they are using that community building to conduct their regular group meetings, conduct AGM and income generating trainings for women, support by local government and other stakeholders.

# 2.4.2 Women's Perspective Relief support 2019 : Bara Parsa Storm and Hurricane

Jagaran Nepal has been working continuously during the time of disaster and also educates and orients community people regarding disaster preparedness and management of disaster by gender lens. We used to support community peoples within the projects and also without project. JN used to support them as per it's expertise and having resources.

In this regards, During the Bara, Parsa, massive storm and hurricane on 31 March, the disaster killed around 20 people and injured more than 700 people. Jagaran Nepal responded to the disaster through Collective Campaign in most affected Feta and Subarna rural municipalities by providing relief materials. The immediate relief materials basically by women's need perspective included blankets, warm clothes and kitchen utensils necessary for women, children and elderly people. The relief material was distributed by coordinating with local government and security. A help desk has been established in collaboration collective campaign, different civil society organizations, local CBOs. It mainly coordinates for relief operation during the events of natural disasters, provides psychosocial counseling to the traumatized victims of disasters. Jagaran Nepal is committed in providing continuous support to operate this help desk.

# 2.5 National and International lobby/ advocacy camping on Women's Political, Social, Cultural and Economic Rights

Jagaran Nepal has been part of continuous advocacy and lobby, awareness raising program, pressurizing concerned authorities with collaboration of Network, federation and respective groups of people is core issue of Jagaran Nepal. Apart from

forming networks, JN has been involved in lobby/advocacy visit to different political parties, conducting national dialogue on issues of women's participation and leadership, developing different IEC materials and circulating to almost 40 districts of Nepal by raising awareness among people about the importance of women's political participation and leadership.





# 2.5.1 National lobby / advocacy

#### **Submission of Memorandum**

Jagaran Nepal used to conduct Lobby visit/meeting and memorandum submission visit to create a pressure regarding the



women's
meaningful
participation and
representation in
each mechanism
of government, all



level of government structure and political parties as well. We have been conducting series of visit with different government authorities like National Election Commission, different Political party office, central, province level and local level as well. The name of political party is Nepali Congress, CPN UML, RPP, etc; where the memorandum was handed to the respected officials or head of the institution. Similarly Jagaran Nepal used to involve in gender friendly policy advocacy from center to local level, which is one of the very effective ways to create mass awareness and reaching out to a wider population. In recent era, we are advocating for gender friendly local level laws, policies and programs and gender budgeting as well.

# **Rally**

To contribute the issue of violence against women, all kinds of discrimination against women, girls and children, caste based discrimination and protection and promotion of over all human rights, Jararan Nepal used to participate and work as coorganizer in different kinds of rally and camping program like international women's day, international labor day, International National Human Rights days, 16 days camping of



violence against women's and girls. Jagaran Nepal used to involve by collaboration of different

thematic CSO's and government agencies like AATWIN, National Human Right Commission, Ministry of Women Children and Senior Citizen.

Similarly, during the local, province and federal level Election, Jagaran Nepal had successfully mobilized more than 20 networks (in which more than 500 organizations affiliated) that had created collective pressures to the



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authorities. Though it was mobilized for advocacy purposes, it gave multiplying effects towards the women's rights movement at large. Entire civil society organizations working for women's rights comes under the same umbrella "SAJHA ABHIYAN" and contribute for the women's participation in local, province and federal level governments. For this, advocacy along with media mobilization, rally, memorandum submission, lobby meeting with different political party to ensuing the women's participation in all tires of

governments.



2.5.2 International lobby / advocacy

Women and Tax Justice

In recent era, Jagaran Nepal is going to policy advocate on women and tax justice.

Jagaran Nepal is working actively as member of "Jubilee South Asia

Pacific Movement on Debt and Development (JSAPMDD), which is a regional alliance of peoples' movements, community organizations, coalitions, NGOs and networks. The network was established 19 years ago in South Asia and Southeast Asia. Under this network, there are other few CSO's from Nepal working as member of this network. Recently, Mrs Sharmila Karki, from All Nepal Women Association (ANWA), was nominated President of APMDD in Nepal for the next 2 years. It's honor to announce here that, Mrs. karki is founder president of Jagaran Nepal.



