

**Young Women-Led Shadow Report on the Convention on the
Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women
(CEDAW)**

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Submitted To:

**The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
(CEDAW Committee)**

**Led by
Young Women of Nepal**

**Submitted by
Yuwalaya
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**Supported by
Plan International Nepal**



Young Women-Led CEDAW Shadow Report Preparation Consortium Members

Secretariat



Supported by



(#Many local-level youth organizations did not have a logo, so their logos are missing, but their names are mentioned in the list)

Table of Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	3
2. REPORTING PROCESS	3
3. WHY A YOUNG WOMEN-LED CEDAW SHADOW REPORT?	3
4. WHAT DO WE YOUNG WOMEN IN NEPAL DREAM AND ASPIRE?	4
5. FOCUSED ISSUES	5
5.1 GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (ARTICLE 1, 2, 5 AND 6)	5
KEY ISSUES AND CONCERNS	6
RECOMMENDATIONS :	ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.
5.2 YOUNG WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION (ARTICLE 7 AND 8)	8
KEY ISSUES AND CONCERNS	9
RECOMMENDATIONS :	9
5.3 RIGHT TO EDUCATION OF YOUNG WOMEN (ARTICLE 10)	10
KEY ISSUES AND CONCERNS :	10
RECOMMENDATIONS :	11
5.4 SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS (SRHR) AND YOUNG WOMEN (ARTICLE 12)	12
KEY ISSUES AND CONCERNS :	12
RECOMMENDATIONS :	13
5.5 CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (CEDAW GENERAL RECOMMENDATION NO. 37)	13
KEY ISSUES AND CONCERNS :	14
RECOMMENDATIONS :	14
5.6 ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF YOUNG WOMEN (ARTICLE 11 AND 13)	15
KEY ISSUES AND CONCERNS :	15
RECOMMENDATIONS :	16
5.7 YOUNG WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY	16
KEY ISSUES AND CONCERNS :	16
RECOMMENDATIONS :	17
ANNEX I PROCESS DOCUMENTATION ON YOUNG WOMEN- LED CEDAW SHADOW REPORT	1

1. Introduction

This report has been prepared in a participatory manner, involving consortium members from 31 organizations working on youth rights across Nepal. Yuwalaya serves as the secretariat of the consortium, with support from Plan International Nepal. The entire process of preparing this report has been led by Young Women aged 18-25, with guidance and support from consortium members and Plan International Nepal.

This report compiles key issues and concerns raised during the seven provincial consultations and validated through a national validation workshop. It also provides recommendations that should be addressed during constructive dialogue and in concluding comments for Nepal to comply with CEDAW and its General Recommendations (GR).

2. Reporting Process

Seven young champions have led a groundbreaking initiative to prepare this shadow report. And Yuwalaya served as the secretariat in preparing this report.

Recognizing the necessity of engaging local and provincial-level youth and ensuring the inclusion, diversity and intersectional issues from the local level in the CEDAW Shadow Report, seven provincial consultations were conducted across all seven provinces of Nepal.

The initial draft report was created by consolidating the issues and recommendations raised during provincial consultations. This draft underwent an extensive review and refinement process, led by a total of 31 consortium partners, whose collective expertise significantly contributed to shaping it into a final draft. The revised draft was then presented at a national validation workshop, where group discussions were held on all seven thematic areas. Following detailed deliberations, the CEDAW shadow report was endorsed and completed, incorporating feedback from these consultations.

3. Why a Young Women-Led CEDAW Shadow Report?

We, young women from Nepal, prepared this CEDAW report because we firmly believe our voices, experiences, and unique challenges must be acknowledged and addressed at both national and international levels. It is vital to highlight the specific issues that young women face to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. By sharing our concerns and challenges based on our lived experiences through this report, we aim to highlight the often-overlooked challenges women feel or face. Our report is not just a document, it is a call for gender equality, social justice, and the acknowledgment of young women as vital agents of change in building an equitable society.

In Nepal, we young people account for approximately 20.8 percent of total population of the country (age group 16-25 years) while 40.68 percent of the population lies in the age group 16-40. For far too long, the challenges faced by young women have been overlooked or generalized within broader women's issues, failing to recognize the unique struggles we face. These include limited access to quality education, lack of employment opportunities,

pervasive gender-based violence, restricted economic, social, and political participation, significant disparities in digital literacy, and constrained to have access to sexual and reproductive rights.

We, young women are not a homogenous group; we are diverse and intersectional with factors such as ethnicity, age, socio economic status, geographical location, and more. So, our experiences and challenges are different and unique. We want to ensure these issues are not lost in the conversation and that our specific needs, aspirations, and lived realities are not only acknowledged but also addressed with urgency and precision. By highlighting these concerns, we aim to drive meaningful change that empowers young women to fulfill their potential as equal contributors to society.

As young women, we recognize the power and importance of youth leadership in shaping a better future. By leading the preparation of this report, we not only highlighted the pressing issues affecting us today but also provided actionable recommendations to empower young women as catalysts for change. Through this effort, we aim to inspire a collective commitment to addressing these challenges and fostering an inclusive society where young women can thrive and lead.

This is the first-ever young women-led CEDAW shadow report prepared in Nepal, in leadership of young women throughout the process, from inception to completion. It was developed through consultations across all seven provinces of Nepal, facilitated by seven young women who worked together to amplify the voices of young women from diverse backgrounds such as dalit, muslim, indigenous communities, and gender and sexual minorities and more.

As young women champions, we believe this report represents our claim to space within the global dialogue on women's rights and gender equality. It is a call for a future where young women's voices are not just heard but are central to shaping the policies and actions that affect our lives. By submitting this report, we seek to hold the government accountable for ensuring that women in Nepal receive the necessary support, opportunities, and freedom to achieve their full potential, contribute meaningfully to society, and lead positive change in the community and nation. We urge the CEDAW Committee to recommend that the Nepal government take immediate, concrete actions to address the systemic barriers women face and create an enabling environment with the necessary support opportunities where they can fully realize their potential as leaders, innovators, and change-makers in society.

4. What do we young women in Nepal dream and aspire?

We dream of a world where our voices are heard and our futures are not limited by our gender, age, ethnicity, geography, tradition, or societal expectations. We envision a society where our worth is measured by our abilities, not by our gender, age and disability, and where we have the freedom to pursue our passions, build careers, lead communities, and create change without fear.

We dream of an inclusive future where education is accessible to all girls and young women regardless of any background. We want leadership in every aspect of life whether as doctors, lawyers, engineers, CEOs, professors, or in roles traditionally reserved for men, leading governments, running businesses, and shaping the future of Nepal. We want to see our next generation be empowered to lead with confidence and strength.

We long for a world where our safety is guaranteed, where we can walk through streets, travel, or work without any fear of harassment or violence. We want to speak out without being shamed and judged, feel our ideas respected and celebrated. Our dream is simple: to live in a world where we are free to dream, choose, and live the lives we want, without fear, limitations, or discrimination and enjoy the full rights that are guaranteed as human rights for all.

5. Focused Issues

This report is a compilation of issues identified by young women, which are presented in seven main thematic areas. It reviews and analyzes the challenges faced by diverse group of women as prioritized by young women in Nepal, as well as the government's policies and their implementation status. The report also aims to inform CEDAW committee members about the real situation of young women in Nepal based on their lived experiences. Additionally, it seeks to urge the committee members to recommend necessary interventions to the government of Nepal to promote and ensure the human rights of women particularly young women, as obligated by the articles of CEDAW and its General Recommendations (GR).

5.1 Gender based Violence against Women (Article 1, 2, 5 and 6)

Gender-based violence (GBV) against women in Nepal is a critical concern. GBV against women is one of the fundamental social, political and economic means by which the position of women with respect to men and their stereotyped roles and subordinate position are perpetuated. GBV is a critical obstacle to the achievement of substantive equality between women and men and to the enjoyment by women of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, as enshrined in the Convention.¹ Gender-based violence affects women throughout their life cycle.² GBV is a disturbingly common occurrence that is deeply rooted in the mindset and patriarchal attitudes that exist throughout the country.³

¹ General recommendation No. 35 on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19, CEDAW

² General recommendation No. 27 and joint general recommendation No. 31/general comment No. 18, CEDAW

³ Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, 2019

Key issues and concerns

- I) CEDAW article 2 obligates the government to condemn discrimination against women in all its forms, agree to pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating discrimination against women. Although, the Constitution of Nepal provides a clear and comprehensive framework to end all forms of discrimination and inequality and Article 38 of the constitution strictly prohibits violence against women, or any kind of oppression based on religious, social and cultural tradition, practices and on any other grounds, more than one in five women and girls in Nepal still face gender based violence.⁴ Among them, young women experience the highest levels of gender-based violence. According to the Nepal Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS)-2022, about 50% of young women aged 15-29 experience physical violence.⁵ The same report has revealed that among violence survivors aged 15-49, 72% do not seek help to stop the violence.
- II) Article 5 of CEDAW obligates governments to take appropriate measures “to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women, with a view of achieving the elimination of prejudices and customary and other practices which are based on the idea of the inferiority or the superiority of the sexes or on stereotyped roles for men and women’. However, despite significant advancements in legislative and policy frameworks, harmful practices continue to pervade in Nepal⁶. Caste-based discrimination, menstrual restrictions including Chhaupadi (isolating menstruating women and girls), child marriage, dowry, and witchcraft accusations and persecution, son preference, gender-based sex selection (GBSS), femicide are still practiced in Nepal.⁷ Over the last three years, 332 women have been killed by family members, including their spouses.⁸ Thirty-one girls and women were killed after rape in the last two years (2022-2023).⁹ In 2021, there were 112 male babies born for every 100 female babies, up from 107 male babies born for every 100 female babies in 2011¹⁰ showing disparity due to increasing son preference.
- III) The 2015 Constitution article 39 (5) explicitly prohibits child marriage and the Nepal Government has endorsed a National Strategy to end child marriage in Nepal by 2030, yet Nepal has the second highest rate of child marriage in South Asia.¹¹ According to the national census of Nepal, 2021, 34.4 percent of the young people had their first marriage between the ages of 18 and 20 years, 22.3 percent married for the first time between 15 and 17 years and 7 percent get married for the first time at age of 10-14 years.¹²

CEDAW Concluding Observation No. 43(c) suggests that the government eradicate the practice of child marriage and ensure that children in early marriages are not punished. However, children are still being punished under the law without consideration of their circumstances and context, rather than adopting strategies to address systemic issues.

