

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020



FEMINIST DALIT ORGANIZATION (FEDO)

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ABOUT FEDO

INTRODUCTION

Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO) is one of the leading Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Nepal, working since past 27 years for the empowerment of Dalit women through their social and economic transformation. It has been working to increase access to basic needs, education, health and sanitation, providing Dalit women with various economic opportunities, skill and leadership development trainings, among others to ultimately combat the existing caste-based and gender-based discrimination and violence. FEDO is doing this through activism, advocacy and policy engagement. It incorporates the issues of Dalit women and the entire Dalit community vowing for a just and equitable society.

FEDO has a nationwide network and member based organization, having 57 district chapters in all seven provinces of Nepal. It has over 2154 women's groups with about 53,850 Dalit women group members and 812 frontline women leaders united, organized and mobilized to fight against caste and gender-based discrimination at all levels. FEDO has a partnership with a number of donors, government agencies and development agencies and is committed to further expanding its funding base. FEDO has also been working with several alliances, expanding its network to strongly lobby and bring Dalit women issues to the forefront at both the grassroots as well as the national level. Coordination, collaboration and networking are the major working approaches of this organization. Since its establishment in 1994, it has been raising the various issues of Dalit women such as systemic and structural discrimination, poverty and social injustice, and poor political participation among others. It has been working with a mission to liberate Dalit women and their families from all forms of discrimination owing to gender, caste and disgrace of untouchability. One of those remarkable social movements was for the increase in political participation of Dalit women. The movement that witnessed series of lobbying, various campaigns and piling pressures at the different levels, ended up on a happy note as Local Level Election Act was introduced in Nepal, mandating that two of the ward members elected for each ward must be women and one of the two women must be a Dalit.

Moreover, with FEDO's continuous effort, the participation and representation of Dalit women has also increased in political parties, local level planning committees, community forest user's groups, women groups, school management committees, health committees and other community development committees with decision making authority on identifying issues to raise to the political and governance structures and for overall local development. Likewise, Dalit women are trained and are empowered to voice their concerns and advocate rights and entitlements. Dalit women leaders have launched advocacy campaigns because of increased awareness and empowerment on the importance of gender-responsive and inclusive governance with Dalit women's perspective.

VISION

A just and equitable society where Dalit population and Dalit women enjoy their rights and have opportunities to life, equity, development and participation.

MISSION

To create a movement against caste and gender-based discrimination in order to protect and promote civil and political rights of Dalit women and to support their socioeconomic empowerment.

GOAL

To eliminate caste and gender-based discrimination against Dalit women by making duty bearers responsive and rights holders

proactive towards enhancing equal rights and opportunities.

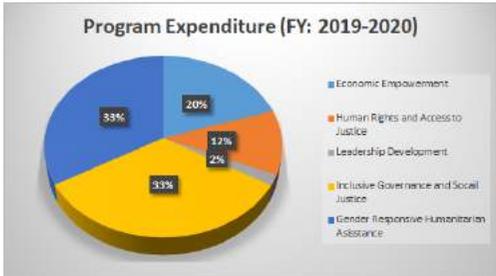
Strategic Objective 1: Enable Dalit women to secure economic empowerment and livelihood through enterprises and employment.

Strategic Objective 2: Develop new leaders, sustain existing ones and promote their participation in public life

Strategic Objective 3: Continue evidence-based advocacy for increasing access of Dalit women to justice, public services, resources and development opportunities

Strategic Objective 4: Strengthen inclusive governance to increase access of Dalit women to the resources and services at local level.

FEDO AT A GLANCE:

<p>Legal entity Registered in: District Administration Office, Kathmandu Registered Date: 2051/04/12 Registration No: 13/051/052 Affiliation with: Social Welfare Council: 2051 Bhadra 12 Affiliation No:001036 Permanent Account Number (PAN): 301705246</p>	<p>Institutional Framework General Assembly:Policy, plans and statutory responsibility, executive committee election, guidance in strategic direction and programmatic plan Central Executive Committee: Ensuring policy, plans and programs implementation, oversee the status of implementation of overall strategic priorities, engagement with national and international level District Executive Committee: Implementation of the project activities, monitoring, reporting and documentation, represent FEDO as per the requirement</p>												
<p>Information about District Chapter District Chapters: 56 Implementing project district:26 District chapters with own land: 10 FEDO with own building:5</p>	<p>Composition of FEDO structure Central Executive Committee: 13 members Management Committee: 6 members Secretarial Committee: 6 members District Committee: 9-11 members</p>												
<p>Directive Policy and Plan 1. Constitution, 2051 2. Strategic Plan 3. Financial Administrative Regulation 2052 4. Personnel Policy 2052 5. GESI policy 6. Good governance policy 7. Anti-corruption policy</p>	<p>FEDO associates with National/ International networks 1. Dalit NGO Federation 2. NGO Federation 3. Men engagement alliance 4. IMADAR 5. Global right to food network 6. Asian Dalit Rights Forum (ADRF) 7. International Dalit Solidarity Network (IDSN) 8. Sankalpa</p>												
<p>Donor agencies/ partner organization in the year 2019 1. Dan Church Aid (DCA) 2. DFID/Womankind Worldwide 3. Global Fund for Women 4. NCDC/DF 5. Karuna Trust Germany/BMZ 6. Bread for the World (BftW) 7. Foundation for a Just Society (FJS)</p>	<p>Presentation of Annual Expenditure 2019</p>  <p>Program Expenditure (FY: 2019-2020)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Economic Empowerment</td> <td>33%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human Rights and Access to Justice</td> <td>20%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Leadership Development</td> <td>17%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Inclusive Governance and Social Justice</td> <td>2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gender Responsive Humanitarian Assistance</td> <td>33%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Category	Percentage	Economic Empowerment	33%	Human Rights and Access to Justice	20%	Leadership Development	17%	Inclusive Governance and Social Justice	2%	Gender Responsive Humanitarian Assistance	33%
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MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT

It is an honor to present to you our 'Annual Report 2019-20' with key achievements throughout the years. FEDO has worked in collaboration and coordination with all three tiers of government, especially on advancing human rights, development and access to justice of Dalit. FEDO has continued its efforts to end caste and gender-based discrimination against Dalit women and girls. The engagement of men and boys is also one of the priorities to make advocacy campaigns more effective, as it is important for both men and women to collectively raise the issues of Dalit women's rights and defeat the violence against Dalit women and girls. Gender Responsive Budget and access of Dalit women to the public services and resources is also a part of advocacy has continued as a priority.

FEDO has been working with the issues of Dalit women in the area of socio-economic empowerment, education, health, leadership development and advocacy for its establishment. FEDO refers to all its program activities as a Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) to empower and enhance the capacity of Dalit women at local and national level. We want Dalit women asking questions, claiming rights, representing in decision making process and holding institutions to account. It reaffirms the role of feminist movement and civil society actors for ending caste and gender-based discrimination against Dalit women and girls.

