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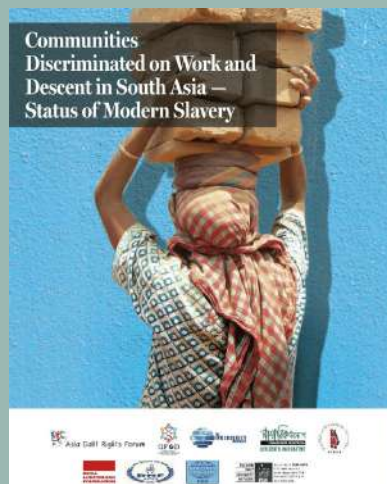
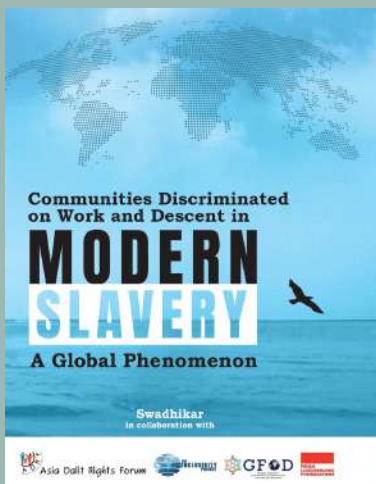
GFOD MATTERS



Watch the whole National Conference on Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent in Contemporary Slavery by clicking the picture above.

[To watch National Conference related interviews, click here.](#)

[To watch Global and South Asia CDWD in Contemporary Slavery perspective videos click on the posters below.](#)



NEWS FROM THE ASIAN REGION



COMMUNITIES DISCRIMINATED ON WORK AND DESCENT FOR DEEPENING DEMOCRACY, 20 NOVEMBER 2021

CDWD for Deepening Democracy marked as an opening conclave to Asia Democracy Assembly, 2021 organized by Asia Democracy Network. This event brought along activists and advocates of CDWD rights from the Asian region. The objective of the event was to bring them together, navigate solutions to the injustices and issues CDWD face and demand justice and democratic rights of DWD communities including the Dalits in South Asia and strengthen and uphold democratic values in the region through inclusiveness.

Communities Discriminated on Work and Decent face several democratic issues in their respective countries. Especially in South Asia, the current persecution of Hindus, mostly Dalits, in Bangladesh is alarmingly high and questions the essence of democratic values as Bangladesh does not formally recognize discrimination based on work and descent. In India, Dalits have been kept away from enjoying the fruits of democracy due to their social exclusion for centuries. More than facing discrimination, Dalits in India face inequalities and are deprived of land ownership, housing, education, employment, healthcare, social security, decision making and often face violence. In Nepal, almost half of the Dalit population live below poverty line making them more vulnerable to social and cultural exclusion whereas, in Pakistan Hindu and Christian Dalits often face violence, abductions forced conversions and are often forced into sanitation jobs and manual scavenging. Sri Lanka's tea plantation workers, formerly Tamil Dalits are not recognized under any special protection measures or policies and often deprived of taking part in the process of democracy due to their non-recognition by the State.



ADRF'S DECLARATION IN ASIA DEMOCRACY ASSEMBLY

- 1.To give official recognition to those DWD-affected communities in countries where they have not been identified as such, so as to enable them to enjoy the benefits that are due to them.
- 2.To bring a common human-rights framework with strategies to end 'untouchability' and 'Discrimination based on Work and Descent' including Caste across all countries and ensure that DWD communities, women in particular, live with equality and human dignity.
- 3.To give due recognition to the rights of the growing population of DWD-affected children and youth, plan specially designed development projects that are relevant to their needs today, and accordingly allocate special budgets, and ensure their effective participation in the implementation and review process.
- 4.To statutorily mandate reservations in employment, procurement and services in both private and public sectors, with penalties attached for non-compliance and non-implementation by the officers concerned in the government administration.
- 5.To establish legal mechanisms with follow-up measures in all countries with a view to monitor the DWD caste and gender based atrocities committed against women and girls of DWD communities.
- 6.To evolve a common legal policy framework with strategies for women facing DWD. This should cover educational and economic empowerment by accessing land, education, and employable and entrepreneurial skill development for gainful occupation, as well as for building economic assets as a measure of security and self-reliance and
- 7.To give due recognition to the rights and entitlements of communities of DWD, particularly women, in all areas of life by designing development schemes, as well as allocating adequate financial resources in the annual budget in proportion to their population.
- 8.To ensure equal rights to political participation for affected communities, including the right to participate in public elections, and to equal opportunity to run and be elected to public office.
- 9.To ensure Climate Justice and safeguard the rights of the CDWDs most vulnerable people and sharing the burdens and benefits of climate change and its impacts equitably and fairly and to protect the DWD communities from exclusion during humanitarian crisis and ensure special mechanisms are in place to address this form of discrimination.
- 10.To establish effective and inclusive monitoring mechanisms for reviewing the implementation of laws and policies, budgets and schemes, where these are in place, with strict penalties for non-compliance, negligence and dereliction of duty.