⁴ NDHS-2022 report

⁵ NDHS-2022 report

⁶ Literature review on harmful practices in Nepal, United Nation Nepal-JANUARY 2020

⁷ Gender Equality Update 25: Covid-19 and Harmful Practices in Nepal-December 2020

⁸ INSEC human rights yearbook, 2022,2023,2024

⁹ Ibid

¹⁰ Census 2021

¹¹ Multiple indicators survey, CBC NPC (2020)

¹² <https://www.b360nepal.com/detail/743/national-census-2078-male-and-female-birth-ratio-widening>

- III) Nepal lacks gender-disaggregated data, making it difficult to inform the formulation and reformation of policies and programmes that address the intersectional and multiple forms of violence experienced by young women from diverse backgrounds.

The CEDAW Committee expressed its concern about the general lack of disaggregated data. In CO No. 45, the Committee recommended that the government collect data disaggregated by sex, gender, age, ethnicity, caste, marital status, disability, and profession, and make such data collection mandatory across all state policies and programs. Although Nepal Police and the Attorney General's Office maintain some data disaggregated by sex, nationality, and geographical area, these are mostly related to the number of trafficking victims, however, there is no provision for maintaining such data in a holistic manner across other different areas.

- IV) In Nepal, 1.9 million people are at risk of human trafficking.¹³ It is estimated that 7,000-12,000 Nepali children are trafficked every year.¹⁴ Nine out of ten police reports of human trafficking concern women.¹⁵ According to Nepal Police data, 104 girls below the age of 16 and 265 young women aged between 17-35 were victims of trafficking in the fiscal years 2021–22 and 2022–23."

Although the government has ratified the Palermo Protocol according to the CO no 25 (d), various national laws¹⁶ related to anti-trafficking including Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act (HTTCA) 2007 has not been amended including the definition of trafficking in line with the Palermo Protocol.

- V) According to NDHS, 22 percent of the women aged 15 to 49 years were found to be suffering from anxiety.¹⁷ However, In the country there is no specific law on mental health to date that is backed with sufficient resources-both financially and technically.

- VI) Ninety-four One-Stop Crisis Management Centers (OCMCs) have been established in hospitals across all 77 districts of Nepal¹⁸ to provide assistance to GBV survivors. However, in practice, OCMCs have not been providing services to victims who do not file a First Information Report (FIR). This practice limits women's access, especially young and unmarried women to services at these centers due to societal and systemic factors associated with filing cases. These factors include stigma, cultural norms, and a lack of support from families or communities, which often discourage women from seeking help or pursuing legal action.

¹³ National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)'s report 2022

¹⁴ Ibid

¹⁵ Anti-Human Trafficking Bureau of Nepal Police

¹⁶ Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act 2007, Foreign Employment Act 2007, Organized Crime (Prevention) Act 2014, Immigration Act 1992, Extradition Act 2014, Legal Aid Act 1997, Labor Act 2017, Mutual Legal Assistance Act 2014, Passport Act 2019, Child Labor (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 2000, Assets and Goods related to Offence (Freeze, Control and Confiscation) Act, 2014

¹⁷ NDHS-2022

¹⁸ Progress of Health and Population Sector, National Joint Annual Review Report, MoHP 2023-page number-64

Recommendations:

1. **Enact a comprehensive anti-discrimination and ending VAW laws** to end all forms of discrimination against women, girls, Dalits, indigenous, ethnic and religious minority women including those living with disabilities, LGBTQIA+ people and to end all forms of violence against women. Specific policies to be formulated to all local levels to ensure that there are effective preventive and legal measures to end all forms of violence against girls and women.
2. **Establish a system to regularly collect data, disaggregated by age, sex, disability and other exclusion factors also including type of violence**, relationship between the victim/survivor and the perpetrator, and in relation to intersecting forms of discrimination against women, analyse and publish statistical data on the number of complaints about all forms of GBV against women, the number and type of orders of protection issued, the rates of dismissal and withdrawal of complaints, prosecution and conviction and the amount of time taken for the disposal of cases.¹⁹
3. **Allocate adequate human and financial resources at the federal, provincial and local levels** to effectively implement laws and policies for the prevention of all forms of gender-based violence against young women, provision of protection and support to victims/survivors, investigation of cases, prosecution and provision of reparations to victims/survivors.
4. **Increase investment in gender transformative programmes and overall innovation** that empower young women economically, socially, and politically.
5. To eliminate human trafficking, **promote education and employment opportunities for girls and young women** at the local level through skill development training, **strengthen victim support systems** to help them rebuild their lives, **empower local governments** to identify and combat trafficking, and **ensure that anti-trafficking laws are comprehensive and aligned** with the Palermo Protocol.

5.2 Young Women in Leadership and Participation (Article 7 and 8)

Young people have proven to be vital stakeholders in contributing to human rights, sustainable development and peace and security, and the importance of their representation in decision-making has been underlined by States.²⁰ Young women leadership continues to face significant barriers across the country. Discriminatory social and cultural norms, stereotypes gender values, GBV, and early marriage remain systemic challenges. Additionally, a lack of disaggregated data on young women's leadership in key areas hampers effective

¹⁹ General recommendation No. 35 on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19, F 34 (b) recommendation

²⁰ The Pact for the Future, General Assembly resolution 79/1, 22 September 2024

policymaking and programme development. The scarcity of gender-specific and age-specific data across sectors, highlights the need for a comprehensive and continuous data collection process.

Key issues and concerns

- I) Traditional gender roles and gender stereotypes discourage young women from pursuing leadership opportunities as leadership roles are often viewed as male domains and women are often expected to be obedient to male authority figures in both family and community settings, hindering their ability to voice opinions or take leadership positions.
- II) Young women from marginalized communities (especially dalit, indigenous, women with disability and LGBTQ+) are underrepresented in political and governance structures. The representation of youths in the Nepali parliament remains low at only 5 percent, despite the fact that the definition of youth encompasses individuals between 16 to 40 years of age.²¹
- III) Age-restrictive protocols in Nepal's legislation hinder young women participation in electoral processes. According to the constitution articles 84 and 86, eligibility requirements dictate that the minimum age for a candidate to stand for election in the House of Representatives (Lower House) is 25 years and for the National Assembly (Upper House), it is 35 years, while participation in constitutional committees requires individuals to be 45 years or older.

Recommendations :

1. **Set a strategy with allocated resources to meaningful participation of young women** in all local decision-making: strengthening their role and capacities to engage in participatory budgeting, social audits and planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of public policies, budgets and legislation and put strong accountability mechanisms in place to track the impact of young women's participation. Ensure that every municipalities adhere to the guidance to endorse Meaningful youth participation guideline at local level.
2. **Reform, and make resources available to National Youth Councils, Ministry of Youth and Sports and other relevant formalised structures** to mainstream young women's participation so that the gender transformative leadership is exercised and the leadership is representative of youth in all their diversity.
3. **Address the challenges and remove barriers that hinders full, meaningful and effective participation of all young women**, young women with disabilities, LGBTQ+ and those in vulnerable situations, in national policy making and decision-making, and improve their representation in formal political structures at levels.

²¹https://www.freiheit.org/south-asia/youth-participation-politics-shared-vision-and-sustainability-federalism-nepal?utm_source=chatgpt.com

4. **Fulfil the government commitment including the Sustainable Development Goals and international obligations under CEDAW, and ICCPR to provide legal guarantees for young women's participation in decision-making processes at all levels.**
5. **Ensure the full implementation of CEDAW GR-40 on the equal and inclusive representation of women in decision-making systems, particularly provision 45(e):Align voting age and age of eligibility to stand for election** in order to encourage more and younger women to participate.²² Invest in capacity building of young women from diverse group to promote inclusive participation .

5.3 Right to Education of Young Women (Article 10)

Equitable and inclusive education is crucial for empowering girls and women in Nepal, offering them opportunities to enhance their skills, contribute to economic development, and promote gender equality and social inclusion. Despite significant progress, challenges persist, including deeply embedded gender stereotypes, poverty and social exclusion, inadequate infrastructure, early marriage, and limited access to quality education, particularly in rural areas.

The education of girls and young women is considered to be one of the most effective investments for sustainable and inclusive development. The Nepal constitution guarantees every citizen access to basic compulsory education, and free education up to the secondary level. However, about 800,000 (11.3 percent of the total children) children of school-going age have not even reached the school premises.²³

Key Issues and Concerns :

- I) There is still a literacy gap of 14.2 percent between women (69.4 percent) and men (83.6 percent) in Nepal.
- II) Girls and young women in Nepal have limited access to inclusive, high quality and relevant education for the future they desire. The government's economic survey in 2021 showed that two-thirds of the students enrolled in class 1 drop out of school by the time they reach class 12.²⁴
- III) Girls are unable to attend school regularly or complete their education due to factors such as long distances to schools, inadequate WASH facilities including safe drinking water, sufficient classrooms, and educational supplies, as well as a lack of

²² As per the Constitution of Nepal, the legal age for voting rights is 18 years. However, the minimum age to stand for a local election is 21 years, the minimum age for the House of Representatives (Lower House) is 25 years, and the minimum age for the National Assembly (Upper House) is 35 years.

²³ <https://myrepublica.nagariknetwork.com/news/bringing-out-of-school-children-to-classrooms>

²⁴ Ministry of Finance, Economic Survey 2021/2022, available at https://www.mof.gov.np/uploads/document/file/1674635120_Economic_Survey_2022.pdf

transportation and reasonable accommodations. Additionally, early marriage, household responsibilities, peer bullying, and financial difficulties contribute to 10 percent of girls dropping out before completing secondary education.²⁵

- IV) Health Education subjects in school have been made optional for grades 9 and 10, preventing girls and young women from learning comprehensive sexuality education (CSE), essential for their sexual and reproductive health and rights. Most schools, especially in rural areas, face a shortage of trained teachers and resources.²⁶ There are no specific teachers appointed to teach CSE, leading to inconsistent delivery of information. This gap in education contributes to the prevalence of child marriage, teenage pregnancies, and GBV, further undermining the overall development and well-being of adolescents and young women.
- V) Women, especially in rural areas, have restricted access to the internet and digital tools, limiting their educational and economic opportunities in an increasingly digital world.