Since its inception, FEDO has provided its constant effort to build the capacity of Dalit women group members and leaders to bring a positive change in society. Due to our conscious and concerted actions, Dalit women frontline leaders are now able to make the government and concerned stakeholders responsive and accountable to addressing the issues of Dalit women. A series of capacity building initiatives have been taken for locally elected Dalit women to make them able to put the agenda of their community in decision making process of local government. Locally elected Dalit women are well informed and oriented about their roles and responsibilities in order to effectively engaged with the local development. As a result, they are playing a significant role in representing the voices of Dalit women in local planning and law making process.

The issues related to violence against Dalit women and girls, quality education for Dalit girls, caste-based discrimination and untouchability were discussed and sensitized right holders and duty bearers at the local and national level. The concerned stakeholders, such as Dalit and non-Dalit communities and their representative groups, government agencies, people's organizations, NGO and INGO partners, and other civil society actors

are working together to make them responsive and accountable with the new and emerging issues of Dalit women. We have been able to support and encourage a large number of Dalit women in 56 districts, where Dalit women have been organized and empowered for claiming their rights, dignity, social justice and meaningful participation in development action. The project activities implemented by FEDO have empowered Dalit women to bring a success of Dalit women movement at the community level.

This annual report of 2019-20 offers insights into our work – and into the wide-ranging challenges we, together with our targeted groups, continue to face. I would like to thank all our supporters and look forward to everyone's continued support from donors, I/ NGOs, government officials, political parties, civil society organizations and relevant stakeholders and individuals to make our movement success to the better living of Dalit women. We hope you will be enjoying to see and read this report; we expect your constructive feedback and valuable suggestions for improving it in the future.

Kala Swarnakar



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FROM **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

This annual report highlights the achievement of FEDO projects carried out during the year of 2019-20. We have implemented several projects in advancing human rights of Dalit women, equitable service delivery, access to justice, leadership development, support to affected people from disasters and outbreak of COVID-19, gender responsive and inclusive governance from Dalit women's perspective. The capacity of Dalit women has been strengthened through advocacy campaigns, promotion of constructive engagement between citizens and government to address the issues faced by Dalit women from local to national level.

We look at the terrible situation of Dalit women during the outbreak of COVID-19, challenges, strengths, opportunities and accountability within our organization. Taking into account the caste-based discrimination, gender-based violence and social injustice against Dalit women, FEDO has provided its effort to advance human rights of Dalit women and their access to social justice putting Dalit women and girls at the center. FEDO is working towards enabling and empowering Dalit women groups, Dalit women frontline leaders, collective action groups and so forth to support social movements taking into consideration the effects of COVID-19 to the lives of Dalit women and girls.

Dalit women are being empowered to voice their concerns and claim their rights and entitlement. Taking Dalit women's rights into top priority and seeing it as a source to live Dalit women with dignified life, FEDO actively worked to increase Dalit women's access to resources and service delivery. Dalit women front line leaders played significant role in advocacy campaigns resulting in increased awareness and empowerment to increase the access of Dalit women to the development and social justice. FEDO is constantly engaged to ensure rights and inclusion of Dalit women, end caste and gender-based discrimination against Dalit women and free quality education of girls from Dalits and marginalized groups as provisioned by the constitution. Entrepreneurship among Dalit women and youth has also been promoted to develop resilient livelihood and to provide economic opportunities.

Despite facing challenges, we are certain to bring possible changes in improving the lives of Dalit women and girls. Our achievements of 2019-20 has encouraged us to learn from what we have been able to do, contribute to get further learning for others, and improve capacity to translate learning into practice. We have collectively worked to generate prosperous lives of Dalit women. FEDO has committed itself to continuously support Dalit women and their families to fight against gender and caste

based discrimination and strengthen the human rights of Dalit women. It will further intensify its efforts to strength human rights of Dalit women in Nepal by continuing advocacy campaigns. The commitment and enthusiasm of members and staffs of FEDO is what makes a difference in changing the lives of Dalit women and girls.

Therefore, we call for a more comprehensive approach and collaboration to effectively address the issues of Dalit women by understanding the underlying causes of poverty and also examine how caste and gender-based violence continues to hinder sustainable changes in order that the lives of women and girls from Dalit community and other marginalized groups can bring about improvement in their current conditions. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge all our key partners including the government agencies, donors, international and national NGOs, civil society organizations and so on. I would also like to offer my sincere gratitude to all FEDO staffs and board members at the central and district level for their support in preparing this annual report. Finally, I am looking forward for the same support and guidance in forthcoming days.

Bharat Nepali

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

FEDO understands that the extreme poverty of Dalit community has been a rooted problem in blocking their development and prosperity. Poverty in the Dalit population is directly linked with the social and cultural aspects and how they are seen as well as treated as a lower caste in the society. FEDO has focused interventions to secure economic empowerment and livelihood of Dalit women and Dalit families to address the root causes of poverty and inequality. FEDO focuses on economic empowerment and livelihood program through which Dalit women have mobilized to increase their access to financial resources and marketing for the promotion of enterprises. Dalit women have been ensuring better economic stability by providing them with necessary resources for their economic growth. This financial empowerment is critical to sustained economic opportunities for Dalit women as they join in groups/cooperatives and take action to improve their livelihood and economic opportunities.



Dalit women who were once confined only in the household and reproductive work are now coming out and establishing entrepreneurship both on-farm and off-farm enterprises.

This year also FEDO provided different levels of training: case documentation, legal literacy, advocacy and leadership development and other skillful trainings to 1400+ women of different

districts. They are involved in livestock rearing, restaurants, grocery shops, vegetable farming, electric and house wiring, cottage industries of spices, leaf plates etc. FEDO is also providing support for small holder farmers to improve their production and enhance their livelihoods by providing trainings as well as necessary resources since 27 years and continues to work for the overall betterment of the Dalit women community.

Ensuring participation and equal opportunities for leadership of Dalit women at all levels of decision-making, FEDO has been working to bring more Dalit women forward to establish them as community leaders as well as policy makers. This has been improving the economic condition of Dalit women in the community and positively shaping their livelihood. Similarly, for improving the Educational Achievements of Dalit and Marginalized girls, FEDO has been working to improve access to education of Dalit and marginalized women and girls in different districts of Nepal. With this it also focuses on improving the household income of Dalit families so they keep their daughters in school through their own economic activities. This not only ensures access to education for Dalit women and girls but also ensures better health and economic status of their families by involving their families in income generating activities.

SUCCESS STORY

DALIT WOMAN BECOMING SELF-RELIANT

Bina B.K. was born as the second child to her parents Ram Bahadur B.K. (father) and Mata Devi B.K. (mother) at Godawari Municipality-2, Malakheta of Kailali district. She got married to Khadak B.K. resident of Godawari-1 who has been working as a soldier in the army while studying in 10th standard on 2070 B.S. Bina always desired to do something for herself, her family and the community. However, due to poor socio-economic status of her family and traditional caste, she did not get to study or pursue her dreams. Her daily routine was confined within household chores only. She had to look after her two children along with overall family responsibilities because of her husband's job outside the district.



However, her children were growing up and little salary of her husband and their needs for educational materials rising, they had problems with monetary stability. Every year as they were going to the next class, it was difficult for her to pay their fees, buy them educational materials, and look after the needs of the households. She was worried about how to spend her household necessities while she was at home without work.

