



**Jagaran Nepal**  
For women Rights, Peace and Governance

# Quarterly E-Bulletin 145<sup>th</sup> issue

Oct – Dec, 2024

**Relief Distribution Program for Flood Victims in Settlements of  
Bansighat, Kathmandu**

**Interaction Workshop: Climate Change and its Impact at Grassroots and role of Local  
Women Representatives in addressing Climate Change**

**Discussion on Gender and Intersectional Approach for COP29**





# Jagaran Nepal

## For women Rights, Peace and Governance

### Relief Distribution Program for Flood Victims in Settlements of Bansighat, Kathmandu

**Kathmandu, October 20, 2024** – A collaborative relief effort was organized by Jagaran Nepal and Tewa for settlers in Bansighat, Ward No. 11, of Kathmandu Metropolitan City. The area severely impacted by the overflowing Bagmati and Manohara rivers, post the heavy rainfall that severely impacted the shelter and livelihoods of many residing in the area. This settlement, home to over 400 families, faced extensive damage to their homes and belongings, leaving many in dire need of basic necessities.

The flooding caused by heavy rains inundated homes with water and mud, leaving numerous families in need of essential items like food grains, clothing, blankets etc. Community buildings and ground floors were submerged in over a foot of mud. Many families reported that their stored food began to decay within days, further exacerbating their challenges. While most residents managed to evacuate safely, a few elderly individuals sustained minor injuries during the escape.

Relief efforts were spearheaded by local organizations and stakeholders. A comprehensive needs assessment was conducted, including detailed data collection and consultations with local consumer committee representatives and government offices. Based on the findings, the Jagaran Nepal's relief distribution efforts focused on providing thick fiber blankets to each of the 300 affected families to address immediate needs for warmth during the onset of winter.

As mentioned by the community members, the relief materials brought much-needed comfort to the affected families. Vulnerable groups, including single women, elderly women, monks, and children with disabilities, expressed heartfelt gratitude, praising the timely intervention. Recipients of the fiber blankets noted that the items would significantly help them endure the harsh winter and gave blessings to the contributors.



*Jagaran Nepal's President, Secretary, Technical Advisor and Member distributing relief materials*



## Ensuring Food Security by ensuring Climate Justice: A Peaceful demonstration

**Kathmandu, October 21, 2024** – A peaceful demonstration with the slogan “No Right to Food without Climate Justice” took place in Kathmandu, organized by climate and food rights activists to highlight the impacts of climate change on food systems. The event was held to mark World Food Day, drawing attention to the urgent need for sustainable policies to safeguard food security. Participants included various civil society organizations including Jagaran Nepal and the Nepal chapter of APMDD. They emphasized the vulnerability of Nepal's agricultural sector to climate change, particularly in light of recent floods and landslides that caused billions of rupees in damages to farmlands.

The demonstration drew attention to the global crisis of food insecurity, where nearly 3.2 billion people lack access to safe and nutritious food while corporate profits in the food sector has increased. Speakers criticized the monopolistic practices of multinational corporations, which prioritize profit over the rights of producers and consumers, often with the support of complicit governments.

Bhanu Parajuli from the Nepal Rural Reconstruction Organization highlighted how climate-induced challenges are degrading agricultural practices and called for government programs to ensure sustainability alongside adaptation to climate shocks.

The event also shed light on the disproportionate impact of food insecurity on women, particularly in rural areas. With women contributing to over 50% of food production in Asia, their challenges—such as securing water, fuel, and food for their families—are exacerbated by climate change. The program concluded with the reading of a memorandum demanding the government prioritize food sovereignty, invest in sustainable agricultural practices, and shift away from dependency on imported food. Jagaran Nepal secretary, Sushila Shrestha stressed the need for a national food system that prioritizes the rights of producers and consumers over industrial agriculture.