Under this international network, Jagaran Nepal has active participation and involvement in the issue of women and tax justices. Last year, annual meeting was held from 16th - 26th February, 2019 in Bangkok Thailand, where Ms. Pratikcha Basnet participated on the behalf of Jagaran Nepal. With coordination and collaboration, Jagaran Nepal used to advocate issue of tax justice by gender lens.

# **Beijing+ 25's Review Consultation**

In 1995, the Fourth World Conference on Women was held in Beijing, China. Women from the conscious and organized civil society in the field of women's rights in Nepal had been actively preparing for this since 1994. The fourth World Women's Conference held with the slogan "Let's view this world through the eyes of women" established the concept of empowered development on the issue of women's rights for all



women as well as young girls. The conference also helped establish the principle that women's rights are human rights and human rights are women's rights.

In 2020, the fourth World Women's Conference is completing its 25th year. 2020 will be a very important and exciting year for women who have been struggling for the rights of women and girls all over the world. To make this year successful and full of achievements, Beyond Beijing Committee Nepal has organized a programme and Jagaran Nepal is also participating in it by playing a significant role in the committee and contributing to an important issue. The fourth World Women's Conference has adopted a Beijing manifesto and an action plan and has pledged to review it every 5 years. For this organization too, the +5, +10, +15, +20 review reports are actively presented to the United Nations. Especially since the work is mostly about Women in Power and Women at the Decision Making Level, it has been showing activism in support of advocacy for such issues.

It has been helping Nepali women and girls achieve gender equality by protecting and promoting human rights. The organization has been making efforts to pass the Beijing Manifesto proposed at the Fourth World Women's Conference, and has also been working towards monitoring, evaluating and reviewing the work policies so that they can be implemented. Furthermore, it also submits

suggestions and reports to the concerned bodies. Jagaran Nepal also participates in meetings of the United Nations' Commission on Women's Status every year.

Review meetings were held in all provinces in Nepal. For that, Jagaran Nepal had played a vital role to review in province three, at which, Mina Bista from Jagaran Nepal played a critical reviewer role and role of feedback collection.

#### CEDAW Shadow Report on article 7

Jagaran Nepal had played the leading role to prepare and finalize the CEDAW Report since the begging. During the report preparation, Jagaran handle the role of core team in article seven issues of participation. Which it talks about the Political and public life; Women have equal rights to vote, hold public office and participate in Women should be able to represent their country internationally and work with international organizations on an equal basis with men.

This is the years of CEDAW report submission years. In this regards most of civil society organization from Nepal had participated the CEDAW international conference and issue raise and inline the women rights issue in national and international laws through the CEDAW reports and interaction, which was held in GENEVA. They raised concerns about patterns of discrimination and violence against women, especially dalit, women with disability marginalized community and rights and also discrimination on socio-cultural rights of women. Mrs. Sharmila karki founder chain person and senior women activist also had participated on the behalf of Jagaran Nepal. During the program, she explored the issue of challenge and problem faced by women during her personal and professional life.

# 2.5.3 Media Advocacy

Among various forms of advocacy, media itself is a major tool. To contribute the issue of women rights, peace and justice, Jagaran Nepal has been designing and developing the different kind of media advocacy through mobilizing different form of media like, Television, radio, news, reports, jingles, poster, pamphlets and leaflets etc. Among them, media advocacy through television program is one of the important advocacy forums, because of its access to mass people.

With aim to raise awareness women's participation in all level of government and non-government structure, Jagaran Nepal had developed various kind of television program with the collaboration of Nepal Television and Sagarmatha Television as well. The major objectives of the media advocacy are to advocate and increase public awareness in different





women/human rights issues and policy advocacy using various means of mass communication. Under the television program, (*Sankalpa*, *Rupantaran*, *Dristikon and MahilaAdhikar*, *MahilaSamanta*) radio program were launched to advocate strong message for the need and significance of gender equality and particularly women's civic and political rights. In such television programs ,Jagaran Nepal used to bring the academic person, political person or leader, women rights activist and social activist for clarification and importance of issue, where and why we are working.