As soon as she joined the Pragatisil Dalit Women Group in 2018 and was nominated as a chairperson, she got a chance to be a part of various awareness programs and skillful trainings conducted by FEDO. She actively participated

on various trainings on governance, leadership development, and local level participatory planning process, Dalit and Women Rights, among other. As FEDO always vows for the economic empowerment of women, Bina, under the project "Combating Discrimination for Advancing Human rights of Dalit women of Nepal" received 30 thousand for her group as seed money.

As of developed leadership, she began to run the group well. As a result, everyone in the group started making regular savings with total fund of 80 thousand. She first started a small tailoring shop borrowing some money from the group and later took rupees 15,000 loan from the seed money of her group provided by FEDO for adding cosmetic items. Customers began to grow. She also started to teach tailoring to local women for a low cost. She now earns 10 to 15 thousand per month from her shop. With her earning, she has been able to run her family in better manner than earlier. Apart from her business and family, she is also involved in various social works. She shows her concern in the municipality budgets. Moreover, she is playing leadership role to demand the service and resource and has set an example in her community.

She says, "I feel highly respected by my family and community. FEDO helped me to lead my leadership and capacity enhancement and I will continue to inspire other Dalit women."

HUMAN RIGHTS AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE

FEDO's exploration in Dalit communities, particularly among Dalit women has shown very nominal access to human rights system, social justice and development. Dalit women should be able to enhance the knowledge, skills and resources to progress towards exercising human rights including having their access to social protection, social justice, public services, resources and development opportunities without any discrimination and biasness. FEDO has emphasized on responsive human rights and justice system and development actions that respect the human rights of Dalit women and other marginalized groups to address their needs in the scope of human rights, justice and development.

It's playing a crucial role to identify the cases of violence against women and girls (VAWG), take them forward and to coordinate with concerned authorities after they are being capacitated on legal treatment and justice system. It was noticed that a total of 362 cases were reported on last two years and among them, 186 got resolved through legal process. To combat VAWG, the Dalit women discussed the problems in groups and coordinated with local authorities, jointly identified and analyzed the problem and take action to control them through monitoring committee. Several discussions and interactions with men and boys were conducted to make them

realize that their engagement is as important as women in the issue of women's rights and in defeating violence. The results have been reported that boys' groups not only stopped harassing girls but also influenced their peers to stop doing so.

FEDO carried out different activities related to reducing VAWG ensuring their human rights in different districts of Nepal enforcing the value and the steps of human rights, access to justice and development aiming to enable Dalit women and their community to live in a free, fearless and peaceful environment, in which all human rights are respected.



SUCCESS STORY

PARBATI RECEIVED CITIZENSHIP CERTIFICATE

Parbati B.K. was born on 6 Chaitra 2006 B.S. at Kalimati Rampur, Salyan district. She was married when she was about 14 years old. They have no land for cultivation and only the work of Aaran (Black smith work) as a source of survival. In this situation, they had migrated to Badaiyatal rural municipality-4, Khaireni Tole of Bardiya district after 6 years of marriage. Until then, they had no children and had been solving their basic needs from the Aaron work. She had also worked in her relative's home for supporting her family. In the meantime, they were looking for public land for comfortable livelihood opportunities.



Public land registration process was going on in the village but Parbati could not register the land as she did not have citizenship and could not become a member of the cooperative. Without membership of cooperative, she was deprived of getting a loan from a cooperative for her livelihood. She took initiative to apply for citizenship but was unable to do so because she had no legal documents. She had lost her hope of getting citizenship and continued to work as a daily wage worker for survival. As she did not have citizenship, she could not get the single women's allowance provided by the state.

In the meantime, FEDO Bardiya formed "Lagansil Dalit Women group" on 2073 B.S in her

community. She became chairperson in the group and got opportunities to participate in leadership development training, human and citizen rights training, importance of vital registration, advocacy and paralegal training. She shared the knowledge and information in group where she gained perspective and skills. Group members encouraged her to make effort to well mobilize the group. She appealed to the group's regular meeting and FEDO Bardiya to help her to get her citizenship. After hearing her problem, it was clear that Parbati had not been able to get her citizenship even in the latter part of her life and thus help was provided to get her right to become a citizen. Immediately, FEDO Bardiya and group members in a joint initiative and coordinated with ward office and district administration office worked in giving her Nepali citizenship. With regular advocacy and facilitation of FEDO Bardiya and group, finally she was able to get the citizenship on 5th of Bhadra 2075 B.S. and the right to become a Nepali citizen at the age of 71.

Now she is able to get the social security allowance provided by the state as a senior citizen and has been able to enjoy the life she wanted. She remembers the past and says that "I have spent so many days crying and slept without having food, but despite my age and vigilance, I couldn't do anything because I had no one to help me." She added that after getting her Nepali citizenship, she is happy to live her life with respect and get state services that she was previously deprived of. She also shared her gratitude towards FEDO and thanked the organization for the help she got.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND PARTICIPATION

FEDO believes that Dalit women's participation and representation is an important implication for the broader area of deepening democracy. Leadership demands accountability of state and non-state actors to guarantee and respect Dalit women's equal rights, responsibilities, participation and representation. FEDO has been facilitating leadership development of emerging and existing Dalit women leaders from political parties and civil society organizations, exploring constructive ways to enhance their meaningful participation and representation, building effective coordination and cooperation between citizens and government. Leadership development is ensured through trainings, opportunities, skill building exercises and so on. At FEDO, leadership development of Dalit women is seen as a base for an overall increase in meaningful participation and representation. Also, better leadership skills among Dalit women leads to independence as well as advocacy to bring forward women from the bottom of the exclusion and discrimination spectrum as representatives and set examples to empower Dalit women, dealing with their extreme exclusion and poor socio-economic situation.

FEDO has been working to reduce caste and gender based discrimination of Dalit women and girls by encouraging and empowering them through various leadership development trainings, workshops, meetings and exposures to providing them platform where they can explore their ideas, and experience to build their capacity. The years of 2019 and 2020 FEDO has organized different types of capacity building



activities for elected Dalit women leaders and Dalit women frontline leaders to play a significant role as elected officials and social workers. In the same way, FEDO has been able to affiliate and capacitate to Dalit parliamentarians in Karnali province to play the crucial role in parliament the favor of Dalit women.

Locally elected Dalit women representatives are able to influence and allocate the budgets for Dalit women and Dalit community and the budget was utilized in skill development of Dalit women. Hopeful that these leaders can work to their full potential to eliminate the atrocious discriminatory practices amongst women, Dalit women, children and Dalit population as a whole. A total of 5,336 elected Dalit women leaders and frontline Dalit women leaders took part in various leadership development activities. Strengthening leadership capacity of Dalit Women Human Right Defenders is a project that contributed to address the challenges of ensuring human rights and access to justice for Dalit women to strengthen their leadership capacity. It has provided Dalit women with the necessary information and resources for them to grow as leaders/human rights defenders of the community.

