



## HIGHLIGHTS

### LEARNING DISSEMINATION PROGRAM



The women from these 5 districts have actively participated in the Local Governance process during the PAVE.

### SEED MONEY DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM



Feminist Dalit Organization with the support of Foundation for a Just Society (FJS) organized the Seed money Distribution Program for the Promotion of Enterprise.

### SUCCESS STORIES



Highlighting and sharing the success stories of different Dalit and marginalized women.



## NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INCREASE PARTICIPATION IN DEMOCRATIC CIVIC SPACE FOR YOUTH AND DALIT WOMEN

FEDO organized a National Conference on Increased Participation in Democratic Civic Space for Youth and Dalit Women on the 26th and 27th of August 2022. A formal opening session, panel discussion, paper presentation, and group activities were all part of the program.

One of the conference's main goals was to increase the participation of young people and women from Dalit communities in democratic public life. Youth and Dalit women from Kalikot district and Kathmandu attended the conference as representatives of various CSOs, Human Rights Defenders, and Journalists.

Young people and Dalit women became more aware of their rights to local resources. Participants discussed issues concerning the Democratic space with stakeholders directly. They learned about feminism and advocacy. They also learned about their upcoming election participation and roles.

## INTERACTION WITH MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR OF DIPAYAL SILGADI MUNICIPALITY

Social development aims to improve people's well-being in order for them to reach their full potential. The well-being of each and every citizen is linked to the success of society. Investing in citizens is necessary for the development of a society. It entails the expansion of a country's human and social capital, which includes issues such as citizen security, employment, and health. This can only be accomplished by reducing the rates of poverty, inequality, exclusion, fragility, and vulnerability among the most vulnerable groups.

A comprehensive conversation about social development in the community was held with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of the Dipayal Silgadi Municipality on the importance of carrying out the vision of a prosperous Nepal by carrying out outstanding work for justice. Team FEDO attended the meeting.



# LEARNING DISSEMINATION PROGRAM

To strengthen the capacity and engagement of underprivileged women, FEDO organized a campaign with The Woman for Human Rights (WHR) and Tewa. The campaign was run in the Sudhuraschim Province's Achham, Bajura, Dadelhdhura, Doti, and Kanchanpur districts, and over the course of its three-year lifespan, it achieved outcomes that were perfect, as seen in the learning-sharing report and the documentary video. The fundamental objective was to safeguard, advance, and protect Dalits and marginalized women's political rights so that they may actively participate in politics and have access to decision-making. Dalit women, single women, marginalized women, journalists, and networks for women's rights in certain districts carried out the campaign. There was an increase in the number of women from underrepresented groups joining political parties and organizations, and 178 Dalit women from five districts actively participated in local governance. The PAVE project concluded successfully and, the learning report were shared and circulated to participants and uploaded in different social medias and our official website..





## UPLIFTING LOCAL ELECTED DALIT WOMEN IN SUDHURPACHIM

Stakeholders have emphasized the importance of Dalit women elected at the local level in creating leadership and articulating the concerns of the entire Dalit community. This was stated by speakers at the Lumbini state-level conference on the role of elected Dalit women representatives in ending caste untouchability and gender violence. Parvati Pun, a member of the Lumbini Provincial Assembly, opened the FEDO meeting by stating that no one will advance in the country as long as caste and gender discrimination exist. Dalit women, according to Assembly Member Pun, in order to improve many aspects of the Dalit community, must be empowered. FEDO Team members trained Dalit women members of the ward on their roles and rights. About 100 women elected as Dalit community representatives from various districts in Province 5 attended the conference.

## SOCIAL SECURITY AND FINANCIAL INCLUSION ORIENTATION HAS BEEN COMPLETED



A governance development project for Dalit women's development and social justice, organized by the FEDO was completed. It included an orientation program for Dalit women entrepreneurs of the group that dealt with social security and financial inclusion. According to the organizer, a training program has been set up to help the Dalit women business owners in the group develop financially and socially. Tulsi Sob of the progressive women's organization Ward No. 6, Siliguri, discussed the advantages

of being a woman entrepreneur by using entrepreneurial goals and tactics and creating a study and development plan by combining the funds raised from various organizations. Similarly, Khima Sunar, another Udhamasil Women's Group participant, stated that first and foremost, women should be able to become entrepreneurs and have access to the city budget, and the city should mobilize the budget for the Dalit community. The orientation meeting was inaugurated by Lakshmi Badi, and guests included journalists and Udhamasil Mahila Group participants.

# UPLIFTING LOCAL ELECTED DALIT WOMEN IN SUDHURPACHIM

Feminist Dalit Organization(FEDO) organizes 'Locally Elected Dalit Women Conference for ending Caste and Gender Based Violence against Dalit Women and Girls in Sudurpaschim Province'.The objective of the program was to share experiences, challenges, and issues among Dalit Women leaders and elected Dalit women. During the program, the women discussed the issues of political, social, and economic issues of Dalit women.