Recommendations :

- 1. Ensure all children and young women in Nepal are accessible to inclusive and equitable quality education** by strengthening education policies and legal frameworks, increasing education funding, especially for financial assistance, scholarships, and incentives for marginalized and economically disadvantaged families to keep children in school and improving school infrastructure.
- 2. Ensure that girls and young women are provided with options to choose between formal education or vocational/entrepreneurial skills to be able to develop the required skills, knowledge and attitudes** to secure employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for a better future.
- 3. Ensure that girls and young women have access to affordable digital learning platforms and technology**, especially in rural and remote areas, through initiatives that increase digital literacy among girls, equipping them with essential skills for the future.
- 4. Ensure gender responsive school curriculum and include gender sensitivity training component** into the teacher training curriculum, focusing on gender-sensitive teaching practices, inclusive pedagogy, strategies to prevent GBV in schools, and protection from sexual exploitation and abuse.

²⁵ NGO Parallel Report-2024 on the Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action: Beijing+30 National Review, Beyond Beijing Committee

²⁶ The Kathmandu Post, Schools in rural areas suffers from teacher crunch, available at <https://kathmandupost.com/sudurpaschim-province/2024/01/02/schools-in-remote-areas-suffer-from-teacher-crunch>

5.4 Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and Young Women (Article 12)

SRHR is fundamental and non-negotiable human rights. SRHR is critical for young women because they empower them to make informed decisions about their sexual health and future lives. These rights allow young women to access essential information, healthcare services, and support systems that are necessary for their well-being. Ensuring SRHR enables young women to exercise autonomy over their bodies, make choices about relationships, contraception, and reproduction, and access the necessary care to prevent and treat sexual and reproductive health issues.

Ensuring these rights is not only a matter of health, but also of justice and equality. It fosters well being and informed decision making enabling women to actively participate in all walks of life, from family to community to society and to political and social arena, and help to contribute to building a more inclusive, equitable and prosperous world.

Key Issues and Concerns :

I) Nepal has the third-highest prevalence of child marriage in Asia. According to the national census, 2021, 34.4 percent of the young people had their first marriage between the ages of 18 and 20 years, 22.3 percent married for the first time between 15 and 17 years and 7 percent get married for the first time at age of 10-14 years.²⁷ This contributes to 14 percent of teenage pregnancies (15-19 years)²⁸ and maternal deaths among young mothers, with a higher proportion of deaths (40 percent) ages between 15-24.²⁹

II) In 2021, the estimated total number of induced abortion cases in Nepal was 333,343. However, only 48% of these procedures were performed by listed providers at legally recognized facilities. This means that more than half of all abortions occurred outside the legal framework, taking place in health facilities that do not meet regulatory standards or through traditional and potentially unsafe methods.³⁰

III) CEDAW Committee and the 37th session of the Universal Periodic Review provided recommendation government to fully decriminalise abortion in all cases”, but Restrictive abortion provisions remain in the National Criminal Code and the Right to Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Act, leading to the prosecution of young women for undertaking abortions.

IV) Despite recommendations from the CEDAW and CRC Committees “to incorporate age-appropriate and gender-sensitive comprehensive sexuality education curricula and

²⁷ <https://www.b360nepal.com/detail/743/national-census-2078-male-and-female-birth-ratio-widening>

²⁸ NDHS 2022 Report

²⁹ <https://mohp.gov.np/uploads/Resources/Final%20Report-26%20March-%202023-UPDATED.pdf>

³⁰ <https://nepal.ipas.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/An-Estimate-of-Abortion-Incidence-and-Unintended-Pregnancies.pdf>

adopt a comprehensive sexual and reproductive health policy” the government has not taken adequate measures.

Recommendations :

1. **Introduce age-appropriate education on comprehensive sexuality education in the Teachers professional Development training package**, ensuring that it includes information on responsible sexual behavior, measures to prevent early pregnancy, and sexually transmitted infections and value clarification content. Additionally, we urge the government to make health education a compulsory subject for all grades especially for grade 9 and 10 to provide essential knowledge and skills that empower young people to make informed decisions about their sexual and reproductive health.
2. **Expand the inclusive youth/adolescent-friendly SRH services** across the country. These services should be easily accessible, confidential, and tailored to the needs of young people, with a focus on providing comprehensive, non-judgmental information and support. We also recommend that the government work to increase awareness about the availability of these services through targeted outreach campaigns and ensure that healthcare providers receive proper training in providing youth-friendly care, including communication skills, confidentiality, and sensitivity and human rights based approach to the diverse needs of young people.
3. **Amend the Right to Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Act to fully decriminalize abortion** in Nepal, ensuring that all individuals, including adolescents and young people of diversity have equitable access to safe and stigma-free abortion services.

5.5 Climate change and disaster risk reduction (CEDAW General recommendation No. 37)

The climate crisis does not affect everyone equally, with many young women and girls experiencing greater risks, burdens and potential impacts. Situations of crisis exacerbate pre-existing gender inequalities and compound the intersecting forms of discrimination against, among others, women living in poverty, indigenous women, women belonging to ethnic, religious and sexual minority groups, women with disabilities, and migrant women, who are often disproportionately affected.³¹

Women and girls are powerful leaders and change-makers in climate adaptation, mitigation, and disaster risk reduction. Their leadership must be ensured in the design and implementation of climate action. Without their participation, leadership, and knowledge in climate responses and disaster risk reduction today, solutions for a sustainable planet and a gender-equal world tomorrow will not be possible.

³¹ CEDAW General recommendation No. 37 (2018) on the gender-related dimensions of disaster risk reduction in the context of climate change, 13 March 2018

Key Issues and Concerns :

- I) Impacts of climate change increases GBV and women's workload³², leading to time poverty, and limiting their ability to participate in economic activities, education, and decision-making processes. However, young women, who are leading climate and environmental activism, are largely excluded from decision-making.
- II) Women have less access to and control over resources and land (according to the National Census-2021, 23.8 percent of households in Nepal have land or a house in the name of female household), making them more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and economic instability. Economic dependence on male family members further limits their ability to adapt to changing environmental conditions.
- III) Girls and young women, particularly those from marginalized and intersectional groups, are often considered only as vulnerable groups and not recognized for their important role as agents of change in disaster risk reduction, post-disaster management, and climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies.
- IV) Women are underrepresented in key decision-making roles in Nepal: 34.1 percent in the federal parliament, 33.5 percent in the House of Representatives, and 37.3 percent in the National Assembly. Women hold 3.3 percent of mayor and chairperson positions in local governments, and nearly 28 percent of positions in the civil service.³³ This underrepresentation limits women's access to participation in gender-sensitive and inclusive climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction plans and policies.³⁴

Recommendations :

1. **Ensure young women participation and leadership in disaster preparedness and climate change policies and plans** by enhancing their capacities through trainings in the form of first responders particularly for disaster preparedness.
2. **Ensure that all policies, legislation, plans, programmes, budgets and other activities relating to disaster risk reduction and climate change** are gender responsive, inclusive and grounded in human rights-based principles.
3. **Allocate adequate resources to building the leadership capacity of women and creating an enabling environment for strengthening their active role** in disaster risk reduction and response and climate change mitigation, at all levels and across all relevant sectors.

³²<https://asiapacific.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/Field%20Office%20ESEAsia/Docs/Publications/2020/11/np-Rapid-Gender-Analysis-on-COVID-19-Nepal-2020-EN.pdf>

³³ Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens, Government of Nepal. (2024). *Gender representation in civil service*. <https://mowcsc.gov.np>

³⁴ Election Commission of Nepal. (2022). *Gender and representation in local governance*. <https://www.election.gov.np>

5.6 Economic Empowerment of Young Women (Article 11 and 13)

Women's economic empowerment is crucial for inclusive and sustainable development. Yet, young women continue to face significant barriers to accessing economic opportunities and realizing their full potential.

The situation of young women in rural areas has amplified gender disparities in the labor market, highlighting the urgent need to implement inclusive and resilient economic systems. These systems must address structural inequalities, invest in skill development, ensure access to decent work, and create supportive policies that promote equal participation and leadership opportunities for young women across all sectors.

Key Issues and Concerns :

- I) Young women face gender-based discrimination in hiring practices, wage disparities, and job opportunities. They are frequently concentrated in low-wage, informal, and unskilled labor, limiting their potential for career growth and financial independence. Decent working conditions are a challenge for young women to pursue employment opportunities.
- II) Women's participation in the labor force is approximately 28.68%, compared to 53.9% of men. This highlights the significant gender disparity in employment opportunities for women in Nepal.³⁵
- III) Two-thirds of the 2.64 million employed women are in the informal sector, with a large proportion of them being adolescent girls aged between 15-24. Informal sector is not protected by legislation or safety nets. There are approximately 1.4 million home-based workers (HBWs) in Nepal, the majority of whom are women. This increases their vulnerability to economic shocks and makes them more likely to fall into poverty.
- IV) Due to unpaid household and care work burden, still a large number of working-age women-especially young women cannot go for paid work .This unpaid work limits their time, energy and opportunity to engage in formal employment sectors. According to the 2021 Census, of the 1,967,486 people who reported household chores, 87.8 percent were women, and of the 673,267 people involved in family care, 77.5 percent were women.
- V) Despite the constitutional provisions, the Labor Act of 2017, and the commitments made to SDG target 5.1, a significant gender pay gap persists in Nepal. According to the Nepal Labor Force Survey (2017/18), women earn, on average, 30% less than their male counterparts, even when all other conditions are the same.
- VI) Although entrepreneurship is a potential pathway for economic empowerment, young women face significant challenges especially women with disability in starting and scaling businesses due to limited access to mentorship, networks, and business resources- They

³⁵<https://genderdata.worldbank.org/en/economies/nepal#:~:text=In%20Nepal%2C%20the%20labor%20force%20participation%20rate,1990%2C%20female%20labor%20force%20participation%20has%20increased.>

also struggle to obtain loans, Banks and financial institutions provide loans based on collateral security and returning capacity.