JOURNEY FROM A STRUGGLING WOMEN TO A SUCCESSFUL LEADER

"I am doing fine; people liked my work and I am earning much better to run my family and fulfil their needs. I feel highly respected by my family and my community. I am extremely thankful to FEDO for supporting and encouraging me in becoming a social leader and without FEDO I would disappear in the darkness of this superstitious society."



Mathura B.K, 36 years a Dalit woman remained single and isolated when she was pregnant with her second baby after already having a 2 years old daughter with her. She remained busy within the household chores and was bound by various social and cultural restrictions and was passing her life in miserable financial conditions. She was completely dependent on her in-laws, which in turn left her without any access to other opportunities. It was very difficult for her to even fulfil basic needs of her two daughters. Despite her willingness to improve situation, she was regularly tortured mentally.

After her husband passed away, her hardship started with blaming by her in-laws. Every single day she had to listen to sorrowful blame and accusation by her in-laws with regular domestic

violence and was treated as a servant which made her mentally disturbed. Being widowed at a young age, men in society used to look at her with wrong intentions. Because of this it was tough for her survive. She had been in connection with former group of FEDO Kailali. She had heard a lot about FEDO and how it is helping Dalit women to be empowered. After being a member of Shanti Dalit Women Group, she was nominated as its chairperson later on where she got many capacity enhancement trainings, workshops, interactions regarding leadership development, public speaking, human rights and paralegal, public policy and new structure of the government, gender and domestic violence, rights of Dalit women and marginalized community.

During this period, she gained confidence that helped her get elected as a ward member in local election 2074 B.S. from Bardagoriya RMP-1 by former CPN-UML quota. She has also established her own tailoring shop in which she used to train 10 to 12 trainees (women) monthly for 3 to 6 months tailoring courses. She has been actively participating in social work for the development of her community and village. By her initiation, 20 single women at Bardgoriya-1 have received warm clothes and seeds/fertilizer after getting training of vegetable farming and goat rearing. Similarly, community people now ask her to help facilitate social and domestic dispute. Being a ward member, she succeeded to conduct 2/2 lots of trainings of tailoring and beauty-parlor for 40/40 women from ward budget. She initiated for distribution of



scholarship with educational materials to 20 Dalit disabled and marginalized children of primary level from ward program, distributed 2 borings (underground water pump) to marginalized Dalit farmers of Ghagadpur and Uttarmuda and 6 marginalized Dalit women received goats for goat raising. She succeeded to allocate 2 Lakhs 50 thousand for road gravelling Bardgoriya-1, Shanti tole. In her leadership, 35 Chaupadi-hut has been destroyed at Uttarmuda

and women from there stay inside the house during menstruation now a day.

She says "Being a member of the group, I learned the importance of being involved in politics and leadership to have our voice heard and assert our rights. It is not easy for single women to get involvement in social work because of family and social restriction, hatred and superstition."

INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE (PARTICIPATION, RULE OF LAW, ACCOUNTABILITY)

FEDO understands the importance of inclusive governance and therefore works to bring forward Dalit women who haven't had much participation and representation in the communities. FEDO has realized that the meaningful participation and representation of Dalit women at all levels is a prime concern in itself. The people's voice, participation, rule of law, social accountability and decision-making power concerning basic services, resources, development opportunities, and social justice are critical factors in challenging and transforming structural discrimination such as caste and gender-based discrimination, and enabling Dalit women to realize their rights and inclusion.

FEDO has focused to strengthen inclusive governance with an emphasis on increasing access to equitable services and resources for Dalit women through policy reform within the institutions of governance during the years of 2019 and 2020. Engagement with locally elected representatives was focused on capacitating them on women's rights and imparting knowledge on their roles and responsibilities, especially to ward committee, thematic committees and judicial committee.

FEDO has been rigorously working on ensuring participation and representation of Dalit women in different districts of Nepal. The increased number of Dalit women in these political platforms ensures better distribution of power and leads to inclusion of Dalit and marginalized women in policy making, implementation and decision-making.

This has created a great opportunity for Dalit community, to find their own representatives at local level decision-making bodies. Based on the existing opportunity Dalit women representation at local level decision-making process, FEDO focuses on delivering better, inclusive, and more transparent public services, development and social justice of Dalit women through capacity building of locally elected Dalit women, mobilizing networks of Dalit women groups and influencing non-Dalit decision makers. Locally elected Dalit women and Dalit women leaders in group networks have played significant role to ensure Dalits and mainly Dalit women to have access to

human rights, development and justice with end to the stigma and discrimination. Local government has realized the issues of Dalit women to address through favorable laws, policies and plans. The numbers of training and orientations conducted to build the capacity of elected Dalit women and other promised women leaders to do strong advocacy for increasing access to development and justice of Dalit women. Now the elected Dalit women are playing their role to support their constituency and identify the needs of Dalit women. Networks of Dalit women strengthened and they developed coordination and linkage with local government to address their needs. Dalit women at the community level are able to pro-actively claim rights and 10 % of Dalit women represented in local structure created for the development such as road, water supply, school management, health, forest etc.) to influence policy and decision making based on their concerns.



FEDO'S WORK AMID THE COVID-19

RELIEF DISTRIBUTION EFFORTS

COVID-19 pandemic invited a crisis in Nepal like many other countries of the world especially affecting Dalit and marginalized communities. The cessation of access to daily income for the Dalit communities is one of the major issues brought by this crisis as almost half of Dalit population in Nepal is living under the poverty line. Most of the Dalits are landless and millions rely on daily wages from the informal sectors, ultimately having no income and facing a dreadful crisis amid the lockdown. Now people are more afraid of starvation and insecurity rather than dying from the virus.

Ensuring at least the minimum standards in food security of such communities is the key responsibility of the government. However, due to limited resources, the government is not able to reach every needy person with the relief materials. So, with the aim of addressing the most urgent needs of the Dalit communities and marginalized groups, Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO) diligently provided daily essentials as well as rations such as rice, pulses, mustard oil, wheat, flour, potatoes, salt, sugar, soap, mask, sanitizers, mosquito-net, towel in order to support & help Dalits, poor and the most vulnerable ones through these challenging times in 2020.

Not only the food-items, but FEDO has also distributed sanitary pads and other medical kits to girls and women of different districts for ensuring their improved menstrual hygiene and good health. Till now, we have distributed these essentials in 16 districts benefitting 4060 households (marginalized, poor and vulnerable people) in collaboration with different donor agencies.

STUDIES CARRIED OUT BY FEDO AMID THE PANDEMIC

In order to control, prevent and keep people safe from the pandemic, Nepal Government imposed and extended lockdown several times but we still couldn't be free from the patriarchy community which created an environment where women and girls specifically from marginalized group (Dalit) were vulnerable toward the violence.



