

Sankalpa-Women's Alliance for Peace, Justice, and Democracy



HIGHLIGHTS



- THOUGHT WORKSHOP AT MADHESH PROVINCE



- THOUGHT WORKSHOP AT LUMBINI PROVINCE



- THOUGHT WORKSHOP AT KARNALI PROVINCE

Thought Workshop with Emerging Feminist Leaders of Madhesh Province

Sankalpa – Women’s Alliance for Peace, Justice, and Democracy organized a one-day thought workshop with the emerging feminist leaders of Madhesh province with the objective of examining, and challenging the existing patriarchal structure, and biases and developing a deeper understanding of feminist theory and principle. Emerging feminist leaders from 8 districts of Madhesh province actively participated in the event, directly working with the women for the women.

The facilitation of the workshop was done by Ms. Kala Swarnakar, the general secretary of Sankalpa and the resource persons of this program include Ms. Durga Sob, and Ms. Rita Shah.

The workshop was mainly focused on gender and social inclusion its definition, and importance, introduction of LGBTQI+, gender mainstreaming, feminism, intergeneration, and intersectionality.

Common problems of gender and social inclusion as identified by the participants:

- Lack of leadership handover
- Patriarchal society
- Superstitious practice
- Lack of education and financial problem
- Lack of proper implementation of the law
- Very few inclusion in-game
- Child marriage (In the context of Madhesh province)
- Control over women’s reproductive health

Solutions for the problems related to gender and inclusion as identified by the participants :

- It is crucial for the Nepal government to successfully execute gender and social inclusion measures.
- Ensure the engagement of women in decision-making roles to validate their input among relevant parties.
- Enhance and praise women’s involvement in sports.
- Introduce diverse programs to empower women economically.
- Address region-specific challenges of women, whether from Madhesh or Hill areas, through effective governmental interventions.



**7th May, 2023
Janakpur**



Thought Workshop with Emerging Feminist Leaders of Lumbini Province

The primary focus of the workshop revolved around the intricate nature of gender and social concerns, encompassing topics like intersectionality, intergenerational dynamics in Nepal, and the portrayal of gender in media. The workshop embraced a participatory approach, employing diverse methods such as collaborative group work, presentations, and discussions. The content of the program remained pertinent, with resource persons Ms. Kailash Rai and Ms. Amika Rajthala contributing their expertise.



8th June 2023
Banke

Some of the challenges of the feminist movements identified by the participants:

- Inadequate implementation of the constitutional protection
- Absence of a seamless leadership transition
- Financial strain
- Limited family support
- Insufficient recognition for female entrepreneurs
- Women's equal political participation
- Restricted access to resources
- Challenging stereotypical societal beliefs
- Lack of inclusivity



The program was considered highly relevant as it addressed contemporary issues, particularly emphasizing the importance of intersectionality in media, which involves recognizing and portraying diverse identities and experiences within characters. While the program was concise and met expectations, feedback from participants suggested a desire for its expansion to a 2- or 3-day format in the future to delve deeper into the content.



Thought Workshop with Emerging Feminist Leaders of Karnali Province

The workshop's main focus was understanding gender, social inclusion, gender mainstreaming, feminist movements, intersectionality, intergenerational issues, gender and media. Participants delved into the intricacies of these complex issues, their intersectionality, and their role in various forms of oppression. Through engaging in discussions and group tasks, they identified systematic barriers often overlooked, such as gender-based violence, discrimination, and inequality. The workshop was led by Ms. Kailash Rai and Ms. Amika Rajthala collaboratively.

Nepal, a patriarchal society, still restricts access to education, healthcare, and equal wages, and perpetuates gender discrimination against girls. Participants shared their personal experiences through group work, highlighting problems they face as women and proposing potential solutions.



9th June 2023
Surkhet



A thought-provoking task led participants to reflect on the challenges and achievements of feminist movements. Challenges included poor constitution implementation, lack of inclusivity, and financial crises. Achievements ranged from increased political representation for women to compulsory education for girls.

Lastly, during the open discussion participants pointed out some of the positive sides of these kinds of workshops which are mentioned below:

- Local relevance
- Participatory learning
- Complexity exploration
- Clear objectives
- Future collaboration