Recommendations :

1. **Create decent jobs and livelihood opportunities for young women**, particularly to people in economically vulnerable situations, while dismantling inequalities in the care economy, and establish and ensure young women's access to universal, adequate, comprehensive, sustainable and nationally owned social protection systems through cooperation with the private sector, technical and vocational education and training and entrepreneurship.
2. **Encourage, Empower and support young women, particularly those aged 18 to 29**, to pursue entrepreneurship and innovation and transform their ideas into viable business opportunities through implementing youth-friendly policies that support the social and economic development of young people so that they can reach their full potential and enjoy their human rights.
3. **Create job and entrepreneurial opportunities** by implementing the Industrial Enterprise Act 2016 together with the 2017 Labour Act, which provides additional benefits and tax exemptions to female entrepreneurs.
4. **Implement gender budgeting tools to analyse how government's budget allocations and expenditures are promoting gender equality** as per Nepal's expressed commitment towards international declarations and Conventions to promote a more gender- equitable fiscal policy.

5.7 Young Women in Technology

Technological progress allows for unprecedented advances with the potential to improve social, economic and political outcomes for young women. Technology also amplifies young women's voices so that they have a stronger impact on the future course of the world. With the growing influence of technology in daily life, disparity in digital access is leading to lost opportunities for women in education, employment, digital entrepreneurship, leadership and participation at different levels. Therefore, It's crucial to address the stark gender disparity that persists in the fields of technology. And pressing need for holistic policies and provisions to address these challenges and encourage women's participation in technology.

Key Issues and Concerns :

- I) The technology sector, in particular, has long been dominated by men. Nearly 8 in every 10 men in Nepal have regular access to at least one form of mass media, compared to

nearly 7 in every 10 women.³⁶ Nine in every 10 men in Nepal own a mobile phone, compared to about 8 in every 10 women.³⁷ Six in every 10 men in Nepal use the Internet, compared to 4 in every 10 women.³⁸ Women hold less than 20 percent of leadership roles in the technology sector in Nepal.³⁹

II) Though Nepal is adapting to the digital revolution at a fast pace, the digital gender divide in Nepal is wide. Accessibility, affordability, topography, digital literacy and languages are some of the formidable barriers that contribute to the digital gender gap.⁴⁰ As of January 2024, while 87.7 percent of Nepal's internet users engaged with social media, only 43.6 percent were female.⁴¹

III) Girls and young women often have limited access to cybersecurity information, increasing their vulnerability to technology-facilitated gender-based violence, such as cybercrime⁴². According to the annual fact sheet (July/Aug 2023 to June/July 2024), Nepal Police, complaints related to cybercrime increased by 119 percent in the fiscal year 2080/81 compared to 2079/80. Among the affected population, 44.32 percent were women, 3.2 percent were children, and 3.8 percent were LGBTQI+ individuals.⁴³ However, Nepal lacks a comprehensive law to address the issues of Cyber Crime. Additionally, legal provisions addressing different forms of GBV do not include direct and indirect forms of technology-facilitated GBV.

Recommendations :

1. **Invest in empowering young women to create digital technology** by recognizing their roles not only as users and consumers but also as developers and creators.
2. **Enhance inclusion and eliminate all barriers that hinder young women**, particularly, women with disabilities and different social, economic and geography backgrounds young women from attaining and maintaining maximum autonomy, independence and full inclusion and participation in all aspects of life and invest in assistive technologies that can promote their full, effective and meaningful participation in society.
3. **Promote women's access to technology** by providing girls focused (Information and Communication Technology (ICT) education, mentorship and networking opportunities, educating them about digital literacy and cybersecurity, implementing workplace safety policies, and raising awareness about the importance of gender diversity in the tech sector.

³⁶ Nepal Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2019. Kathmandu, Nepal: Central Bureau of Statistics and UNICEF Nepal; 2020 (<https://www.unicef.org/nepal/reports/multiple-indicator-cluster-survey-final-report-2019> , accessed 28 February 2021).

³⁷ Ibid

³⁸ Ibid

³⁹ <https://newbusinessage.com/article/women-in-tech-nepali-women-driving-change-in-ict>

⁴⁰ NGO Parallel Report-2024 on the Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action: Beijing+30 National Review, Beyond Beijing Committee

⁴¹ Data portal. (2024). Digital 2024: Nepal. <https://datareportal.com/reports/digital-2024-nepal>.

⁴² https://kathmandupost.com/national/2019/10/01/online-violence-against-women-in-nepal-on-the-rise?utm_source=chatgpt.com

⁴³ https://www.nepalpolice.gov.np/media/filer_public/fd/3e/fd3e1c95-aaa1-41bd-815e-0221254141d4/fy_2080_81_suicide__cyber_crime_-_en.pdf

Annex

**A Process Documentation on- Young Women Led Shadow
Report on Convention on Elimination of all forms of
Discrimination against Women**

Annex:
A Process Documentation on
Young Women Led Shadow Report on
Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination
Against Women



Cover Photo: Pictures made by participants during the workshop

Submitted By:

Yuwalaya

Secretariat of the Young Women Led CEDAW Shadow Report Preparation, a consortium of
31 organizations working for the rights of youth

Supported by:

Plan International Nepal

FOREWORD

We are pleased to present the Young Women-Led Shadow Report on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), jointly prepared by a consortium of 31 organizations working for youth rights. This report provides an analysis of Nepal's progress in addressing the critical areas of concern identified in the previous Concluding Observations, as well as the implementation status of CEDAW, particularly in ensuring the rights of young women in Nepal, from the perspective of young people.

The Yuwalaya-Secretariat of the Young Women Led CEDAW Shadow Report Preparation, extends its sincere gratitude to all the youths, consortium members, all individuals and organizations whose contributions were instrumental to prepare this CEDAW shadow report.

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to seven young women champions Jyoti Mandal, Mabi Shrestha, Mandira Shrestha, Rakshya Awasthi, Sadiksha Nepal, Sujata Bastola and Sweekriti Dangi who led the overall process to prepare the CEDAW Shadow Report. Many thanks to Sanjita Timsina, who worked with seven young women champions as a mentor on behalf of the consortium throughout the process and contributed to finalizing the report.

We extend our gratitude to 241 youths who were part of the provincial and national level validation workshops and contributed to and contributed to bring the diverse and intersectional issues of young women from local to federal levels. Your creative involvement and voices were vital in raising the key concerns of youth, and we believe our voices will be reflected in the hall of the CEDAW review in Geneva during the 90th Session of the CEDAW Committee, which is scheduled from February 3 to 21, 2025.

We would take this opportunity to also acknowledge the technical and financial assistance of PLAN International Nepal, without the support of the Plan International Nepal, this would not be possible. Plan International Nepal's commitment is crucial in empowering youth to engage with CEDAW and in advancing the mission of young women's empowerment. We acknowledge the contributions of Ms. Rakshya Poudyal, Senior Technical Advisor and Ms. Ashmita Thapa, Youth Coordinator for reviewing the report and providing your feedback.

Last but not least, we would like to thank Ms. Nirijana Bhatta, Mr. Sanjeev Adhikari, Mr. Kishor Kuikel, Mr. Pramod Shrestha, Ms. Puspa Thapaliya, Ms. Uma Adhikari, Ms. Aaroohi Adhikari, and Mr. Abinas Karki for their contribution in the overall process.

We are inspired by the collective commitment of the youth to the advancement of young women's rights for shaping a better future. Together, we will continue to strive toward monitoring the implementation of CEDAW and contribute to the implementation of its concluding observations to promote the rights of young women in Nepal and work toward creating a just society.



Dharmaraj Rimal
President
Yuwalaya-Secretariat of Consortium
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women
CO	Concluding Observation
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989
CSE	Comprehensive Sexuality Education
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
FIR	First Information Report
GBV	Gender-based Violence
GoN	Government of Nepal
GR	General Recommendation
HIV	Human Immuno-deficiency Virus
HTCCA	Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
LGBTQIA+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, and other sexual and gender identities
NDHS	Nepal Demographic and Health Survey
SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
WASH	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
OCMC	One-stop Crisis Management Center
UN	United Nation
SGRB	Sexual and Gender Based Violence
FY	Fiscal Year
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
NWC	National Women Commission
NYC	National Youth Council
MoWCSC	Ministry of Women Children and Senior Citizen

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD	2
TABLE OF CONTENTS	4
CHAPTER-1: INTRODUCTION	5
1.1 THE CONTEXT	5
1.2 RATIONALE OF THE REPORT	5
1.3 PROCESS FOLLOWED.....	6
1.3.1 FORMATION OF YOUNG WOMEN CHAMPIONS	7
1.3.2 CAPACITY BUILDING OF YOUNG WOMEN CHAMPIONS TEAM	7
1.3.3 PROVINCIAL CONSULTATION	8
1.3.4 NATIONAL VALIDATION WORKSHOP	8
1.3.5 FINALIZATION AND SUBMISSION OF REPORT	8
1.3.6 INVOLVEMENT BY YOUTH BY AGE AND SEX	9
1.3.7 INVOLVEMENT BY GEOGRAPHY	9
1.3.8 INVOLVEMENT BY ETHNOGRAPHY	10
1.3.9 INVOLVEMENT OF YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES	10
1.4 PARTICIPATION THROUGH CREATIVE WRITING	10
1.5 EXPERIENCES FROM CONSULTATION WORKSHOP	11
1.6 EXPERIENCES OF YOUNG WOMEN CHAMPIONS	12
ANNEXES	0
ANNEX I: SELECTED CREATIVE WRITINGS (ORIGINAL)	1
ANNEX II : LIST OF YOUNG WOMEN CHAMPIONS	3
ANNEX III LIST OF CONSORTIUM MEMBERS	3
ANNEX IV: PARTICIPANTS LIST OF PROVINCIAL CONSULTATION WORKSHOPS	4
ANNEX V : PARTICIPANTS LIST OF NATIONAL LEVEL WORKSHOP ON CEDAW REPORTING FOR VALIDATION.....	12
ANNEX VI: PHOTOGRAPHS	14

CHAPTER-1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Context

Nepal ratified the UN Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women, 1979 (CEDAW) on 22 April, 1991. Nepal, as a state party, had been submitting periodic reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (hereafter called 'CEDAW Committee') on implementation of CEDAW to improve the status of women in Nepal. Nepal submitted its Seventh Periodic State Party Report on CEDAW on 3 August 2023. Subsequently, the Pre-Sessional Working Group on the 89th Session of CEDAW was held during February 19-23, 2024 in Geneva, Switzerland. After the Pre-Sessional Working Group, the CEDAW Committee provided the List of Issues on 26 February, 2024. The Government of Nepal (GoN) submitted the written replies to the CEDAW Committee on 17 December 2024 and is attending the 90th Session of CEDAW Committee, which is scheduled during 3 to 21 February, 2025.