So, coinciding the occasion of the 16-day campaign against gender-based violence, FEDO released a Study Report, focusing to the violence and discrimination against Dalit women and girls. With its analysis a total of 789 Dalit women and girls experiencing different types of violence between April to October 2020. Furthermore, in 2020, FEDO conducted

the Rapid assessment survey with altogether of 265 Dalit women respondents of 19 districts covering all the provinces of Nepal to ascertain the impact of COVID-19 to the lives of Dalit women. Through the study, we found out that 94.4% Dalit women had some knowledge of COVID-19 and its symptoms but only 43%

were applying different preventive measures such as; regular hand wash, use of sanitizer and mask, avoiding public gathering and maintaining social distancing. Hence, we can say that due to lack of access to information and economic constraints, Dalits are ignorant to many aspects of a community.

PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNSELING AND AWARENESS RAISING TO DALIT AND MARGINALIZED GROUP

The fear and uncertainty caused due to the COVID-19 pandemic have further intensified various inequalities against women, resulting in violence. According to the Study and Analysis report prepared by Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO), 716 incidents of violence against Dalit women and girls were recorded during this lockdown and the women experiencing such violence are at a significantly higher risk of experiencing a range of mental health conditions including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, anxiety, substance abuse, and thoughts of suicide.



So, in addition to proactive measures addressing physical survival needs and health protection, FEDO provided mental health counseling and support to Dalit and marginalized group of different districts in order to cope with the widespread psychological stress during the pandemic and its aftermath.

FEDO has been working in close coordination and cooperation with local government, health workers, DRR actors, business and civil society for raising awareness amongst community people to reduce the suffering caused by this pandemic situation.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF PROJECTS IN 2019 - 2020

Project 1: Participation and Voice for Excluded Women in Nepal (PAVE)

Project Goal	The right of all women in Nepal to full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making is promoted and protected in line with SDG target 5.5.
Project Duration	October 2019 to September 2022
Project Partner	DFID/Womankind Worldwide
Target Districts	Achham, Bajura, Dadeldhura, Doti and Kanchanpur

PAVE Project is a three years' project with aims to improve the participation, leadership and influence in decision making in local and provincial level government across formal and informal spheres of the elected women representatives in five districts of Province 7 targeting the elected women to improve knowledge, skills and resources to increase their participation in governance and represent their views of their constituents more effectively. Additionally, the targeted community women (including marginalized women) have increased capacity to engage proactively in local politics and decision-making that affects their lives. They are getting equipped with improved knowledge, skills and resources to actively support women's participation and leadership. Furthermore, the project provides coordinated and collective action to strengthen women's movement in support of women's political participation at the provincial, national and international levels.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Throughout the time, 220 potential leaders (100 Elected women and 120 community women) has been identified and provided with Leadership development training.
- Successfully conducted a baseline exercise to assess the level of knowledge and skills of the potential leaders and community women. It has explored and understood the experiences and barriers they face in taking political leadership and decision-making roles in Local Government Units (LGUs) in five targeted districts.
- The gendered market analysis recruitment and orientation began in March 2020. This study provides a deeper understanding of women in Province 7 related to the current socio-political, legal and economic situation of the women in politics in Nepal, including the marginalized women.



Leadership development training provided to Dalit women representative & community women of Achham & Dadeldhura district

Project 2: Strengthening Leadership capacity of Dalit Women Human Right Defenders

Project Goal	To reinforce the leadership capacity of DWHRDs ultimately mobilizing them to secure and safeguard the human rights of all Dalit women and create an equitable, dignified and just society making them capable to enjoy their rights and defend themselves for equal opportunities.
Project Duration	September 2019 to August 2020
Project Partner	Global Fund for Women
Target Districts	Gulmi and Arghakhachi

The project has been implemented aiming to address the challenges of ensuring human rights and access to justice for Dalit women, to strengthen the leadership capacity of Dalit women human right defenders (DWHRDs) to be able to defend human rights of Dalit women in hostile context. During the whole project period, FEDO Gulmi and Arghakhanchi have been working closely with duty bearers and right holders through the mobilization of Dalit women human rights defenders and

Dalit women frontline leaders at local level to safeguard Dalit women in any kind of violence against human rights. Undertaking the objective of the project, activities have carried out in such a structure where the leadership and capacity of DWHRDs has strengthened on legal rights, community mediation, legal procedures, UN human rights procedures and strong advocacy so they can be proficient on leading advocacy meetings and campaigns, support Dalit women to a life free from violence and discrimination.



Coordination meeting with authorities and human right defenders

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Since its inception, we have been able to form 14 women's groups all together that have been effectively mobilized to support the DWHRDs to advocate, lobby in the social and political platform of the community to safeguard the human rights of Dalit women.
- 50 DWHRDs have trained in case documentation, advocacy and leadership capacity and now has given rise to some of the capable and well-equipped Dalit women

Human Right Defenders who can be voice to the voiceless.

- Successfully 12 cases of violence have been documented and FEDO district chapters have effectual intervention in defending the human rights of victims. Not limiting to that we are still working to document more cases.
- FEDO has strongly established good relation with the local government and cordially dealing the violence against Dalit women, strengthening their human rights and shaping them for better.

Project 3: Reducing Violence against Dalit Women

Project Goal	Contribute to reduce violence against Dalit women and ensure their human rights
Project Duration	April 2019 – March 2020
Project Partner	IMADR
Target Districts	Parsa



Orientation to the Adolescent group for promising WASH



Psychosocial counseling to Dalit women of Parsa district

The main objective of this project is to bring changes in social behavior of Dalit community by providing proper education on health and sanitation, gender equality, sexual education, gender-based violence and other burning issues of local communities. The project has established good coordination and linkage between both men and women to reduce gender-based and caste-based violence in sustainable way in and make an equitable society to live. It has created awareness among the adolescents about their physical change along with time and encouraging them to talk openly and advocate the importance of education in order to increase school enrollment of Dalit students.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Formation of 5 adolescent groups in Parsa district to create awareness on proper education, health and sanitation, gender equality, sex education, gender-based

violence and other burning issues of the community.

- A total of 30 Dalit women representatives have developed their quality of leadership as to deal with the cases of caste and gender based discrimination and also to make them aware of the power they hold. Besides, regular coordination, networking with related stakeholders and local government, domestic violence case compilation and documentation has also been done for the successful implementation of the project.
- 65 adolescents were facilitated with better understanding and ideas on the importance of proper education in human life through frequent interaction programs and this ultimately motivated them to enroll in school regularly. Similarly, they are now confident enough to stand against any kind of violence faced in the community, realizing their role as a youth in eradicating such violence.

Project 4: Increasing Access to Resources and Services for Women from Dalit and Marginalized Groups

Project Goal	Women from Dalit and other excluded/marginalized groups have improved access to state and non-state resources and services, have increased representation and influence in decision making fora, face less discrimination and have enhanced to justice.
Project Duration	January 2018 - December 2021
Project Partner	DCA
Target Districts	Banke

The project has focused to ensure that women from Dalits and other marginalized groups are actively participated from planning to the implementation of project activities. With regard to other non-Dalit groups, those who are poor and extremely marginalized excluded has participated and benefitted from the project activities. The Specific Objectives of the project



are: (i) To increase access of women from excluded groups and marginalized community to social security schemes, health, education, economic opportunities and agricultural services, and (ii) To enhance influences of women from Dalits and marginalized community in planning and decision-making structures at local level.