NEWS FROM THE AFRICAN REGION



PROMOTING A FEMINIST APPROACH TO DELIVERY AND FINANCING OF PUBLIC SERVICES IN AFRICA

The FEMNET 2021 African Feminist Macroeconomic Academy (AFMA) was held in partnership with TrustAfrica from 15-19 November in Dakar, Senegal. This year's academy was held under the theme: "Promoting a Feminist Approach to Delivery and Financing of Public Services in Africa". Participants invited to apply was African feminist activists and movement leaders drawn from a range of sub-regions, organisations, movements and formations that are pushing for women's economic justice and working in various sectors such as agriculture, informal trade, natural resource extraction, sexual reproductive rights, violence against women, economic justice, trade unions, women with disability, young women among others. Listen to Ms. Memory Zonde-Kachambwa Féminist and Panafricanist, Executive Director of FEMNET.



THE STATE IN AFRICA: HOW TO OVERCOME CRISES AND CONSOLIDATE DEMOCRACY? PUBLIC LECTURE BY PROFESSOR ABDOULAYE BATHILY



The public lecture held on Friday, November 12, 2021 at TrustAfrica's premises was very successful. Moderated by renowned Pan-Africanist academic and politician Professor Abdoulaye Bathily, the conference was an opportunity for stakeholders to discuss The State in Africa: How to Overcome Crises and Consolidate Democracy? The conference also addressed the issue of the resurgence of civil and military coups, the shrinking of civic space in a growing number of African countries and the role of leadership in Africa. The lecture was held on the sidelines of TrustAfrica's 32nd Board of Directors meeting and was part of the agenda of regular debates initiated by the Pan African Foundation.



NEWS FROM THE EUROPEAN REGION



ERGO NETWORK LAUNCHES ITS RESEARCH REPORT ON ROMA ACCESS TO ADEQUATE MINIMUM INCOME SCHEMES

The European Roma Grassroots Organisations (ERGO) Network held on 23 November, its annual Policy Conference, entitled “Implementing the EU Roma Strategic Framework. Roma access to adequate minimum income.”

Europe’s Roma experience some of the worst social inclusion indicators, with over 80% living in poverty, only 43% in paid employment, and 41% experiencing antigypsyism. This situation worsened significantly during the Covid-19 pandemic, with Roma communities being disproportionately hard hit. In a cash-based economy, providing people with adequate financial resources is a necessary pre-requisite for fighting poverty and social exclusion, as well as for enabling individuals to reach their full potential and to access rights and opportunities on the labour market and in society.

Access to adequate minimum income and social protection is the cornerstone of the European Social Model and our welfare states, and it needs to be guaranteed also for Europe’s Roma. The EU Council Recommendation of 24 June 1992 on Common criteria concerning sufficient resources and social assistance in social protection systems clearly urges Member States “to recognize the basic right of a person to

sufficient resources and social assistance to live in a manner compatible with human dignity as part of a comprehensive and consistent drive to combat social exclusion.” This commitment is reaffirmed in the EU Active Inclusion Recommendation (2008) and the European Pillar of Social Rights (2017).

During 2021, ERGO Network conducted in-depth national case studies in five countries (Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, and Slovakia), looking at existing minimum income schemes and assessing to what extent they are accessible to Roma applicants, and whether they are adequate for promoting Roma inclusion and dignity.