*Ensuring Food Security by ensuring Climate Justice: A Peaceful demonstration*



*APMDD's Nepal Chapter member organizations with banners in the demonstration*



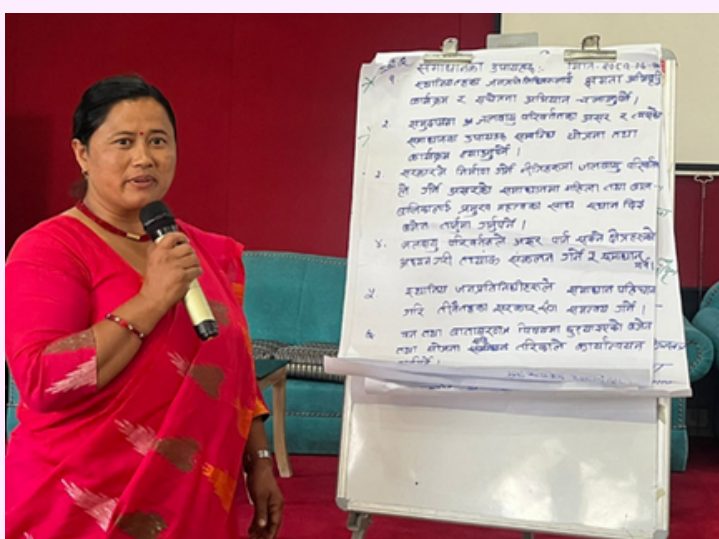
## Interaction Program: Climate Change and its Impact at Grassroots and role of Local Women Representatives in addressing Climate Change

REED Implementation Center (REED-IC) under the Ministry of Forest and Environment (MoFE) in partnership with Jagaran Nepal on 26th October, 2024 (10th Kartik, 2081) successfully organized an interaction workshop titled "Climate Change and its impact at Grassroots and the Role of Local Women Representatives in addressing Climate Change."

Navaraj Pudaiani, Joint Secretary of REDD Implementation Centre, Government of Nepal, took over the first technical session of the event. The presentation began with a brief introduction about climate change- its causes and effects. He also talked about the existing policies, laws and regulation of Government of Nepal with regards to climate change. He said, "Nepal government embraces two strategies - Mitigation and Adaption - to deal with climate change impact". At local level, the priority is given to adaptation rather than mitigation and REDD-IC is the only legitimize entity that focuses on mitigation efforts for climate change in Nepal and also explained how REDD-IC works.

Sharmila Karki started off the second session by establishing the fact that the nexus between gender equality and climate change has not been paid enough attention to in Nepal. Climate change affects women more than men in any settings - rural or urban. But we have failed to realize the narratives of climate justice while implementing interventions for climate action.

Following the end of technical sessions, the participants were divided into three groups. As mentioned by the participants of the program, who were elected women representing of wards and municipalities, this was for most of them the first time engaging in capacity building programs about Climate Change, its impact and the Climate movement. Hence, based on this premise, the discussion in the group revolved around the topic role of federal, provincial and local level governments as well as organizations and institutions in order to address the issues of climate change and especially challenges faced by women due to climate change.



*Local Representatives presenting the finding from her group post group session*



*Jagaran Nepal's vice president Meena Bista and member Aabhusan Khadka noting down the findings from the group session*



**Some of the key recommendations generated from the group discussion were as follows:**

- Increase information flow through capacity building programs and awareness campaigns for local level representatives especially municipal leaders i.e. mayors and deputy mayors, who are key decision makers to identify solutions and coordinate with all three levels of government.
- Increase local level representatives' accessibility to experts on issues surrounding climate change.
- Government policies should allocate budgets with a primary focus on addressing the effects of climate change that prioritizes women, children, and other marginalized groups.
- Budget and plans that have already been allocated for climate, forest and environment issues should be implemented effectively.
- Research studies should be conducted to collect data that will help identify vulnerable areas and communities to climate change at the local level with the goals of providing localized solutions for climate action based on the generated evidences.
- School curriculums should include information on climate change and its impact to sensitize younger generation. Furthermore, incentivizing schools to organize programs in the form of debate, speech, art, essay writing competition on the issue can be an effective intervention to spread awareness.
- Government interventions should coordinate and collaborate with grassroots organizations, NGOs, networks and federations to design and implement climate and environment-friendly programs.
- Plans and programs should be introduced in communities that promote possible solutions to climate issues, linking it with health, education, livelihoods, disaster, and other socio-cultural issues while striking a delicate balance between technological and natural interventions.
- Non-governmental organizations and institutions need to play the following roles:
  1. Facilitate coordination between government and community.
  2. Provide timely information and training on the subject especially targeting women.
  3. Encourage collaboration among awareness campaigns and capacity building trainings by highlighting the local needs, available resources and diversity.
  4. Motivate actions to address sustainable development goals, human rights, and women's rights while addressing climate change.