Along with the periodic report submitted by the State party, a number of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and their coalitions have submitted an Alternative Report on CEDAW. However, we, as a youth organization, felt the need for a separate report incorporating the experiences of young women, highlighting their key concerns, and providing recommendations that promote the rights of young women in Nepal. We believe that the preparation of the CEDAW shadow report is not only about preparing and submitting the report; it also empowers young people. We can proudly claim that throughout the reporting process, we were able to raise awareness among young people about CEDAW, its reporting process, and why it is important for them to engage with CEDAW.

1.2 Rationale of the Report

It is an inalienable fact that there are special issues of girls and young women in regard to their state of discrimination which are intersectional and diverse. However, the State party Report and the Alternative Reports are less likely to focus on such special issues girls and young women. But, they have been incorporating such issues together with overall women's issues. In this context, it is very important to flag up the special issues of girls and young women as they see them to the CEDAW Committee. Realizing the need of actively involving the right-holders in such flag-up process, the young women in Nepal are submitting their own Report on CEDAW to the CEDAW Committee.

This is the first young women' led Report on CEDAW involving young women aged between 18-25 from the beginning to the end of the process in Nepal. Henceforth, preparing and submitting the first ever young women-led Report on CEDAW of Nepal has been a great contribution in itself.

The overall objective for submitting this 'Young Women led Shadow Report on CEDAW' is to influence the treaty body (CEDAW Committee) in order to have constructive discussion with the national delegation and provide relevant recommendations to Nepal. In this regard, following are the specific objectives:

- i. To provide a common platform to young women at local, province and federal level for discussing prevalent issues affecting their lives;
- ii. To compile the existing situation and their imagination about the society they want to be a part of from their perspective.
- iii. To prepare and submit the first ever young women led report on CEDAW of Nepal to the Treaty Body, i.e. CEDAW Committee.

1.3 Process followed

Seven young women led a groundbreaking initiative to drive CEDAW shadow reporting. These young women received capacity-building training on CEDAW and the CEDAW reporting process before the initiative began.

This shadow report has been prepared through seven provincial level consultations involving 20-25 participants from diverse backgrounds, offering a platform for young women to voice their concerns. All the provincial consultations were led by seven young women. Based on the information collected from the provincial consultation and desk review, the final draft report has been prepared followed by a national level validation workshop involving the young people, government stakeholders including representatives from National Planning Commission, National Human Rights Commission, National Women Commission, National Youth Council to validate the report. The final report has also incorporated the feedback and recommendations received during the workshop.

Similarly, the government reports submitted to the CEDAW Committee in the past and present were also carefully read, reviewed, and analyzed, along with government policies, programs, action plans, the constitution, other laws and regulations, and periodic reports. Furthermore, the Concluding Observations (CO) of the CEDAW Committee, the List of Issues, General Recommendations of the CEDAW Committee, SDG goals and targets, as well as recommendations from other treaty bodies and the Universal Periodic Review, were also reviewed during the report preparation process.

We followed a step-by-step process to prepare this report. The table below provides the brief timeline of various steps of preparing and submitting this report:

Table No. 1: Step-by-step of Young Women-led Report on CEDAW

S.N.	Activities	Date
1	Youth Champions Selection	2 May 2024
2	Formation of youth champions Team	18 May 2024
3	Capacity building of young women champions	18 – 19 May 2024
4	Preparatory meeting with youth champions for preparation of provincial consultation workshop	24 May 2024
5	Province Consultation workshop, Lumbini Province	27 – 28 May 2024
6	Province Consultation workshop, Karnali Province	1 – 2 June 2024
7	Province Consultation workshop, Madesh Province	6 – 7 June 2024
8	Province Consultation workshop, SudurPaschim Province	18 – 19 June 2024
9	Review & Reflection Workshop	21 – 22 June 2024
10	Preparatory meeting with youth champions for remaining 3 provincial consultation workshops	26 October 2024
11	Province Consultation workshop, Koshi Province	13 – 14 November 2024
12	Province Consultation workshop, Gandaki Province	16 – 17 November 2024
13	Province Consultation workshop, Bagmati Province	30 November – 01 December 2024
15	Consortium Meeting to update the reporting process and share key highlights of the report	30 December 2024

16	Preparatory meeting of Nation Level Workshop on CEDAW Reporting for Validation	2 January 2025
17	National Level Workshop on CEDAW Reporting for Validation	3 January 2025
18	Submission of Report to CEDAW Committee	6 January 2025

The succeeding sections provide details of the process:

1.3.1 Formation of Young Women Champions

A team of seven young women had been formed to lead the process of the preparation and submission of the young women led Report on CEDAW. Considering the time and geographical constraints, following criteria had been set for selecting the team:

1. The age between 18 to 24
2. Knowledge about young women-led reporting
3. Strong writing skills in English
4. At least a +2 graduate or equivalent
5. Experience of leading sessions or facilitating discussions will be of added value
6. Age between 18-25 years of age during the time of application



From the open Expression of Interest (EOI) call, seven young women were selected and formed into a Young Women-Led CEDAW Reporting Committee team. The team members are Jyoti Mandal, Mabi Shrestha, Mandira Shrestha, Rakshya Awasthi, Sadiksha Nepal, Sujata Bastola and Sweekriti Dangi.

The Major Responsibilities of the Youth Champions team included :

- Attend all scheduled meetings and discussions related to the CEDAW reporting process.
- Facilitate consultation workshops with youth in designated provinces.
- Contribute your expertise and insights to the drafting and review of CEDAW reports.
- Collaborate effectively with other committee members and stakeholders.
- Maintain confidentiality regarding sensitive information discussed during meetings

The Youth Champions Team incorporated all the inputs and feedback received from the Provincial Consultation workshop and gave it a final shape, working closely with the consultant/mentor selected to complete this process.

1.3.2 Capacity building of Young Women Champions Team

A two-day capacity building training for young women was organized on May 18-19, 2024, in order to capacitate selected young women for their involvement in the process of preparing and submitting the Young Women-Led Shadow report on CEDAW.

During the two-day training, the participants learned about the CEDAW, its importance and provisions, reporting cycle, skills on preparing CEDAW report and formulate the recommendations to make CEDAW report worthy, and skills and procedures to conduct the

provincial consultation to collect the data and information to prepare the young women led CEDAW report. In addition, the training also provided the participants to express their views and opinions about issues of young women in their communities, the root causes and consequences the situation has brought. They shared their opinion about roles of individual, family, community, schools and Governments at all three levels in Nepal. Further, they also developed an action plan for carrying out provincial consultations in their respective provinces. Ms. Sanjita Timsina, GEDSI expert facilitated the two days training sessions.

1.3.3 Provincial Consultation

A two-day provincial consultation workshop was organized in each of the seven provinces with 25-30 youth participants (including a few males) in their respective provinces. The provincial consultation covered an introduction to CEDAW, its provisions, and its importance. The participants were engaged in various activities, including quizzes, group discussions, brainstorming, games, and creative exercises to raise youth issues, such as writing poems, songs, drawings, and drama. The participants were encouraged to present their creative performances in their local language to reflect their real stories based on their experiences. The 'Problem Tree Analysis' and 'Gallery Walk' were used to identify issues, root causes, contributing factors, and consequences. Different group exercises were conducted to identify recommendations in the form of roles for individuals, families, the government, and the media. All the provincial consultation was led and facilitated by the team of young women Champions.

1.3.4 National Validation Workshop

After completing all the provincial consultations and preparing a draft report based on the issues and recommendations gathered from all the provincial consultations, a one-day national validation workshop was held in Kathmandu on June 3, 2025.

More than 50, including the youth representatives from different provinces and representatives of the consortium members, participated in the validation workshop. Similarly, representatives from the National Planning Commission, the National Human Rights Commission, the National Women's Commission, and the National Youth Council participated and appreciated the process led by young women, and made a commitment to contribute to the implementation of the recommendations of the Young Women-Led CEDAW Shadow Report.

In the validation workshop, the final draft report was presented, and participants were divided into seven thematic areas to review the report and provide their feedback. After thorough group discussions, participants identified areas for improvement in the report, including key concerns and recommendations that had been missed. Following this, the shadow report was endorsed, with a commitment to incorporate the feedback into the final report.

1.3.5 Finalization and Submission of Report

Following the feedback and inputs received from the National Validation Workshop, the report underwent a thorough review process. Each piece of feedback was carefully examined, and the necessary revisions were made to ensure that all concerns, suggestions, and recommendations were adequately addressed. The team worked collaboratively to ensure that the report reflected the perspectives of young women and accurately captured the key issues raised during the consultations.

Once the revisions were incorporated, the report was further refined and aligned with the feedback to enhance its clarity and impact. The final version was then reviewed once again for quality assurance, ensuring it was comprehensive, coherent, and aligned with the goals of promoting young women's rights in Nepal through CEDAW. It was then prepared for submission to the CEDAW Committee, with all necessary documentation and supporting materials in place.

1.3.6 Involvement by youth by Age and Sex

A total of 241 youths were directly involved in the process. Among them, 153 were female, 45 were male and 7 were from gender and sexual minorities. The table below provides details of participants by age-group and sex:

Table No. 2: Age and Sex-wise Composition of Participants

Age-Group	Total Number of female	Total Number of male	Total Number of Gender and Sexual Minorities	Total
16 below	0	0	0	0
16-18	4	0	0	4
18-30	165	43	7	215
30-35	13	6	0	19
35-40	2	3	0	5
40-60	3	1	0	4
60 above	0	0	0	0
Total	187	53	7	247

More than 85 percent of the participants were aged 18–30.

