

शान्ति, न्याय र लोकतन्त्रका लागि समावेशी महिला सञ्जाल women's alliance for peace, justice & democracy amplifying voices of women



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Dear Sankalpa Community,

It is a pleasure for us to bring to you this monthly enewsletter and serve you with our national, regional and community level progress. Sankalpa has been tirelessly advocating for peace, justice and equality through its members, partners and networks. We thank you all for your unfailing support and partnership along this journey for ensuring equal participation of women in all spheres of life.

This issue includes some major highlights from regional and national level consultations on constitution and women related policies, felicitation of Ms. Bandana Rana, consultation with women leaders, and information on some conventions held during last few months.

In last few months we also received a large number of feedback and queries from our supporters and well-wishers willing to participate in our consultations and workshops and to assist in the districts during local elections which might take place in the near future.

The Sankalpa Team @WomenSankalpa

National consultation on constitution and women related issues.

75+ participants from various Gov. Agencies, ministries, political parties took part in the consultation event held by Sankalpa at Annapurna Hotel on 14 September 2016.

The consultation was held to:

Share the key findings from the advocate Meera Dhungana' analysis on constitution and issues raised from the 5 regional consultations with



Former CA Chair, Honorable Mr. Subash Nembang speaking at the consultation event

government representatives, policy makers, partners, and other stakeholders on constitution and women related policies.

- **↓** Collect feedback and recommendations from the participants through discussions in the plenary.
- ♣ Ignite a spirit of gender equality and ensure commitment and sustainable partnership from the participants representing various organizations working at policy, programme implementation and community level for Sankalpa's mission.



Regional consultation on constitution and women related issues.

Sankalpa organized regional consultation on" 5 development regions with the objective to identify gaps, opportunities and challenges:

- Eastern-Morang (15th-16th August),
- Western-Gorkha(15th-16th August),
- Mid-West- Banke (22nd-23rd August),
- Far-West-Kailali (22nd-23rd August) and
- Central- Chitwan (23rd-24th August)

The consultation was based on the analysis paper by Sankalpa on the thematic issues of women relating to constitution and other women related policies.

The motive of this consultation was to identify gaps and lacks, opportunities and obstacles in the new constitution of Nepal from women lenses, strategically plan for women to ensure 50% participation at local level, 40% at regional level and 33% at least at the central level. Besides this, recommendations from regions were also collected in order to incorporate it in the analysis paper.



Strategy Review Workshop

Sankalpa organize one day strategy GAP workshop at Hotel View Bhrikuti on 26 August 2016 to review and finalize the strategic plan by identify gaps and opportunities and challenges for implementation.

In the consultations, altogether 175 participants representing Sankalpa's regional networks, member organizations, district focal persons, and other women activists took part from different districts.

Regional Convention

Sankalpa's Regional Convention was held on 21 & 22 July 2016 at Staff College, Jawalakhel. Sankalpa's has regional networks in five development regions in order to strengthen women's movement and to unite the voices of women for women's rights at the local level. The regional networks engages to bring the issues of women's rights to the fore and addresses identified issues at the local and regional level in direct coordination with government and other stakeholders.

New Regional Network members were also elected from the convention.

Learning Through Sharing:

On 12 June 2016, Sankalpa shared their experience with women activists from Myanmar at Sankalpa

premises. During the Meetup representatives from CREA, an organization working for women rights in South Asia was also present.

It was an exposure visit to gain an understanding of how organizations working on diverse issues have been able to come together to advocate for women's rights in state structures and policies, and increase women's participation in politics and peace process.

Press Release congratulating elected females in Supreme Court

Sankalpa issued press release on 3 August 2016 to congratulate newly elected Honorable Sushila Karki as Chief Justice along with Mira Khadka & Sapana Pradhan Malla as Justice in Supreme Court of Nepal. Sankalpa extends best wishes for their successful tenure and celebrates this as a great achievement in context of Nepal for gender equality.



Felicitation to Ms. Bandana Rana (UN CEDAW Committee Member from Nepal)

Sankalpa Team felicitated Ms. Bandana Rana at Entrance Café for being elected as UN CEDAW committee member 2017-2020 from Nepal. Besides, CEDAW member, Ms. Rana is also a strategic director for SAATHI, an NGO working to eliminate injustice and violence against women and children in Nepal since past 20 years, and is also a 1325 Action Group Coordinator.



Ms. Durga Sob, Chair of Sankalpa Executive Board felicitating MS. Bandana Rana

National level consultation with women leaders



On 13 June 2016, Sankalpa organized a national level consultation at Yak Palace, Pulchowk where altogether 52 women rights leaders representing ministries, parliament, political parties and CSOs participated in the program.

This program was conducted to discuss on the most pressing women rights issues, to identify and prioritize the issues that needs immediate attention and to advocate collectively for greater impact and outreach.

Participants highlighted on the issues such as citizenship for the people of Madhes, truth seeking process for

sexually tortured women during conflict, institutionalizing women's equal rights guaranteed by the constitution in national policies, laws and regulations.

Sankalpa believes that inequality is the root of all gender-based discrimination (and violence) and core developmental challenge in the country, and therefore works and advocates for equal participation of women in all spheres of life.

One Billion Rising Campaign

Since the launch of the campaign in February 2012, ONE BILLION RISING has gained incredible momentum, reaching millions across 160 countries and over 5000 organizations and gaining the support of politicians, artists, writers, celebrities, thinkers, activists, non-profits, and unions around the world.

Sankalpa has been supporting One billion Rising Campaign from the very beginning of its launch in Nepal through donations and campaign support. Recently only, on 19 September 2016 OBR organized an award distribution event at TEWA premises in Dhapakhel event where Sankalpa Team also was part of the event. The award was distributed to selected few organizations that were very instrumental on addressing women and VAW issues across various regions of Nepal.





Sankalpa Team @OBR Event

National workshop on conflict affected women

Altogether 72 participants from 20 districts of Nepal participated in a 2-day workshop held at Yak Place in Pulchowk, Lalitpur on 7-8, June 2016.

The aim of the workshop was to capacitate conflict affected women (CAW) on existing plans and policies in order to ensure their access to provisioned services for building a better future & to seek accountability from Truth and Reconciliation (TRC) and Commission on Investigation of Enforced Disappeared (CIEDP).

Some of the key activities during the workshop were: sharing- breaking trauma, interview and



Ms. Lily Thapa, Vice-Chair of Sankalpa Board speaking at the workshop

panel discussion, sharing from government officials on the plans & policy of CAW. The representatives from national & international organizations working for empowerment of conflict affected women (CAW) also discussed challenges of the project interventions.

To have your story/article considered for the next issue of the Sankalpa Newsletter, email us on sabma.a@sankalpa.org.mp no later than 20th of each month. Remember that all stories should include at least one HD picture. Readers are also invited to submit feedback on the newsletter via email.

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