Rally demonstration against the rising number of rape cases

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Through constant lobby and advocacy, the women group has successfully received Rs. 11,58,000 for various purpose: drinking water, health awareness, for conducting training on skillfull trainings, agriculture entrepreneurship, raising awareness against trafficking and domestic violence etc from the local government.
- A total of 20 groups of Dalit women have been empowered and encouraged to do strong advocacy for increasing access of Dalit women to the resources and services at local level throughout the year.
- To build the capacity of Dalit women for ensuring women rights, inclusion and entitlements, FEDO organized many leadership and advocacy activities through which 6 Dalit women have been confident enough to represent in forest user committee and 3 in School Management Committee.
- Dalit women groups have also been mobilized with saving credit schemes to involve marginalized women with livelihood/ economic activities like poultry farming,

goat raising, vegetable plantation, mobile shop, tailoring, restaurant, ghumti shop, fresh house, beauty parlor and cosmetic shop as well as the group members are now working as a health worker. Dalit women group members have been motivated and encouraged to deliver important information on vital registration, service provisions, domestic violence, and caste based discrimination.

The project has played a major role to implement laws and other legislation and policies in the favor of Dalit women and other marginalized and excluded groups throughout the year. It has made coordination and linkages with women campaigners, right holders and duty bearers to elicit accountability for resources and service delivery and implementation of laws and other human rights obligation. It has been a great advance to have the frontline leaders, groups and networks organized to effectively promote the respect of human rights by ending caste-based discrimination and untouchability and gender-based violence.)

Project 5: Dalit Women Strengthening and Support Program (DWSSP)

Project Goal	Strengthen Dalit women to ensure their rights and representation with increased capacity in local governance and income generation.
Project Duration	June 2017 – December 2020
Project Partner	NCDC
Target Districts	Dang

The project has focuses on strengthening groups and increase knowledge and skills on business development and production of commercialized products. It also builds the capacity of local

institutions and leaders on transparent government planning mechanisms, duties and rights by empowering frontline Dalit women leaders with Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI)



Distributed equipments for vegetable farming to encourage Dalit women for livelihood generation

ACHIEVEMENTS

- A total of 20 group members were provided with NRs. 200,000.00 for Entrepreneurship development. Using the revolving fund, women who has initiated their small business of animal rearing like goat, pig, chicken etc. Additionally, 2 events of livestock training, orientation program on Micro Enterprise Development and Matching Fund Distribution was also given to the groups aimed to develop Dalit women as entrepreneurs and reduce their poverty.
- 7 groups has been registered in agriculture office; also participated in two events of vegetable farming training organized by local government.
- FEDO distributed warm clothes (shawl & jackets) to the 22 vulnerable women and children. Similarly, 2 pieces of warm blanket was provided to the Health post for the safe maternity.
- A total of 3 events of orientation to Dalit and Non-Dalit on caste Based Discrimination and Gender based violence were conducted to reduce the discriminatory practices in the community.
- 5 interaction/ coordination meetings were conducted with the local government and stakeholders to sensitize them in formulating GESI friendly policy, program and budget from Dalit women perspective.

Project 6: Strong Girls – Improving the Educational Achievements of Dalit and Marginalized Girls

Project Goal	Girls from marginalized castes in Nepal achieve a higher level of education. FEDO focused on ER-3 Dalit families are committed to the education of their daughters and are able to improve their household income and keep their daughters in school through their own economic activities.
Project Duration	Sep 2018 – Dec 2021
Project Partner	Karuna Deutschland (Karuna Germany), KD and BundesministeriumFür Wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit (German Federal Ministry for Economic Development Cooperation) or BMZ
Target Districts	Palpa, Rupandehi and Kapilbastu

The project “Strong Girls- Improving the educational achievements of Dalit and Marginalized girls of Nepal” supports on quality education through teachers training, livelihood support and child club mobilization to improve the educational achievement of Dalits and marginalized girls in community school.

FEDO has been concentrated on community-focused activities to support for improving the educational achievement for. Beside this, regular coordination, networking with related stakeholders and local government has also been done for the successful implementation of the project.



Handicraft training to mother group of Palpa district

ACHIEVEMENT

- A total of 24 women/mother's group were formed and sensitized in the matter of girls education. 390 girls were provided with some educational materials like school bag, a dozens of notebooks, pens, pencils and geometry box to motivate them for regular schooling.
- 230 women were provided different trainings such as, Detergent and incense stick making, Doll and Cushion making training, Semi off-seasonal vegetable farming training, Professional Tailoring and many more for their sustainable livelihood and few of them have even initiated their own business out of it.
- Supported 14 schools to repair and maintain girl friendly toilets as most of the girls were irregular at schools during their menstruation time. This was because of the unavailability of girls-friendly toilet in the schools which resulted in frequent absence among girl children. So. SG project contributed NRs. 50,000 in cash to 14 schools.

Project 7: Combating Discrimination for Advancing Human Rights of Dalit Women in Nepal

Project Goal	Enable Dalit women and their community to live in a free, fearless and peaceful environment, in which all human rights are respected.
Project Duration	Jan 2017 - Dec 2020
Project Partner	Foundation for a Just Society (FJS)
Target Districts	Bardiya and Kailali

The project has played significant role in implementing protective laws and other human rights legislation and policies in the favor of Dalit women and other marginalized and excluded groups. The coordination and linkages with

women campaigners, right holders and duty bearers (justice service providers) has been established to elicit accountability for justice service delivery and implementation of protective laws and other human rights obligation.



Agricultural equipments distributed to women for economic empowerment

ACHIEVEMENT

- 40 groups of Dalit women have been mobilized and empowered to increase access for them to justice through strong advocacy in Kailali and Bardiya district. 50 frontline leaders have started providing advice to the women group members about legal issues related to human rights and social justice.
- Total of 148 Village level Collective Action Group (V-CAG) members were actively engaged to promote non-discrimination and human rights at the community level. Regular meeting of CAGs was conducted to generate a response support mechanism for faster legal aid in case of violations. FEDO developed information toolkits, guidelines and advocacy action plans to enhance knowledge and skill of collective actions groups.
- A book reflecting the status of Dalit women

was published. This book has clearly reflected the position and commitment of government of Nepal to implement the anti-discriminatory laws and policies on ending GBV and CBDU.

- Regular coordination and linkage with Legal Aid Center has been established to ensure socio-legal service provisions for Dalit women and Dalit community at the local level.
- Regular interaction with human rights institutions, law enforcement agencies, services providers, influential figures and civil society (like religious leaders, political leaders, school teachers, etc.) at VDC and district level helped to sensitize the issues of caste and gender based discrimination and to increase accountability for service delivery and implementation of CBDU and GBV acts.

Project 8: Strengthening Governance for Development and Social Justice of Dalit Women

Project Goal	The project contributes to the comprehensive socio-economic and political participation of Dalit women within the Nepali society. Dalit women will not be remained in further discrimination and exclusion – their voices are heard for the development and social justice at the local level.
Project Duration	Nov 2019 – Oct 2021
Project Partner	Bread for the World (BftW)
Target Districts	Doti, Kaski and Dhanusha

The project has played significant role in implementing the existing laws, policies and plan in the favor of Dalit women groups. The coordination and linkages with local

government, right holders and duty bearers has been established to make more accountable them for development and social justice of Dalit women.