1.3.7 Involvement by Geography

The process of preparing this report actively involved youth from all seven provinces of Nepal, ensuring a diverse and inclusive representation of perspectives and experiences. Young individuals from various geographical, age, and social backgrounds were engaged throughout the process, enabling a comprehensive understanding of the unique challenges faced by youth across the country. The table below shows the details:

Table No. 3: Province-wise Representation

Provinces	Total Number of female	Total Number of male	Total Number of Gender and Sexual Minorities	Total
Province No. 1 (Koshi)	19	6	0	25
Province No. 2 (Madhesh)	20	7	0	27
Province No. 3 (Bagmati)	24	7	2	33
Province No. 4 (Gandaki)	20	3	0	23
Province No. 5 (Lumbini)	33	4	1	38
Province No. 6 (Karnali)	19	5	1	25

Province No. 7 (Sudurpashchim)	18	7	1	26
National Validation workshop	34	14	2	50
Total	187	53	7	247

In regard to the number of participants in provincial consultation, the highest number was observed in Lumbini Province i.e. 38, followed by 33 in Bagmati province. In the rest of the provinces, almost equal number of participants ranging from 25-30 in each province had represented.

Similarly, in the National Validation Workshop, a total of 45 youth representatives participated.

1.3.8 Involvement by Ethnography

During the consultation workshops, youth from a diverse castes and ethnic backgrounds were actively engaged. The table below provides the details of the same:

Table No. 4: Caste/Ethnicity of Participants

Caste/Ethnic Communities	Total Number of female	Total Number of male	Total Number of Gender and Sexual Minorities	Total
Brahmin, Kshetri, Thakuri and Dasnami communities	99	34	3	105
Mountain and Hill Ethnic Communities	34	7	2	35
Dalit Communities	22	5	0	26
Madheshi Communities	16	6	1	20
Musalman community	6	1	1	8
Tharu community	9	0	0	9
Not mentioned	1	0	0	1
Total	187	53	7	247

1.3.9 Involvement of youth with Disabilities

A special consultation with youth participants with various types of disabilities was conducted as part of this process. In total, 16 youth with disabilities were involved in the consultation process.

1.4 Participation through Creative Writing

It was already mentioned that following every consultation workshop session, an hour and half was designated for the participants to express their views and opinion through creative writing/arts. It was totally voluntary for the participants as not all participants may have interest in creative writing. As such, the participants expressed their views and opinion on the status of young women and implementation of their rights through case study, story, poem, drama, drawing and so on. The details of creative writings written on various issues, received are as follows:

Table No. 5: Creative Writing Details

S.N	Form of Creative Writing	Number
1	Poem	22
2	Story	10
3	Drawing	17
4	Drama	8
5	Song	16
6	Case story	7
7	Slogan	15
8	essay	6
	Total	101

In total, 101 creative writings were received from 7 provincial consultation workshops. Out of these, 22 were poems, 10 were stories, 17 were drawings, 8 were drama, 16 were songs, 7 were case stories, 15 slogans and 6 essays.

1.5 Experiences from consultation workshop

During the consultation workshops, participants expressed that they gained valuable knowledge about the rights and provisions outlined in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). For many, this was their first exposure to CEDAW, its reporting process, and the critical importance of their active engagement. Before the workshop, most participants had little to no awareness of CEDAW, highlighting the need for such initiatives to bridge the knowledge gap among youth.

The opportunity to learn about CEDAW and its significance was empowering for the participants, particularly as it allowed them to express their personal views and opinions on the status of girls and young women in Nepal. They shared their perspectives on pressing issues affecting their lives and communities, which was both a meaningful and enlightening experience for them. Many described the process as deeply rewarding and a source of pride, as it marked their contribution to an important and historic effort to amplify the voices of young women and girls in the country.

Participants felt particularly fulfilled in being part of a platform that allowed them to discuss their own challenges as young women, as well as the problems faced by their peers. This sharing of personal and collective experiences created a sense of solidarity and mutual understanding among the participants, strengthening their commitment to advocating for young women's rights.

The workshops also included male participants, although the facilitation team was composed entirely of young women champions. The inclusion of young men in the discussions was significant, as it allowed them to develop a deeper understanding of the issues faced by young women. Male participants expressed that the workshops provided them with a new perspective on the struggles of young women and inspired them to play a supportive role in promoting gender equality. They recognized the importance of becoming allies and advocates for the rights of young women in their communities, fostering a more inclusive approach to addressing gender-based challenges.

1.6 Experiences of Young Women Champions

Mabi Shrestha



Facilitating the Young Women-Led CEDAW Reporting across Karnali, Madhesh, and Gandaki provinces was a transformative journey for me. In Karnali, I witnessed the resilience of marginalized communities as LGBTIQ+ individuals and youth with disabilities shared their struggles with discrimination and reproductive health challenges. Madhesh showcased the power of grassroots activism through intense discussions on dowry, child marriage, and women's limited access to education. Gandaki highlighted the importance of bridging urban-rural perspectives to tackle socio-economic disparities.

I learned the power of storytelling in advocacy, as participants shared personal challenges tied to cultural, economic, and social systems. Most importantly, I realized that sustainable advocacy demands empathy, cultural awareness, and unwavering inclusivity. These consultations reaffirmed the significance of collective action in dismantling systemic inequalities and fostering meaningful change.

Sadiksha Nepal

Being a woman born and raised in an educated, middle-class family in the Kathmandu Valley, I never faced many of the issues that women in Nepal often encounter. My understanding of such challenges came from my parents' stories, television, textbooks, and social media. Growing up, I believed that harmful social practices and gender-based discrimination were gradually decreasing in Nepal.



Participating in the Young Women CEDAW reporting process was an eye-opening moment. The issues I assumed were disappearing—like Chhaupadi, Kamlari, dowry practices, menstrual health challenges, and domestic violence—remain deeply rooted. Women still face forced marriages, discrimination in education and employment, political underrepresentation, and the impacts of climate change.

Hearing women's stories firsthand made me realize the urgency of advocating for their rights. It was a powerful, emotional experience that underscored the privilege I have and my responsibility to use it for change. Reflecting on my parents' struggles to provide me and my sister with opportunities, I feel deeply connected to the fight against discrimination.

This experience solidified my commitment to being a voice for the voiceless and to advocating for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women. I am more determined than ever to dedicate my life to advancing women's rights and creating a just society.

Jyoti Mandal



Being a student of Human Rights and Gender Justice, the Young Women-Led CEDAW reporting provided me with a platform to enhance my learning in terms of the CEDAW convention and its application in Nepal. During this reporting journey, I had the opportunity to facilitate in Madhesh and Gandaki provinces, where we discussed issues, problems, and forward solutions and recommendations to address these challenges. The inclusive participation of young people made the sessions more fruitful and engaging. The entire journey was a valuable experience for me, offering a deeper understanding of the issues from different perspectives.

Sweekriti Dangi

In a role as a person who helps a group of people to work together better, understand their common objectives, and plan how to achieve these objectives during discussions and learning side by side is the most satisfying moment for me as a youth leader. I actually got a chance to work in the same way during the CEDAW reporting process.



Not only that being a law student it is very crucial for me to analyze societal problems closely, this opportunity brought me to face the problems of women in Nepal and work on them. I get to know the practical knowledge on how shadow reports are prepared and how much importance the concerned people (women in CEDAW) carry during report preparation.

Most importantly, I got to meet like-minded girl fellows during the journey which will stay with me for a lifetime. Overall the experience in the reporting process became most valuable to me. grammar correction

Mandira Shrestha



After working on the child-led report for UPR and CRC, CEDAW was always a top priority for me. Getting selected among just 7 young women was a dream come true. The inclusive participation in the report process was truly inspiring. We had intense discussions that were both enlightening and enjoyable. Traveling to three provinces allowed me to witness firsthand the challenges young women face. It was a valuable insight that deepened my understanding of their situations. The best part of this journey was definitely our amazing team. Contributing to this report and representing young women from our nation felt empowering. I genuinely believe our efforts can spark positive change. I'm excited to see the impact this report will have.

Rakshya Awasthi

My CEDAW experience transformed me into a confident advocate for women's rights and sustainable development. Leading workshops on CEDAW reporting helped me grow as a leader while nurturing grassroots activism. As I took on the responsibility of leading workshops on CEDAW reporting, I learned the importance of effective leadership, communication, and facilitation. Each workshop not only helped me grow as a leader but also deepened my understanding of the core principles of CEDAW and its real-world applications, particularly in Nepal's context.



This exposure allowed me to better understand the socio-economic and cultural barriers they face, which in turn shaped my advocacy efforts.



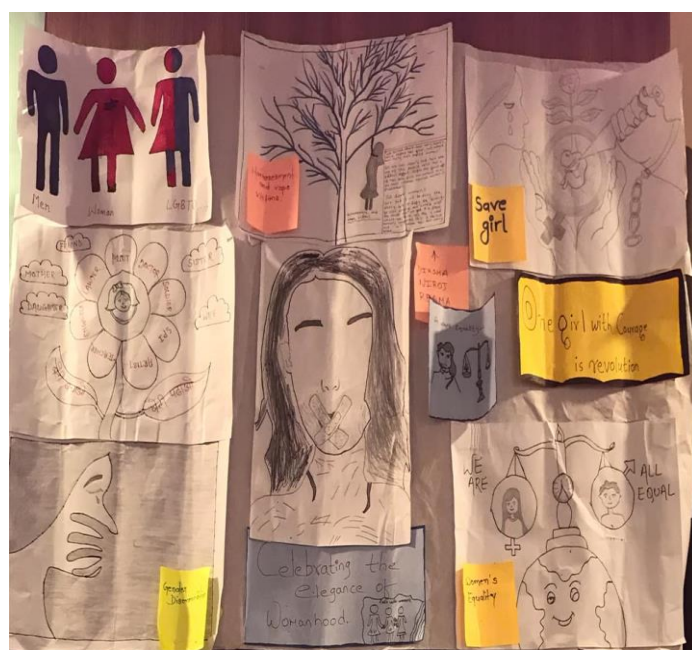
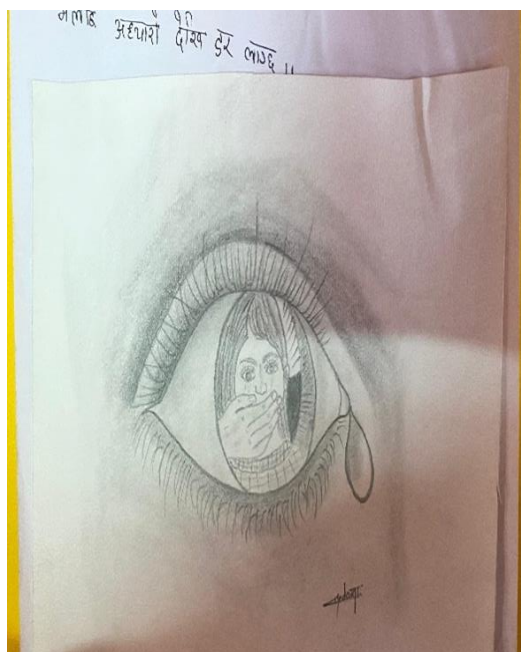
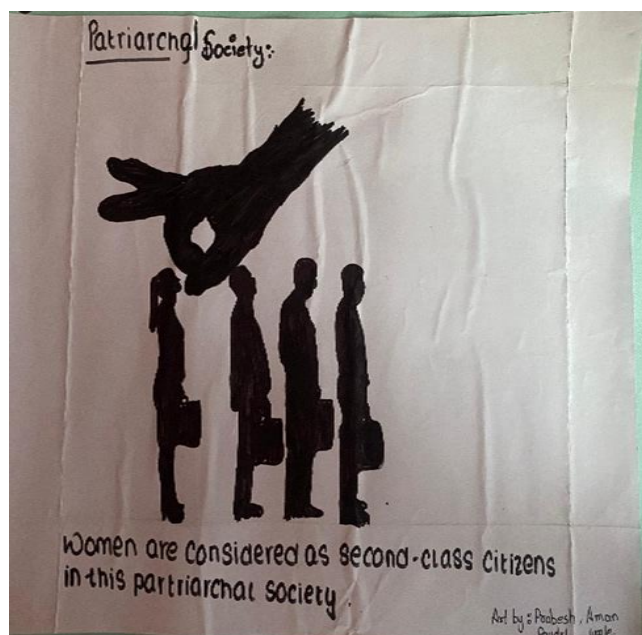
Sujata Bastola