# **2.5.4** Capacity Development of Women leaders through Resource Centre Mobilization

Through the knowledge and information sharing, Jagaran Nepal is going to contribute women's leadership, women rights, peace and justice. Jagaran Nepal is mobilizing the resource centre since its establishment, with aim to develop, analysis and distribute thematic knowledge regarding on violence against women, women's participation in political party as well all representatives at local, province and federal level government and also women's participation in all level of government structure.



Now, we have different kinds of collections of gender based news (VAW news), analysis report and digital data based and books as well. This is a platform, where people can visit and gain knowledge at resource center through books and we also have developed various type of gender related information as an knowledge document. We have information basically on emerging issues especially women issues regarding on political participation, women's rights and violence against women and girls.

In Past, we had mobilized the leadership class including computer class focusing on women leaders of first elected constitutional members. It was wonderful work experience of resource center, where elected constitutional members join this platform and had opportunity to grow their leadership in different dimension.

Now, we are planning to establish this resource center as hub for gender friendly policy level discussions for leaders, intellectuals and other interest groups to take endeavor for pro-people and pro-women policies, which will eventually contribute to women's empowerment, political participation and justice to equitable society or discrimination free society. Basically women leader used to come here to learn



something about women's participation, political engagement and also to be updated on gender friendly desegregated data. JN used to provide related reference material as publication and as photocopy material as well. Here we have, hundreds of women leaders, who are resource center members, who usually visit to learn and discuss.

# 2.6 Jagaran Nepal's Overall Achievements

# **2.6.1** Increased Female Participation:

Change in leadership processes: Women from communities are reaching the leadership positions at the local government units including in the social and political sectors. They have received memberships and are actively participating in local level planning processes including in users committees, Tole lane organization (TLO), Community forest committee, different level ward Committees like health ,hygiene and sanitation committee and other ward level groups. Some of them are in the key leadership and decision making positions. They are involved in political parties and have received the candidacy ticket for election with some of them winning the local elections. It means community level leadership is going to establish.

**Increased level of awareness at the community:** Different project has helped the community members to increase awareness in different areas of human rights, women's rights issues, participatory planning, and budgeting with increased access to information. However, there was the strong lobby and demand that the resource centers should be expanded to the community level.

**Improved voice and agency:** Networking, coordination and collaboration to raise a common and collective voice for women's right issues have improved among the most disadvantaged women and men, from and within community.

There are few examples, which explains about the increasing participation of women.

- ➤ Under the Jagaran Nepal project, If we talk few district's women's groups demographic size, Out of 900 direct beneficiaries/HHs (who are organized into groups and empowered) of the project, 630 (70%) women involved in political activities, 350 (39%) claimed the election tickets for local and provincial elections, 145 (17%) women got the elections tickets and out of that 61 (7%) women were elected in various positions. Similarly, total 13 women out of 900 were nominated in provincial proportional representation list and (14% women) are in different local structures holding different positions from portfolio to general members.
- Among the 61 elected women at local level elections, 12 women member became legislative committee member of local government. 7 women elected member are in the leadership positions like deputy mayor and deputy chair head, and 8 remains members who are holding position of other sub-committees like monitoring and local judicial committee.
- ➤ Nearly 150 women are working effectively in different social mechanism like school management committees, user's committees, Tole Lane organization (TLO) and other local cooperative organizations.
- ➤ Gauriganga Municipality ensure the 50% women's participation in users committee, where among the three major post ( President, Treasurer and Secretary), one major post hold by women.
- Many of women elected representatives (from Kailarigapa, Gauriganganapa and Pachdewalbinayaknapa) are holding the major position like thematic committee, legislative

committee, Social development Committee, Organization Development Committee, CSO's and CBO's coordination committee in local government beside Deputy Mayor and Deputy Chair Head. Due to our intervention in their leadership, they have been working effectively and enjoying their dignified life as elected women representatives.