Orientation to Dalit women leaders on caste based discrimination



ACHIEVEMENTS

- A total of 15 Dalit women networks have been mobilized and empowered to increase access to social justice, governance and development through strong advocacy in all 3 districts.
- Increased the number of representation of Dalit women in various local structures of government like school management committee (23) forest user committee (18) parents and teacher association (8) road construction committee (37) mother groups (204) irrigation committee (14) health and sanitation committee (13) and cooperative committee (1).
- 8 Dalit student from Haliya family were admitted in government school by taking the initiation of FEDO Doti and now they are continue their school.
- Through constant lobby and advocacy, the local government has allocated NRs 5,050,000 for road construction in Dalit areas, Kriya putri building construction, install hand pipe in Dalit tole for clean drinking water, agriculture development of Dalit women.
- Local radio program produced and massively disseminated the Dalit women's governance issues as well as precaution from the Covid-19. This radio program message also covering the other adjoin districts peoples to know the Dalit women issues and concerns.
- Elected Dalit women's representatives and network member's knowledge has been increased on existing laws and policies and claim their rights and entitlement at local level. They also played an active role during the planning process of budget formulation period and submitted the proposal in their respective municipality for development and social justice of Dalit women.

Project 9: Strengthening Human Rights of Dalit Women in Nepal

Project Goal	Capacitate Dalit women against caste and gender-based discrimination by increasing their awareness level and by making duty bearers responsive alongside empowering their economic rights through concrete livelihood opportunities.
Project Duration	Jan - Dec 2020
Project Partner	KIOS Foundation
Target Districts	Siraha and Udaypur

The project has been working on increasing the level of awareness among the Dalit women representatives on human rights, laws and other pertinent issues related to secure and safeguard the human rights of Dalit women. The project has been successful to empower existing and future Dalit women leaders for ensuring economic rights of Dalit women with

concrete economic empowerment initiatives where they were provided with solid trainings to empower and further strengthen their economic opportunities and were able to establish linkage between the public and private institutions for income generation, securing access of Dalit women to finance, business development services and appropriate technologies.



Staged a peaceful demonstration against the raising number of violence

ACHIEVEMENTS

- With quick response to the on-going Covid-19 situation, FEDO team distributed relief materials like food, hygiene kits and other necessary stuffs to a total of 131 needy Dalit people in Siraha and Udayapur district.
- 15 Dalit women groups (DWGs) with 450 potential Dalit women entrepreneurs was formed for enterprise development.
- More than 80 cases of girls being raped, women being into physical assault, caste based discrimination, gender based violence, domestic violence, cases of witchcraft, cases of justice denied to the Dalit victims has been documented and shared among different Human right institutions, justice actors and local judicial committee of both

- districts. 8 important cases overshadowed by the local authorities has been taken to action with strong lobby and advocacy by FEDO.
- Total of 30 locally elected Dalit women were orientated in Siraha on human rights, human rights laws and other pertinent issues. The elected Dalit women are playing their individual and collective responsibilities towards the community. Furthermore, 47 potential Frontline Dalit women has been identified.
 - Public Information hand book has been developed and published to increase community awareness about mandate, role and responsibilities of local judicial committee in order to increase access to justice and public service entitlements for Dalit women.
 - 54 HRAs were trained on human rights advocacy leadership development training conducted on both districts to enhance their knowledge on the techniques, tools and methods to lead the issues and be the catalyst to change.
 - 248 Dalit and marginalized women were legally empowered and educated on law, legal provisions against human rights violations, roles of Judicial committee and different mechanisms for redress in cases of their infringements, as well as their responsibilities to respect the rights of others.
 - The project provided fund to the groups for establishing coordination and linkages with private and public institutions at local level. FEDO has provided NRs. 2,50,000 to each of the district to promote enterprises.



Project 10: Comprehensive Relief Supports for Women and Excluded Groups in the Context of COVID-19

Project Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To enhance access to cash of Women and excluded groups in the project locations. Women and excluded groups have access to quality services (through in-kind support) in the project locations Women and Excluded groups have strengthened leadership capacity, voice and agency to influence policies, local level decision making (political engagement and movement building support)
Project Duration	September 2020 – Oct 2021
Project Partner	UN Women
Target Districts	Kailali, Bajura, Saptari and Siraha

The project has been contributing to improved access to services and resources of Dalit and marginalized groups at the local level to cope/respond to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19. The coordination and linkages with

local government, right holders and duty bearers has been established to make more accountable them for development and social justice of Dalit women.



Relief packages distributed to Dalit women and other marginalised community

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

- Total 1000 excluded women have received food and non-food items gas stove with cylinders and mobile phones with data cards.
- 600 excluded women have received seeds/vermi-compost for promoting to kitchen gardening in family.
- The Decision Makers sensitized and influenced about the status of excluded in the context of citizenship issues and appreciated the FEDO's tirelessly efforts to make citizenships and banks accounts of excluded women.
- A strong coordination has been built with LGUs of the four targeted municipalities and rural municipalities. The LGUs have been utilized the selected excluded women list for providing different kinds of supports, such as: relief supports, government services and benefits. The Ward Chairpersons along with other representatives of LGUs took ownership, involved in all the relief distribution programs and expressed their solidarity to FEDO.

LESSON LEARNT AND CHALLENGES

Lessons learnt

- Working with the different women groups, networks, frontline leaders and the allies at the local, district and national level, FEDO got lesson learnt that will be very useful for implementing best practices and determining better strategies in the future.
- Dalit women don't want to share the violence they are facing because of social norms and family honor prevalent in the community needs to change systemic and structural discrimination against Dalit women and girls.
- Social Mobilizers and Dalit Women Frontline Leaders are backbone to make a success of the organization.
- Capacity of social mobilizers and frontline leaders needs to be strengthened and frontline Dalit women to mobilize them as community facilitator in order to promote and protect the human rights of Dalit women at the community level.
- The importance of legal empowerment should be introduced in groups at local circumstances with concrete examples that occur in their community. Both women and men should be more oriented with legal provision and legal treatment as mentioned in anti-discriminatory laws and policies.
- Dalit women have been deprived of basic needs along with access to education, health, sanitation, and justice among others due to their poor economic status. Thus, more

focused should be given for their economic empowerment.

- Dalit women leaders have limited access to media when compared to the women leaders of other caste. Thus, their voices are less heard. FEDO needs to focus to increase Dalit women leaders' exposure to media.
- Successful implementation of the projects becomes possible with the political neutrality of the FEDO that needs to be continues it in coming years as well.

Challenges

- Low-level of awareness about CBDU and GBV among the people; weak implementation of the related Acts coupled with the lack of appropriate support from law enforcement agencies.
- Because of the poor economic status, the Dalit women are more inclined towards livelihood and income generation program rather than awareness-oriented program.
- Dalit community itself is reluctant to break the chain of discrimination due to deeply rooted social stigma within themselves.
- Dalit women who had elected in local-level were not able to put the issue of Dalit women in the decision making level. Moreover, their so-called upper caste male counterparts do not take their opinions into consideration when it comes to decision-making.
- Financial crisis to launch advocacy campaigns targeting large number of community people.
- Lack of proper number of staffs in the organization as per the need of project management and implementation.