Participating in the young women-led CEDAW reporting process as a youth champion has been a transformative experience for me, bridging the gap between the theoretical knowledge I had about CEDAW, the CEDAW reporting process, and its practical application. This initiative allowed me to actively engage with women across Nepal through consultations and training. Facilitating discussions and workshops about CEDAW alongside six amazing women youth champions enriched my leadership and facilitation skills.

This journey also deepened my understanding of the lived realities of young women, girls, and queer communities across diverse provinces. Immersing myself in local cultures, from enjoying traditional “bhakas” and dances such as “deuda” to hearing unique stories, further connected me to the grassroots context. These experiences have not only broadened my perspective but also strengthened my motivation to advocate for gender equality and contribute meaningfully to the betterment of women and marginalized communities in Nepal and beyond.

Annexes

Annex I: Selected Creative Writings (Original)



Annex II: List of Young Women Champions

S.N	Name	Age
1	Jyoti Mandal	23 years
2	Mabi Shrestha	21 years
3	Mandira Shrestha	22 years
4	Rakshya Awasthi	21 years
5	Sadiksha Nepal	20 years
6	Sujata Bastola	24 years
7	Sweekriti Dangi	22 years

Annex III: List of Consortium Members

S.N.	Consortium Member	Address
1	ALL IN Foundation	Kathmandu
2	Blind Youth Association Nepal	Kathmandu
3	Blue Diamond Society	Kathmandu
4	Community Development Centre	Sudurpaschim, Doti
5	Dakshin Deukhuri Adhikar Manch	Lumbini, Dang
6	Dalit Development Society (DDS), Salyan	Karnali, Salyan
7	Family Planning Association of Nepal (FPAN)	Lalitpur
8	Freed Kamlari Development Forum	Lumbini, Dang
9	Girls Not Brides Nepal	Lalitpur
10	Hami Daju Vai	Lalitpur
11	LOOM Nepal	Kathmandu
12	Lumbini Social Development Centre (LSDC)	Lumbini
13	Manav Swasthya Samaj	Lumbini, Dang
14	National Adolescence Boys Network	Kathmandu
15	Needs Nepal	Sudurpaschim, Kanchanpur
16	Pahilo Paila Nepal Sadhai Parivartanko Lagi	Birjung
17	Province Youth Network Madhesh Province	Madhes Province
18	Children Nepal	Gandaki
19	Shahid Smriti Yuwa Club	Jajarkot
20	Shakti Samuha	Kathmandu
21	Social Changemakers and Innovators	Kathmandu
22	Sunlight Samajik Bikash Kendra	Kapilvastu

23	Supportive Action Towards Humanity (SATH)	Kathmandu
24	Visible Impact	Kathmandu
25	Y-Peer	Kathmandu
26	Youth Along Voice (YAV)	Bhaktapur
27	Youth in Federal Discourse	Kathmandu
28	Youth Initiative	Kathmandu
29	Youth Sounding Board (YSB)	Kathmandu
30	Youth-led Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights Advocacy Nepal (YoSHAN)	Kathmandu
31	Yuwa	Kathmandu

Annex IV: Participants List of Provincial Consultation Workshops

Provincial Consultation in Koshi Province

S.N	Participants Name	Gender	Age	PWD	Ethnic Group
1	Aarohi Adhikari	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
2	Aashika Rajbanshi	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
3	Abhay Maar	Male	18-30	No	Janajati
4	Bidisha Bhattarai	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
5	Diksha Koirala	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
6	Dipen Ray	Male	18-30	No	Madhesi
7	Kaushal Neupane	Male	18-30	Yes	Brahmin
8	Ladli Khatun	Female	18-30	No	Muslim
9	Medika Thapa	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
10	Niroj Bista	Male	18-30	No	Chhetri
11	Pawan Kumar Malaha	Male	18-30	No	Madhesi
12	Pragya Gautam	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
13	Rakshya Awasti	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
14	Resma Khatun	Female	18-30	No	Muslim
15	Rita Karki	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
16	Sadiksha Nepal	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
17	Sonu Sharma	Male	18-30	No	Madhesi
18	Sony Singh	Female	18-30	No	Madhesi
19	Sujata Ale Magar	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
20	Sulochana Rajbanshi	Female	18-30	No	Janajati

21	Sumina Rai	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
22	Sushmita Uraw	Female	18-30	No	Madhesi
23	Sweekriti Dangi	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
24	Usha Lamichhane	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
25	Yunisha Karki	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri

Provincial Consultation in Madhesh Province

S.N.	Participants Name	Gender	Age	PWD	Ethnic Group
1	Aanand Kumar Sahani	Male	18-30	No	Madhesi
2	Anjali Kumari Pasman	Female	18-30	No	Madhesi
3	Bijaya Chalise	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
4	Champa Chaudhary	Female	18-30	Yes	Madhesi
5	Chanda Paswan	Female	18-30	No	Madhesi
6	Dev Kumari Khatri	Female	18-30	No	Madhesi
7	Dharma Raj Rimal	Male	30-35	No	Brahmin
8	Dipika Yadav	Female	18-30	No	Madhesi
9	Ganga Sah	Female	18-30	No	Muslim
10	Jamuna Sah	Female	18-30	No	Madhesi
11	Jyoti Mandal	Female	18-30	No	Madhesi
12	Kishan Sah	Male	18-30	No	Madhesi
13	Mandira Shrestha	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
14	MD Nayim Rain	Male	18-30	No	Janajati
15	Mabi Shrestha	Female	18-30	No	Madhesi
16	Nitu Gupta	Female	18-30	Yes	Muslim
17	Puza Kushwaha	Female	18-30	No	Madhesi

18	Rahul Kumar Sah	Male	18-30	No	Brahmin
19	Ritu Kumari Yadav	Female	18-30	No	Madhesi
20	Samside Khatun	Female	18-30	No	Dalit
21	Sanjita Lama	Female	16-18	No	Janajati
22	Seema Yadav	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
23	Shrijana Ram	Female	18-30	No	Madhesi
24	Shyam Shah	Male	18-30	No	Janajati
25	Sonika Maharjan	Female	18-30	No	Dalit
26	Suhana Mishra	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
27	Sunil Khadka	Male	18-30	No	Madhesi

Provincial Consultation in Bagmati Province

S.N.	Participants Name	Gender	Age	PWD	Ethnic Group
1	Aarohi Adhikari	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
2	Abinash Karki	Male	18-30	No	Chhetri
3	Alina Adhikari	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
4	Alina Karki	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
5	Anila Bijukchhe	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
6	Ashmita Thapa	Female	30-35	No	Chhetri
7	Babita Ghimire	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
8	Binod Shahi	Male	30-35	No	Chhetri
9	Bipana Tamang	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
10	Chanda Thapa	Female	40-60	No	Chhetri
11	Ishara Karki	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
12	Jinat Shekh	Female	18-30	No	Muslim
13	Krishna Tamang	Male	18-30	No	Janajati
14	Mandira Shrestha	Female	18-30	No	Janajati

15	Marky Neupane	Transman	18-30	No	Brahmin
16	Nawraj Niroula	Male	30-35	No	Brahmin
17	Pramila Sinchury	Female	18-30	No	Dalit
18	Priyanka Basnet	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
19	Purnima Kayastha	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
20	Puspa Thapaliya	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
21	Rabin Rijal	Male	18-30	No	Brahmin
22	Rani Kumari Mallik	Female	30-35	No	Madesi
23	Rasmita Giri	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
24	Rio Kaucha Magar	Transman	18-30	No	Janajati
25	Sadiksha Kandel	Female	16-18	No	Brahmin
26	Sagar Darlami Magar	Male	18-30	No	Janajati
27	Saru Joshi	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
28	Sima Tamang	Female	18-30	Yes	Janajati
29	Smarika Pokharel	Female	18-30	Yes	Brahmin
30	Sujata Karki	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
31	Surendra Basnet	Male	40-60	No	Brahmin
32	Sweekriti Dangi	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
33	Swornima Shrestha	Female	18-30	Yes	Janajati

Provincial Consultation in Gandaki Province

S.N.	Participants Name	Gender	Age	PWD	Ethnic Group
1	AaroHi Adhikari	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
2	Aman Wagle	Male	18-30	No	Brahmin
3	Anisha Nepali	Female	16-18	No	Dalit
4	Apsara Nepali	Female	18-30	No	Dalit
5	Apsara Sharma	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
6	Asmita Adhikari	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
7	Asmita Nepali	Female	18-30	No	Dalit
8	Bandana Gurung	Female	18-30	Yes	Janajati
9	Binisha Ojha	Female	18-30	Yes	Brahmin