#### 2.6.2 Access to Local Resources:

Regarding the women's access to local resources, now Local women have started to ask with local representatives about budget for Women, Children and Disadvantaged groups and budget related to women's empowerment. We have few examples those are, women groups have been so far able to receive total Rs. 7,081,000 for the women empowerment activities. From that amount, they carried out different capacity building trainings on women's rights to other women of their communities. In addition to that, project has collaborated with govt. offices for increasing women's access to their resources. For instance, women in Illam got 10,000 chickens for poultry farming from District Development Offices for Agriculture and Livestock. Total 50 women benefited from poultry farming. Furthermore, Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Illam has also provided the pickle making trainings to women members of the project. District Office of Cottage & Small Scale Industry, Illam also expressed its commitment to provide technical support for entrepreneurship development training for women members of the project.

# 2.6.3 Skill Development and Earning

Under the Jagaran Nepal different project activity, the 177 (158 women and 19 men) people participated in the skill development and entrepreneurship. Most of the women had established their own business and improving their own economic status. In an average, all of them started to earn ranging from 5000- 25,000 rupees per month. For instance, member of women's empowerment groups like Chandra Kala Gautam, Jeevan Devi Shrestha, Basanti Rajbanshi, Kanchan Biswas earns nearly Rs. 10,000- 15,000 as monthly income through the bakery products, small general story and hotels.

Due to the project's continuous advocacy and effort towards women's economic access and skill development, the awareness regarding the skill development is increasing continuously. Now members of women's empowerment groups are now interested to take different kind of skill based training organized by local government and other CSO's. They are able to demand and ask budget and program at local government and other related stakeholder. It seems that, in future all of them will be entrepreneur themselves due to our advocacy.

# 2.7 Sustainability and Handover

- ➤ Local Government, (Sidingwa Rural Municipality) gave Written Commitment for allocation of budget to women empowerment group, which group is formulated under our projects.
- ➤ Due to this project intervention, women group had been formulated and registered in Jhapa, and the local government had allocated budget of Rs. 4,25,000 for that women group in FY 2075/076.
- ➤ Due to project intervention, in project working areas (District), different women groups are formulated and registered in local government. This is key change area of women's leadership and decision making issue.
- Respected local government are going to add value of those women's groups. This will support group leadership of women's and also increased access in local level resources.

# 2.8 Overall Challenges and Lesson Learnt

Jagaran overcame some of the challenges and hurdles in its journey which became learning opportunities for organizations in future projects and work. Some of the challenges were:

- ➤ Lack of well coordination, coexistence and communication in between political representatives and bureaucrats, which became challenging during the program implementation.
- ➤ Due to changes and differences in priorities between the local administration and the local government, there was uncertainty and difficulty in implementing projects as well.
- > Due to federal structure, there are permanent and strong local government however; it needs to have strategies to influence decisions makers at the elected local, provinces and federal government so that new policies and laws are gender sensitive and inclusive.
- ➤ For local government, software supports of the CSO's are not a priority rather than their own hardware support program. In this context, the less priority by local government creates problems in implementation of the project.
- Female leader, faced specific problems related to gender stereotypes, For e.g, female representatives were less acknowledged and their voice was less heard by the community people compared to male representatives. Still, community people judge by sex and gender roles not by their performance. Similarly, Women & Men leader (dalit) are still facing caste based discrimination during the public functions, during use of natural resources (water), and in the name of god and culture by neighbourhood.