FUTURE STRATEGIES

FEDO will put Dalit women and girls at the center of its activities for last 28 years. With masses of Dalit women and girls, FEDO will strengthen its movement and at the same time, with sound institutional infrastructure to work as a development organization. Now, FEDO intends to work as an organization with movement as one of its strategies to mobilize Dalit women, girls, men, other men and women for justice, dignity and equality. FEDO's programs are being continued for ensuring rights of Dalit women and entire Dalit community, with the following key strategic priorities:

1. ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT:

Economic empowerment is foundation for social and political empowerment. To lead it, FEDO provides social guidance, support capital generation, boost confidence and prepares conducive environment for Dalit women's economic empowerment. FEDO stresses on Dalit women owned enterprises and promotes one family-one enterprise campaign starting from

social mobilization and financial literacy which at first builds social capital through participating in saving-credit and cooperatives for business start-up. The knowledge and skills to participate in market and business development will lead to sustainable running of the business. The campaign to reduce and redistribute unpaid work and care within families will also create enabling environment for Dalit women's participation.



2. HUMAN RIGHTS AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE:

FEDO justifies its existence by the need to protect Dalit women and girls from all types of violations and abuses, and improves their access to justice. Its interventions lead to legal protection and expand social solidarity for the promotion and protection of human rights and access to justice of Dalit and Dalit women. FEDO's awareness and advocacy stresses on effective implementation of national and international legislations which ultimately contribute to gain a solidarity of human rights community within country and across the globe on Dalit women's issues. It raises awareness on legal provisions and harms of superstitions which encourage community people of all gender to change their attitude and behavior on caste and gender based discrimination.



3. LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:

Dalit women's participation and representation is an important implication for the broader area of inclusive democracy. Leadership demands accountability of state and non-state actors to guarantee and respect Dalit women's equal rights, responsibilities, participation and representation. This strategic plan aims to facilitate leadership development of emerging and existing Dalit women leaders from political parties and civil society organizations, exploring constructive ways to enhance their meaningful participation and representation, building effective coordination and cooperation between civil society and government.



4. INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE:

Ensuring equitable access of all people irrespective of caste, class, gender and any other grounds, to basic services, resources and development opportunities is a key concern in governance at all levels. Therefore, FEDO interventions emphasizes inclusive governance and social justice. It acts and advocates for making the state institutions, policies, process and services accessible, accountable and responsive to most marginalized Dalit and Dalit women. Initiatives for evidence generation and production of disaggregated data will be key for setting agenda for inclusive policy. The engagement with policy makers and legislatures contributes to convert agenda to policy decisions. FEDO's actions simultaneously aware people on their rights and entitlements, and prepare them for citizen's duty. It will lead to increasing demand for the fair stake and meaningful participation in governance. FEDO also engages with government and build partnership for strengthening delivery capacity of service providers at local levels.



5. GENDER RESPONSIVE

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE:

FEDO believes that disaster itself does not discriminate based on caste, gender, or any other grounds, but it can exacerbate pre-existing gender inequalities and might lead to increased discrimination, exploitation and violence against women. Therefore, FEDO advocates and promotes gender responsive humanitarian actions. It prepares its team and execute actions for ensuring women friendly disaster

relief packages. Its facilitation enables Dalit and marginalized women to access disaster transfer schemes such as cash transfers which finally link them to disaster management systems. The monitoring initiatives minimize gender and caste biases in disaster response, relief and recovery services of concerned agencies. It also contributes to decrease discrimination and exploitation in disaster and pandemics to those already vulnerable due to their social and economic status.



FINANCIAL/AUDIT REPORT 2019 AND 2020

FEMINIST DALIT ORGANIZATION (FEDO)
Statement of Financial Position
As at 31st Ashadh, 2078 (July 15, 2021)

Amount in NPR

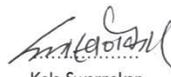
Particulars	Schedule	This Year	Last Year
Fund Balance		18,480,011	18,064,795
Unrestricted Fund	1	18,480,011	18,064,795
Fixed Assets Capital Fund	4	1,673,040	952,917.80
Current Liabilities		61,226,195	63,564,518
Other payables	2	5,583,570	7,595,607
Deferred Grant Income	3	55,642,625	55,968,911
Total		81,379,246	82,582,231
Non-Current Assets		18,099,410	18,244,035
Property, plant & equipments	4	13,899,410	14,144,035
Investment		4,200,000	4,100,000
Current Assets		63,279,836	64,338,196
Advances and Other Receivable	5	7,853,523	12,653,788
Cash and Cash Equivalent	6	55,063,939	51,453,798
Receivable from donor	7	362,374	230,610
Total		81,379,246	82,582,231

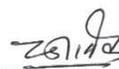
Accounting Policies and Notes to Accounts 12
Schedules 1 to 12 form an integral part of the financial statements.

As per our report of even date


Bina Rasaili
Admin/Finance Officer


Renu Sijapati
Acting Executive Director


Kala Swarnakar
President


Ranju Bishwokarma
Treasurer


CA. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha
Pradeep & Co.
Chartered Accountants



FEMINIST DALIT ORGANIZATION (FEDO)**Statement of Income and Expenditure**

For the period from Shrawan 1, 2077 to Ashadh 31, 2078 (July 16, 2020 to July 15, 2021)

Amount in NPR

Particulars	Sch.	This year Amount (NPR)			Last Year Amount
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	
Income					
Grant Income	8	3,976,775.18	90,548,560	94,525,335	34,826,459
Contribution Income	9	718,566	-	718,566	582,082
Bank Interest		243,063	-	243,063	341,893
Membership fee		-	-	-	5,535
Other Income		146,499	-	146,499	133,995
Donation		-	-	-	128,970
Total Income		5,084,903	90,548,560	95,633,463	36,018,934
Expenditure					
Program Expenditure	10	1,079,148	60,780,516	61,859,664	16,416,696
Operational Cost	11	1,506,741	5,045,553	6,552,294	4,372,133
Depreciation		964,747	-	964,747	1,086,034
Staff Cost	12	1,119,050	25,084,865	26,203,916	17,173,832
Total Expenditure		4,669,687	90,910,934	95,580,621	39,048,695
Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year		415,216	(362,374)	52,842	(3,029,761)

Accounting Policies and Notes to Accounts

12

As per our report of even date

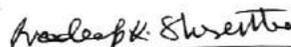
Schedules 1 to 12 form an integral part of the financial statements.


Bina Rasaili
Admin/Finance Officer


Renu Sijapati
Acting Executive Director


Kala Swarnakar
President


Ranju Bishwakarma
Treasurer


CA. Pradeep Kumar Shrestha
Pradeep & Co.
Chartered Accountants



Date: 11/11/2021
Place: Jwagal, Lalitpur

SOME GLIMPSES







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