## Gender and Intersectional Approach on COP

**Kathmandu, October 29, 2024** – Jagaran Nepal's board members including President Ms. Samjhna Pokhrel, Vice-president Ms. Meena Bista and Secretary Ms. Sushila Shrestha with the organization's technical adviser Ms. Sharmila Karki attended the "Round Table Discussion on Gender and Intersectional approach at COP: Women's Diverse Leadership and Priorities at COP29" for the upcoming COP29 which was held in Baku, Azerbaijan. The event was organized by Digo Bikas Institute (DBI) and National Indigenous Disabled Women Association Nepal (NIDWAN) in collaboration with Centre for Disaster Management Studies (CDMS), WE- Women from Indigenous Nationalities (WE-WIN), SHE Climate Change, Jagaran Nepal and Ipas Nepal, Indigenous Women Legal Awareness Group (INWOLAG).

The discussion was facilitated by Ms. Pratima Gurung from NIDWAN and featured 40 participants representing diverse organizations/network working for Gender Equality and Climate Justice. The discussions revolved around women-led climate initiatives and actions at the community level focusing on the Conference of Parties (COP).

Ms. Geeta Pandey from KIRDARC shared an insightful overview of gender and intersectional approaches within national and international climate plans and policies, highlighting current gaps and challenges. After Ms. Pandey's presentation, the event participants engaged in discussion to outlined key demands, recommendations, and actionable points to adopt for gender-responsive climate policies in Nepal. Ms. Deepa Oli from the Ministry of Forest and Environment, who also serves as Nepal's gender focal point under the UNFCCC, concluded the discussion by highlighting the various gender-responsive climate finance and policies that are currently existing and Nepal's overall position in ensuring Gender Equality in climate initiatives. The outcomes from this discussion were served as a guiding document for both organizers and participants to shape the further action from Civil Society Organization working for Gender and Climate justice and ways to foster collaboration with Nepal government on the issue.



*Participants of the Dialogue after the completion of the event*



*Ms. Deepa Oli from the Ministry of Forest and Environment stating her thoughts during the event*



## Midterm Review of AATWIN's Three-Year Strategic Plan

**Kathmandu, December 22, 2024 :** AATWIN a working network dedicated to combating human trafficking, successfully concluded a three-day midterm review of its three-year strategic plan from December 20 to December 22. Meena Bista the former president of AATWIN and currently the Vice President of Jagaran Nepal, which is a member organization of the network, actively participated in the program and played a prominent role in the discussions.

A key highlight of the event was a two-day workshop focused on drafting a policy position paper addressing issues related to human trafficking. Discussions underscored the evolving dynamics and increasing prevalence of this crime, emphasizing the urgent need for civil society,

stakeholders, and regulatory bodies to prioritize and coordinate their efforts. The workshop concluded with a unified commitment to reduce and ultimately eradicate human trafficking.

In addition to the workshop, AATWIN held its quarterly meeting of member organizations, providing a platform to share updates, discuss challenges, and refine strategic plans for future initiatives.

AATWIN and its member organizations remain committed in its mission to combat human trafficking, fostering collaboration and action to address the pressing issue of Human Trafficking and its far-reaching consequences.



*Participants post the completion of the AATWIN's Mid Term Review of the Strategic Plan Workshop*



*Jagaran Nepal's Vice President and Former President of AATWIN Ms. Meena Bista sharing her thoughts during the events*





Please visit: [www.jagarannepal.org.np](http://www.jagarannepal.org.np) for other details and we appreciate your comments on [info@jagarannepal.org.np](mailto:info@jagarannepal.org.np)



## Jagaran Nepal

For women Rights, Peace and Governance

Tanka Prasad Marga, Anamnagar

Phone: 977-1- 5705439

Fax: 977-1-5705297

Email: [info@jagarannepal.org.np](mailto:info@jagarannepal.org.np) website:

[www.jagarannepal.org.np](http://www.jagarannepal.org.np)