#### Lesson Learnt

➤ Jagarn Nepal has realized that the economic stability is the first door that enables women to take their journey towards political spheres. It believes that economic empowerment of women should go hand-in hand with the political empowerment. If the economic empowerment is not sufficient, the problems will be create in women's leadership and decision making platform. It is better realized that coordination with the multi-sector agencies like cooperatives, financial institutions, technical training institutions among others

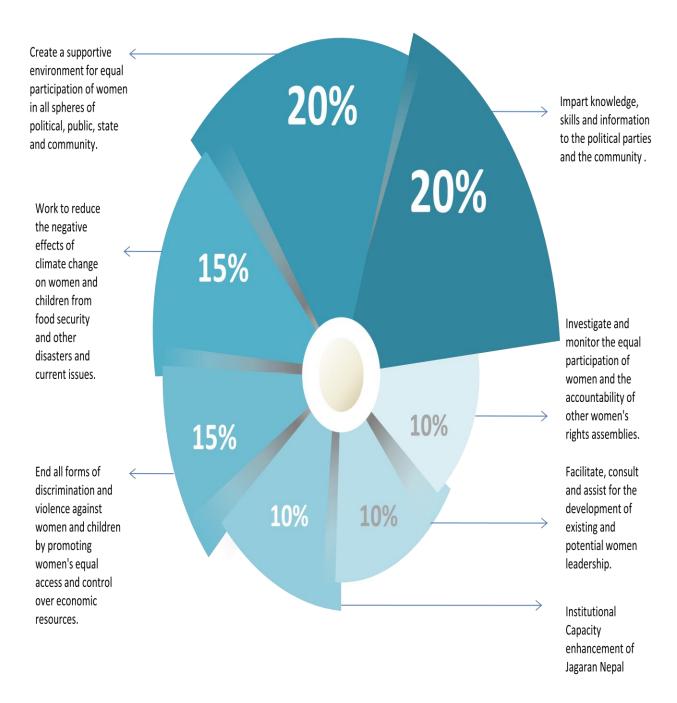
are crucial availing capacity building activities, skills development training, income generating activities and livelihood support.

- ➤ Due to the working experience in different local government, assumed that the engagement of men in skills trainings will help in reducing male control, and thereby discourages the cultural barriers baring women from their political rights and meaningful participation. However, it is realized that involving men in only limited activities is not enough rather needs to involve men in all the project cycle instead of one single-off events to encourage women's participation.
- Consortium mechanism, the project has adopted turned to be far effective. Though Jagaran Nepal is practicing the consortium mechanism to implement project effectively. In different project area, district based partners are implementing district and community level activities. Since these partners belong to the same community where the project was being run, they were able to bring the real/genuine issues and try their best to address. They had the great impact and influence in the project areas, the concrete change could be expected at the end of the project.

# Strategy Plan 2076-79

# Activities to be carried out to achieve strategic objectives

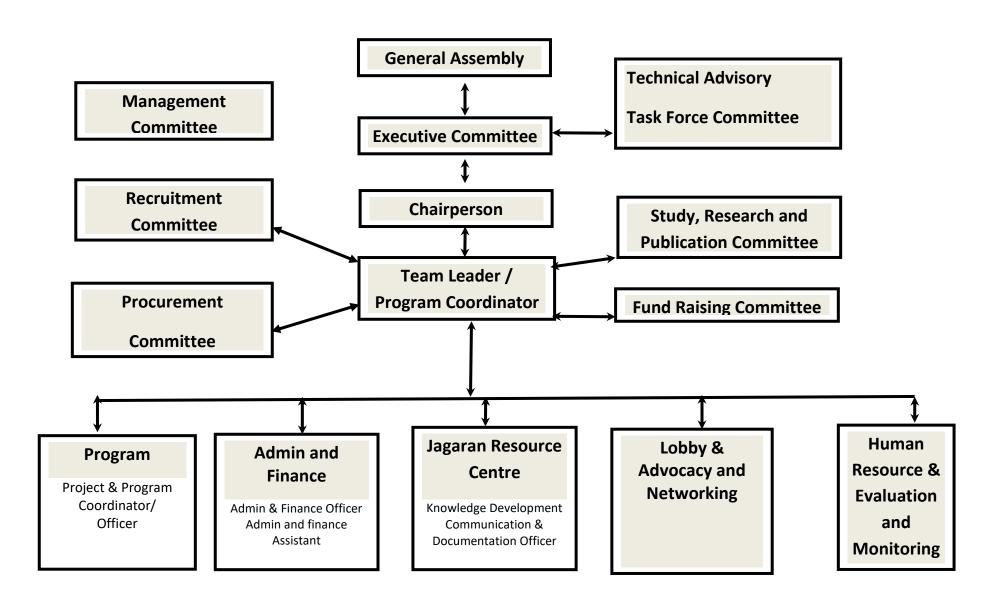
- To impart knowledge, skills and information to the political parties and the community.
- To create a supportive environment for equal participation of women in all spheres of political, public, state and community.
- To facilitate, consult and assist for the development of existing and potential women leadership.
- To end all forms of discrimination and violence against women and children by promoting women's equal access and control over economic resources.
- To work to reduce the negative effects of climate change on women and children from food security and other disasters and current issues.
- To investigate and monitor the equal participation of women and the accountability of other women's rights assemblies.
- Institutional Capacity enhancement of Jagaran Nepal.