10	Binisha Paudel	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
11	Jyoti Mandal	Female	18-30	No	Madhesi
12	Kamana Sharma	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
13	Mabi Shrestha	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
14	Prabesh Poudel	Male	18-30	No	Brahmin
15	Ranjit Nepalo	Male	18-30	No	Dalit
16	Sandhya Shrestha	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
17	Shristi Ranabhat	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
18	Smarika Bhandari	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
19	Sneha Nepali	Female	16-18	No	Dalit
20	Sujata Bastola	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
21	Sujata Gaire	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
22	Sushmi Gaire	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
23	Tamanna Pariyar	Female	18-30	No	Dalit

Provincial Consultation in Lumbini Province

S.N	Participants Name	Gender	Age	PWD	Ethnic Group
1	AaroHi Adhikari	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
2	Aasha Chaudhary	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
3	Anil Nepali	Male	18-30	No	Dalit
4	Asmita Rasali	Female	18-30	No	Dalit
5	Dharma Raj Rimal	Male	30-35	No	Brahmin
6	Dikxya Giri	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
7	Hili Pun Magar	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
8	Juna Sunar	Female	18-30	No	Dalit

9	Kalpana Nepali	Female	18-30	No	Dalit
10	Krishma Gupta	Female	18-30	No	Madesi
11	Krishna Prasad Ghimire	Male	18-30	No	Brahmin
12	Laxmi Chaudhary	Female	30-35	No	Janajati
13	Man Kumari Chaudhari	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
14	Mangal Kavar	Other	18-30	No	Madesi
15	Muna BK	Female	18-30	No	Dalit
16	Nilam Pasi	Female	18-30	No	Dalit
17	Pabitra Pun Magar	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
18	Pooja Bashyal	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
19	Pooja Chaudhari	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
20	Pramila Adhikari	Female	18-30	Yes	Brahmin
21	Puja Sunar	Female	18-30	No	Dalit
22	Rakshya Awasti	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
23	Rita Khadka	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
24	Ruma Chaudhary	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
25	Sabita Teli	Female	18-30	No	Other
26	Sadikshya Nepal	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
27	Sanjita Timsina	Female	35-40	No	Brahmin
28	Sapana Thapa	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
29	Saraswoti Chaudhary	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
30	Sarmila Thapa	Female	30-35	No	Chhetri
31	Semala Sunar	Female	18-30	No	Dalit
32	Shila Pal	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
33	Sita Chaudhary	Female	30-35	No	Janajati
34	Sudeep Kumar Pasi	Male	18-30	No	Dalit
35	Sushila Chaudhary	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
36	Sweekriti Dangi	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
37	Uma Adhikari	Female	30-35	No	Chhetri
38	Yamuna BK	Female	18-30	No	Dalit

Provincial Consultation in Karnali Province

S.N	Participants Name	Gender	Age	PWD	Ethnic Group
1	Aasha Devi Shahi	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
2	Bhumika Budathoki	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
3	Bishna Kumari Mahatara	Female	18-30	Yes	Chhetri
4	Ganga Sharma	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
5	Harikala Rokaya	Female	18-30	Yes	Chhetri
6	Himali Pandey	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
7	Jarma Shahi	Female	18-30	No	Thakuri
8	Jaya Kumari Dangi	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
9	Kalpna Kumel	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
10	Karna Raj Dhakal	Male	18-30	No	Brahmin
11	Kishor Kuikel	Male	18-30	No	Brahmin
12	Krishma Giri	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
13	Mabi Shrestha	Female	18-30	No	Janajati
14	Meena BK	Female	30-35	No	Dalit
15	Prem BK	Male	18-30	No	Dalit
16	Rahis Khan	Transgender	18-30	No	Muslim
17	Rajendra Adhikari	Male	18-30	No	Brahmin
18	Rekha Bohara	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
19	Sabin Rokaya	Male	18-30	No	Chhetri
20	Sadikshya Nepal	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
21	Sebika Buda	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
22	Shila Kumari Shahi	Female	18-30	No	Thakuri
23	Sita Kumari Adhikari	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
24	Sobha Nepali	Female	18-30	No	Dalit
25	Sujata Bastola	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin

Provincial Consultation in Sudurpaschim Province

S.N.	Participants Name	Gender	Age	PWD	Ethnic Group
1	Deepika Awasthi	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
2	Dev Raj Awasthi	Male	18-30	No	Brahmin
3	Devi Pathak	Female	18-30	Yes	Brahmin
4	Ganesh Joshi	Male	18-30	No	Brahmin
5	Indu KC	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
6	Jayanti Mahara	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
7	Kalpana Malashi	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
8	Man Singh Bist	Male	18-30	Yes	Chhetri
9	Mandira Shrestha	Female	18-30	No	Ethnic Group
10	Manju Tolangi	Male	18-30	No	Dalit
11	Menaka Wad	Female	18-30	No	Dalit
12	Naresh Sharma Awasthi	Male	18-30	No	Brahmin
13	Niru Kshetri	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
14	Pratexa Khadka	Transgender	18-30	No	Brahmin
15	Puja Shah	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri
16	Puspa Budha	Male	18-30	No	Chhetri
17	Radha Damai	Female	18-30	No	Dalit
18	Rakshya Awasthi	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
19	Sampada Joshi	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
20	Shanti Bogati	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
21	Sujata Bastola	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
22	Sunita BK	Female	18-30	No	Dalit
23	Swostika Joshi	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
24	Uma Adhikari	Female	30-35	No	Chhetri
25	Uma Ojha	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin
26	Yuv Raj Kunwar	Male	35-40	No	Chhetri

Annex V : Participants list of National level Workshop on CEDAW Reporting for Validation

S.N.	Participants Name	Gender	Age	PWD	Ethnic Group	Representative From Province/Organization
1	Aarohi Adhikari	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin	Yuwalaya
2	Abinash Adhikari	Male	18-30	No	Chhetri	Yuwalaya
3	Anila Bijukchhe	Female	18-30	No	Janajati	Youth Representative
4	Anjali Tiwari	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin	Yuwa & SHAKTI SAMUHA
5	Anmol Rai	Male	18-30	No	Janajati	Yuwalaya
6	Ashmin Parajuli	Male	18-30	No	Brahmin	National Adolescent Boy's Network
7	Ashmita Thapa	Female	30-35	No	Chhetri	Plan International Nepal
8	Chandra Thapa	Female	40-60	No	Brahmin	National Youth Council
9	David Pokhrel	Male	18-30	No	Brahmin	Youth Representative
10	Dharmaraj Rimal	Male	30-35	No	Brahmin	Yuwalaya
11	Gita Paudyal Adhikari	Female	40-60	No	Brahmin	National Plan Commission
12	Himali Pandey	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin	Youth Representative from Karnali Province
13	Jharana Neupane	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin	Youth Initiative
14	Jyoti Mandal	Female	18-30	No	Madhesi	Youth Champion
15	Kabita Nepali	Female	30-35	No	Dalit	LOOM Nepal
16	Karuna Basyal	Female	18-30	No	Janajati	Youth Representative from Lumbini Province
17	Karuna Budhathoki	Female	18-30	No	Janajati	Youth Representative
18	Kirtan Adhikari	Male	18-30	No	Brahmin	Youth Along Voice (YAV) Nepal
19	Kriti Vaidya	Female	18-30	No	Janajati	Plan International Nepal
20	Kushal Upadhyaya	Male	18-30	No	Brahmin	Youth Representative

21	Mabi Shrestha	Female	18-30	No	Janajati	Youth Champion
22	Maitrai Sharma	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin	Hami DajuVai
23	Mandira Shrestha	Female	18-30	No	Janajati	Youth Champion
24	Marky Neupane	Transman	18-30	No	Brahmin	Youth Representative from Bagmati Province
25	Murari Prasad Pokharel	Male	40-60	No	Brahmin	National Human Rights Commission
26	Nabin Khatri	Male	18-30	No	Chhetri	Youth Along Voice (YAV) Nepal
27	Navina Gyawali	Female	30-35	Yes	Brahmin	Support Action Toward Humanity (SATH)
28	Parbati Aryal	Female	40-60	No	Brahmin	National Women Commission
29	Prabha Shrees	Female	18-30	No	Jaajati	Youth Representative
30	Pramod Shrestha	Male	35-40	No	Janajati	Yuwalaya
31	Purnima Kayastha	Female	18-30	No	Janajati	Youth Representative from Bagmati Province
32	Puspa Joshi	Female	18-30	No	Janajati	YoSHAN (Youth Led SRHR Advocacy Nepal)
33	Puspa Thapaliya	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin	Yuwalaya
34	Rakshya Adhikari	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri	Social Changemakers And Inn
35	Reshma Khatun	Female	18-30	No	Muslim	Youth Representative from Koshi Province
36	Rewati Karki	Female	18-30	Yes	Chhetri	All in Foundation
37	Rio Kaucha	Transman	18-30	No	Janajati	Youth Representative
38	Rtambhara Sharma	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin	Co-facilitator/Report Writer
39	Sadik Siddiki	Male	18-30	No	Muslim	Plan International Nepal
40	Sadiksha Nepal	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin	Youth Champion
41	Sajina Prajapati	Female	18-30	No	Janajati	Youth Representative
42	Samikshya Dahal	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin	Youth Representative
43	Sanjeev Adhikari	Male	35-40	No	Chhetri	Yuwalaya
44	Sanjita Timsina	Female	35-40	No	Brahmin	Facilitator to support the entire process of CEDAW reporting.
45	Shankar Upadhyaya	Male	18-30	Yes	Brahmin	Blind Youth Association Nepal

46	Sita K. Tamang	Female	18-30	No	Janjati	Youth Initiative
47	Smarika Bhandari	Female	30-35	No	Brahmin	Youth Representative from Gandaki Province
48	Suja Adhikari	Female	18-30	No	Brahmin	Youth Along Voice (YAV) Nepal
49	Swastik Khanal	Male	18-30	No	Brahmin	Youth Representative
50	Sweekriti Dangi	Female	18-30	No	Chhetri	Youth Champion

Annex VI: Photographs

Two Days Capacity Building Training



Photographs from Provincial Consultations







Review and Reflection Workshop



National Level Validation Workshop