A network of Elected Dalit women representatives was formed in Kailali District and other Sudhupachim districts also agreed to form the networking group. Participants also got to know that after being elected as a women representative one must have proper knowledge about the constitution. The elected women also learned the importance of the budget allocated, the duties and responsibilities of Dalit women, and their rights, law, and act should be brought in subject to untouchability.

Voices of Dalit women might not be heard but we shouldn't give up to raise voices against cast discrimination and gender violence.



# SEED MONEY DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM FOR THE PROMOTION OF ENTERPRISE



Five Dalit women from Birendra Municipality received financial assistance from the Feminist Dalit Organization, Surkhet, to launch their own businesses. Selected from the group created by the Strengthening Human Rights of Dalit Women project, entrepreneurial-minded Dalit women received financial support.

Five Dalit women each received a seed grant of Rs 20,000 , totaling Rs 100,000. The seed money will be used by those who received it without accruing interest for a year. The seed money was distributed to Rupa B.K., Chanda Baadi, Sharmila Nepali, Nanda Kami, and Ratnadevi Nepali.

They were recommended to use the seed money to generate income. Further, they will be also unquestionably assisted in achieving independence. Dalit women will use the seed money to start a retail business, a goat farm, and a tailoring shop.



## SUCCESS STORIES

Ms. Padamkala Kami of the Baijanath Rural Municipality was only permitted to perform domestic duties. She was unable to support herself because she was born into the Dalit group, her family's financial situation was poor, and there were societal restrictions on her. Through the project, she joined a group (Gaver Dalit women group) established by the Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO), where she took part in group discussions about child marriage, polygamy, the local level budget, economic empowerment, and other topics while also receiving training, developing her leadership skills, and advocating for causes. The rural municipality budget is currently causing them stress. She then acquired 3 she-goats and 1 he-goat, bringing her total to 43, as well as 4000 hens and 300 ducks, after realizing that they could also support themselves economically. She has access to the agricultural unit's budget, and the animal husbandry unit has helped her out by giving her a 50% discount on a hand tractor and a Rs 2,000.00 provincial budget. Her farm has a registration. She started her farm with 400 hens, and in Lumsum, their three-monthly revenues total Rs 50,000.00. With this income, it has been simple to pay for household bills, school costs, and some savings as well.



Man Kumari B.K. is her name. She is an advocate for caste-based discrimination and gender-based violence, works as an electrician, fixes bicycles and motorcycles, builds houses, chairs the school management committee, and leads the Himal Women's Group. Man Kumari B.K. claims that when she first started working as a member of the Himal Women's Group in 2068 B.S., she was unable to even express her name and introduce herself. The management committee of Shree Jagriti Adharbhut School chose Man Kumari B.K. to serve as its chairperson. She asserts that neither being a Dalit nor being chosen out of mercy made a difference. Her ability and perseverance led to her selection. Feminist Dalit Organization has a significant influence on her capacity building, she further stated. She frequently attended FEDO training sessions on women's rights, leadership, skill development, advocacy, and capacity building. She claimed that the only thing she knows about life is how challenging it is to raise her five siblings without a mother and to be homeless. Before, she struggled greatly to make ends meet, but now she is capable and makes over 20,000 each month. She now owns a bike after previously using a cycle to go around. For those in her community, she provides a job of labor. Her help from the Feminist Dalit Organization was crucial, and she anticipates receiving such assistance in the future.

# Photo gallery:



Meeting to gather feedback for the project's successful execution at municipality-level in Kapilvastu Municipality



Group work during the National Conference



Lighting program on the occasion of the constitution day at Kalikot



Community visit in Kanchanpur



Deuda Competition for the awareness of Chaupadi as violence against women



Establishment of hoarding board at Kalikot



Exit program of PAVE project at Achham



Inauguration of a program at Dhangadi



Teej celebration at Cental FEDO



## WHO WE ARE:


In 1994, a group of Dalit women with a goal of abolishing caste and gender discrimination founded the Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO) in Nepal as a non-profit, apolitical, and secular non-governmental organization. It is a pioneering organization that advocates for both Dalit and women's rights. It is a vital source of information on gender equality and social inclusion (GESI). With a vision of a "just and equitable society," FEDO prioritizes Dalit women in its initiatives.


The organizational network/presence of FEDO has grown to include 56 districts and all seven provinces of Nepal. It is better able to understand local issues and develop strong relationships with communities, stakeholders, and local development actors by operating through district offices. The organization's membership base includes over 2100 grassroots women's groups and frontline leaders at the local level. FEDO is also affiliated with and collaborates with national and international women's and Dalit networks and platforms.

In response to the pandemic, FEDO has stepped up and provided much-needed humanitarian assistance to Nepal's vulnerable populations, including Dalits and the marginalized. It has been working hard to raise awareness among vulnerable groups, organize psychosocial counseling for those in need, and collaborate with the Nepal government to identify and address the most pressing needs of Dalits in this pandemic.

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