# **SECTION THREE: ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

- 3. Organizational Development and Institutional Strengthening (IS/OD)
- 3.1 Organogram of Jagaran Nepal

Annex-1. Organogram of Jagaran Nepal



#### 3.1 Executive Board

The executive body is a legal body of the organization, which is formed as per organization statue. Statue of Jagaran Nepal vision that, there will be 7 numbers of executive board members, which is defined by AGM- Annual general meeting. AGM should be conducted each year and the Executive board will reform through Annual General Assembly in every three years.

Name of recent executive board members (2016-2019)

- 1. SamjhanaPokharel President
- 2. Meena Bista Vice President
- 3. Sushila Shrestha Secretary
- 4. Lila Sharma Treasurer
- 5. Savitri Khatun Member
- 6. Manisha Subedi Member
- 7. Anju Gaire Member

#### List of Advisors

- 1. Sharmila Karki -Founder Chaiarperson
- 2. Founder Secretary Krishna Thapa
- 3. Dharnita Mizar- Ex- Vice President
- 4. Meera Dhakal- Ex-Secretary

#### Name List of General Members

- 1. Aditi Karki
- 2. Ambika Karki
- 3. Aniu Gaire
- 4. Dayalakshmi Shrestha
- 5. Dharmaita Mizar
- 6. Durga Sijapati
- 7. Fulmaya Tamang
- 8. Kabita Kuwar
- 9. Krishna Thapa
- 10. Lila Sharma
- 11. Meena Bista
- 12. Mina Rai
- 13. Mina Sharma
- 14. Mira Dhakal
- 15. Mira Shah
- 16. Muna Basnet
- 17. Muna Shrestha
- 18. Om Kumari Ramtel
- 19. Prajolita Lamichhane
- 20. Pratikshya Basnet
- 21. Purna Kala Rai
- 22. Rajiv Shrestha
- 23. Samjhana Pokharel

- 24. Savitri Khatun
- 25. Sharmila Karki
- 26. Sita Sharma
- 27. Sulaja Neupane
- 28. Sunita Basnet
- 29. Susila Shrestha
- 30. Usha Mahat

#### Name list of volunteers

- 1. Abhushan Khadka
- 2. Anurag Upadhyay
- 3. Arpan Bista
- 4. Deepa Sharma
- 5. Dr. Bigya Shah
- 6. Kanchan Sijali
- 7. Manju Karki
- 8. Maryada Karki
- 9. Nirmala Pant
- 10. Sita Neupane
- 11. Sonny Rai
- 12. Sunita Pariyar
- 13. Vasuda Basnet

# List of Founding Members

- 1. Sharmila Karki (Chief Founder of Defense Consulting)
- 2. Krishna Thapa (Founding Secretary, Advisor)
- 3. Shobha Gautam
- 4. Himat Singh Lakali
- 5. Sunita Chhatkuli
- 6. Meena Bista
- 7. Jyoti Paudel

#### List of Manartha members

- 1. Bhupal Khadka
- 2. Jhapindra Upadhyay
- 3. Narendra Bista

# 3.2 Organization Management

Jagaran Nepal have been conducting major intervention for organizational management. Those key interventions are :

# 3.2.1 Staff Meeting

The staff meeting is held at the end of every month in the presence of the President and Immediate past president (IPP) with aiming to improve working environment, charities on working areas and planning for new activity. It also helps for experience and challenge sharing during the work. Similarly, it helps to build cooperation, co-work and coordination within organization and target groups and areas as well.

