

Project: Strengthening Voice of Marginalized Groups in Constituent Assembly Process in Nepal

Funding Partner: The Asia Foundation/RDIF

Start date: September 2007

End date: December 2009

IGD supports the effective participation of people in Constituent Assembly process in Nepal. IGD implemented activities towards "Strengthening the Voice of Marginalized Groups in Constituent Assembly Process in Nepal" in 12 districts from June 2008 to September 2009 as a constituent organization of CoCAS. IGD was responsible for implementing activities in 12 districts of Western and Central Development Region of Nepal. They are Mustang, Myagdi, Parbat, Kaski, Syanja, Tanahun, Lamjung, Gorkha, Manang, Arghakhanchi, Rupandehi, and Dolkha districts.

1.2.1 Objectives

- To support the effective participation of people in Constituent Assembly process in Nepal,
- To support the enable marginalize groups to identify and articulate their concerns, and engage and develop the capacity of constituent assembly representatives to effectively represent marginalized groups.

1.2.2 Facilitation of Community Declaration Process

- Altogether 13,009 people participated in community declaration dialogues.
- Male 48% and Female 52% participants attended the community declaration dialogues.
- Brahmins 6%, Chhetri 5%, Janajati 53%, Dalit 22%, Mdhesi Dalit 5% and Muslim 9% took part in community declaration dialogues.
- 123 facilitators among them Male 46 (37%) and Female 77 (63%) trained to facilitate the community declaration dialogues.
- Altogether 241 community declaration dialogues were conducted in 224 VDCs/ Municipalities.
- 10 Brahmins, 6 Chhetri, 139 Janajati, 52 Dalit, 11 Terai Dalit and 23 Muslim communities were selected for community declaration dialogues.
- Community declaration meetings covered by prominent media such as national and local newspaper, FM Radio and TV channels.

1.2.3 District Declaration/ Public Forum/ Public Hearings

- 28 CA members, 61 local leaders, 37 government officials, 295 ethnic leaders, 107 civil society representatives, 91 press and 83 others were participated in district declaration/ public forum programs.
- District declarations from 75 districts compiled and consolidated into a citizen national manifesto for CA. This is being handed over to CA.
- National Manifesto Contents :
 - Inclusive PR election system.
 - Social and cultural rights should be guaranteed as fundamental rights.
 - Non-discrimination policies.
 - Access and control of indigenous communities over natural and cultural resources.
 - Mother tongue as national language.
 - Protection of cultural resources of indigenous people.
 - Language, nationalities and culture as determining factor of self-governing autonomy.
 - Right to environment and education.

- Protection of traditional resource skills.



Participants at Community Declaration meeting, Lete, Mustang



Participant submitted District Declaration to CA Members (Suresh Ale, Kumar Rai & Hasina Begam)