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National Indigenous Women Forum (NIWF)

"Collective Campaign for Collective Identity"

#Issue3



National Level Consultation On Beijing +30 Review From Indigenous Women's Perspectives

On 1st September, NIWF held a program titled "National Level Consultation on Beijing +30 Review from Indigenous Women's Perspectives." The program's resource person, Ms. Chanda Thapa, delivered an insightful briefing on the 12 critical areas outlined in the Beijing +30 framework. She paid special attention to the three key areas that NIWF intends to

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gaps in the review report submitted by the Government of Nepal, shedding light on how these shortcomings specifically impact Indigenous women and their unique perspectives within the Beijing +30 framework.



**Happy International Day
Of Indigenous Women**

**अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय आदिवासी महिला
दिवसको शुभकामना**



National Indigenous Women Forum (NIWF)
राष्ट्रिय आदिवासी जनजाति महिला मञ्च



NIWF celebrated International Day of Indigenous Women

On International Day of Indigenous Women, we celebrate the strength, resilience, and achievements of Indigenous Women around the world. At NIWF, we are especially proud of the tireless efforts of our Indigenous Women leaders who have dedicated themselves to uplifting Indigenous Communities in Nepal. Their unwavering commitment to preserving traditions, advocating for human rights, and ensuring the inclusion of Indigenous



Child Marriage Program by NIWF and FIG team

The FIG team conducted an impactful child marriage awareness session at Shankarapur School for girls from grades 7 to 9. The session aimed to educate them about the harmful consequences of child marriage, emphasizing the importance of education and making informed choices for their futures. Through focused group discussions, skits, and presentations, the girls visualized their dreams and voiced their aspirations for a brighter, marriage-free future.



NIWF celebrated it's 26th Anniversary on 7th September

NIWF is a non-governmental organization that was founded on 7th September 1998 with the primary mission of advocating for the rights and welfare of Indigenous Women and Girls. Operating under the unifying slogan: "**Collective Campaign for Collective Identity**", NIWF strives to foster a sense of shared purpose and community among Indigenous populations. NIWF boasts a network of members and coordinators spread across all seven provinces, ensuring a wide reach and impactful presence throughout the country.

Over the past 26 years, NIWF has made notable progress in shaping policies concerning Indigenous Women and Girls. NIWF has significantly expanded its networks and secured substantial funding, enabling it to engage in various initiatives aimed at empowering Indigenous Women and Girls economically, socially, and politically. The organization has been actively involved in policy review, recommendations, and research. NIWF has also advocated for highly marginalized Indigenous Nationalities in Nepal, such as the Bankariya and Chepang communities. NIWF will continue advocating for the rights of Indigenous Women and Girls.



NIWF conducted a round table discussion on the Policy Review of Indigenous Migrant Women

Ms. Mala Rai presented the findings of NIWF's research on Indigenous Returnee Migrant Women (IRMW), offering insights into the difficult realities these women face upon returning to Nepal. She also explained the research methodology, emphasizing the use of Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR) to ensure the study reflected the voices and lived experiences of IRMW.

Ms. Uma Tamang then discussed the policy brief on Indigenous Migrant Women, outlining the gaps in current policies and legal frameworks. She stressed the need for more inclusive policies that address the unique needs of Indigenous migrant women, calling for stronger legal protections, tailored economic opportunities, and support systems for reintegration.

The session concluded with an open discussion where participants provided valuable feedback and recommendations.



NIWF Team at the 4th Asia Pacific Feminist Forum (APFF) in Chiang Mai, Thailand

From 12-14 September 2024, NIWF's Executive Director, Ms. Dwarika Thebe, Field Coordinator, Ms. Sanila Lama, Ms. Mala Rai, Mentor and Ms. Sabnam Lama, Young Researcher represented NIWF at the 4th Asia Pacific Feminist Forum (APFF) in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Organized by the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law, and Development (APWLD), this tri-annual event serves as a critical platform for feminists, activists, and WHRD across Asia and the Pacific to gather, share experiences, and strategize for transformative social change. The forum focused on key issues such as gender equality, environmental justice, and human rights, creating a space for collaboration and collective action among attendees.



Relief Distribution at Temal Rural Municipality

On October 7, 2024, National Indigenous Women Forum (NIWF) in collaboration with Sankalpa extended critical relief to flood-affected families in Temal Rural Municipality, Kavre district. In response to the devastating floods that struck the area on September 26-27, 2024, NIWF swiftly mobilized a team to support the community. The team provided essential food supplies to 32 families who had been severely impacted by the disaster, aiming to alleviate their immediate hardships and address urgent needs. The floods caused widespread damage to homes and livelihoods, leaving many families struggling to recover.

This support is part of NIWF's broader mission to empower and protect Indigenous Women, Girls, and Marginalized Communities across Nepal, particularly in moments of adversity.



Opening of Our “Adivasi HaatBazaar” at Dhobighat Basketball Ground

On October 27, 2024, National Indigenous Women Forum (NIWF) and Indigenous Product Outlet hosted a successful “Adivasi Haat Bazaar” at the Dhobighat Basketball Court. This event was organized to create a vibrant platform for Indigenous Women to present, promote, and monetize their products, amplifying their economic independence and cultural pride. The Bazaar featured an array of traditional and sustainably produced items that highlighted the rich heritage and craftsmanship of Nepal’s Indigenous Communities. Visitors had the opportunity to explore and purchase a diverse selection of goods, including authentic Indigenous foods, intricately handmade crafts, and fresh, organically grown vegetables. Notably, the vegetables were cultivated by the Sankharpur Integrated Pest Management (IPM) group of NIWF, reflecting the Forum's commitment to promoting eco-friendly farming practices within Indigenous communities.



NIWF's Media and Communication Assistant at the 2nd Cohort of Holistic Security Training in Bangkok

From October 21st to 23rd, 2024, Ms. Anisha Buda, the Media and Communication Assistant at the National Indigenous Women Forum (NIWF), participated in the second cohort of the Holistic Security Training. Organized by Women's Fund Asia (WFA) in collaboration with the Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women (GAATW), this training took place in Bangkok, Thailand, and aimed to equip participants with essential skills in digital security tailored to the unique needs of women's rights and Indigenous organizations. The participants engaged in hands-on sessions and collaborative discussions, exploring a range of security practices designed to protect sensitive information and digital assets.



NIWF at the CBD COP 16 at Cali, Columbia

At CBD COP16 in Cali, Colombia, National Indigenous Women Forum (NIWF)'s Chairperson Suni Lama, along with Indigenous leaders from Nepal, collaborated with Nepalese government delegates to present a draft of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP). As steering committee members, NIWF and NEFIN played an active role in shaping the draft, emphasizing Indigenous Peoples' perspectives, traditional knowledge, and the protection of Indigenous rights within biodiversity conservation policies. Through the active involvement of NIWF and NEFIN on the NBSAP steering committee, and Indigenous Biodiversity Professional Kamal Samarung who is a technical committee member of NBSAP, the perspectives of Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous women were integrated into the draft.

Media Coverage



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बेइजिङ प्लस ३० का लागी एक दिवासिय समीक्षा कार्यशाला गोष्ठी सम्पन्न ।



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