#### 3.2.2 Management Committee Meetings

The role of management committee is to make suggestion and way-forwards for organizational development. It will work as key decision maker. CMC meeting will conduct in monthly basis. In this last two FY 15 PMC meeting had been conducted. The members of management committee are founder president, President, Manager, finance officer and related project coordinator.

# 3.2.3 Executive Committee Meetings

To make the organization run in a dynamic and effective manner, the executive committee meeting conducted in quarterly basis. Apart from this, there is also a provision to call emergency meetings if needed. This is an organization legal body, which will work for policy formulation and monitoring its implementation.

#### 3.2.4 Annual General Meeting

Jagaran Nepal holds an annual general meeting every year. On the basis of annual general meeting, in every three years executive board member will change. The needed policy, guideline, bylaws and program will be developed and approved by annual general meeting.

#### 3.2.5 Strategic Plans of the Organization (2076-2079 BS)

Jagaran Nepal has been organizing programs, preparing annual plans and implementing them on the basis of these strategic plans. Strategic plans have been developed and implemented since the establishment of the organization. The last strategic planning was done for fiscal year 2075/76 and the programs and activities that followed were implemented accordingly.

# 3.2.6 Policies of the Organization

Jagaran Nepal has developed its own policies that addresses specific needs and working areas of the organization. The policy's and guideline will be designed and developed and amendment as per the need.

The name of new organizational policies are:

- Governance Policy
- Gender equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Policy

- Finance and Administrative Policy (amendment)
- Communication Policy
- Child protection policy
- Commitment of Core Humanitarians standard
- Project development, Motoring and Evaluation Guideline
- Grievance Management guidelines

The mentioned policy and guideline document will amended as per the need of organization and also the formulation of news laws and policy as per organization needs. All the guidelines and laws are similar with Nepal government's laws and policy guidance.

# 3.2.7 Annual Action Plan of the Organization (2075/2077 BS)

Jagaran Nepal annually prepares the action plan through the Annual General Assembly based on its goals and objectives. Likewise, the General Assembly each year decides what kind of activities the organization should prioritize for the upcoming fiscal year.

**3.2.8 Organization Renewal :**As per Nepal Government rules and regulation, the Social Welfare Council - SWC and the District Coordination Committee/ local government, the organization will be renewal each fiscal years. Similarly the organization will be renewal in national and international network.

# 3.2.9. Project Management Committee Meeting

Jagaran Nepal has been formulating project management committee to systematically execute the projects set up to fulfill the stated objectives. The project management committee meetings are arranged on a monthly basis, but there are also provisions to hold emergency meetings on the basis of the need to make special decisions and consultations.

#### 3.2.10 Advisory Committee and task Force Committee

For long term project, Jagaran Nepal has been formulating project wise advisory committee and task force committee as well with aiming to implement the project successfully. The main objectives of the committee are to monitor, guide, provide feedback and suggestion for effective implementation of the concern project as per need. The member of advisory and task force committee will be select as per their expertise area, where their expertise can contribute through the project implementation.

#### 3.3 Various Publications

Jagaran Nepal has published several publications based on ongoing as well as accomplished project activities within last two years. With the proposed knowledge management, sharing learning, good practices, to update gender friendly database and disseminate related information to the stakeholder as well.

The name of the recent publication are:

- 3.3.1. Jagaran Abhiyan Volume-29
- 3.3.2. Analysis of women's participation in local level elections
- 3.3.3. Roles and Right of Local Level Representatives with focus on Local Judicial Committee
- 3.3.4. Analysis of Gender media monitoring through different print media