With this research, ERGO aims to kick-start a debate with policy makers on how to improve the adequacy and take-up of minimum income and social protection by Roma in Europe, including in the framework of the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan, and the foreseen Council Recommendation on Minimum Income (2022). Access to sufficient financial resources is also a key element of reducing Roma poverty and social exclusion, which is one of the three horizontal objectives of the EU Roma Strategic Framework on Equality, Inclusion, and Participation.

ERGO has launched a series of thematic “Snapshots” on #Roma inclusion and the European Pillar of #SocialRights! Following are a few.



NEWS FROM LATIN AMERICAN REGION



AFTER THE OCCUPATION OF QUILOMBOLAS IN PERNAMBUCO, THEY MOVE FORWARD AND AGREE WITH THE STATE ON MEASURES TO IMPLEMENT QUILOMBO SCHOOL EDUCATION

As part of the November Negro activities, the quilombola movement in Pernambuco occupied the state secretariat of education, in Recife, to demand the realization of the quilombola school plan in the state. The mobilization lasted three days, from 21st to 24th, and was attended by representatives of Quilombola Communities from all regions of the state, totaling more than 900 people in the occupied space. After intense days of negotiations and mobilizations, articulated by the State Coordination of Articulation of the Black Rural Communities of Pernambuco-CEACQ and CONAQ, the movement guaranteed the following results.

- Equation of Quilombola School Education with Indigenous School Education.
- We have a commission elected yesterday that will continue the construction of the amendment to law 14.547, a law to be amended.
- Construction of four high schools. A high school in the communities of Orocó; A high school in the communities of Mirandiba;
- A high school in the communities of Bethany;
- A high school in the communities of Bom Conselho;
- Construction of the internal standard in the secretariat to establish the School Education Management;
- Quilombola representation in all Regional Education departments and inclusion of the Territorial Agent for Quilombola Training course as a training base for Educadorxs who work in Quilombola communities.

[Read more..](#)

COVID-19 PANDEMIC IS "CLOAKED" BY STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AMID HOPE TO ABANDON PROTECTIVE MEASURES



With a good part of the population already vaccinated with 1st and 2nd doses against Covid-19, there has been a cooling of health authorities and municipalities in relation to the system implemented in terms of social isolation, given the "commodity" granted from the decrease in the number both deaths and cases.

However, the progression of the application of vaccines to quilombolas in Pará has worried leaders in view of the difficulties of keeping doses at appropriate temperatures for use, in addition to disregarding the priority factor in following the immunization schedule.

Also under the allegation of lack of resources in the State, the government did not set the date for the completion of vaccination in the elderly, this being the 3rd dose, in addition to the agenda on the immunization of young people under 18 years of age did not enter into discussion or analysis. [Read more..](#)

THE QUILOMBOLA RAP GROUP RELEASES THE SINGLE 'ATTITUDE AND RESPECT'; KNOW THE TRAJECTORY



The group Realidade Negra was born in 2004 through the union of five cousins who, after listening to an album by Racionais MC's, realized the need and vocation for writing rap lyrics. Since the beginning, the artists talk about their experiences in the Quilombo community of Campinho da Independência, in Paraty, municipality of Rio de Janeiro. Now, they resume their musical activities, interrupted by the pandemic, with the new single "Attitude and Respect". The band is formed by Nelião and Mano Romero, who conceived the project, the bassist and vocalist Body Power, Negro Naldo on guitar, guitar and vocals and B2 also guitarist.

[CLICK ON THE POSTER TO LISTEN TO THEIR AMAZING PERFORMANCES](#)

SPECIAL HIGHLIGHT



MS. SABITRA PARIYAR, RIGHT EXPERT OF GFOD, LED THE FACILITATION OF GESI SENSITIVE TRAINING IN KATHMANDU

A three day GESI Sensitive Training was organized by Maryada Media for Social and Political Young Dalit Women Activists in Kathmandu from 31st October 2021-2nd November 2021. The three-day capacity building training on GESI Sensitivity for Dalit women was coordinated and facilitated by Sabitra Pariyar/Nepal, a KIGEPE/AGenT 2020 fellow and also the Right Expert of CDWD/GFoD. Altogether 25 Dalit women activist representing social and political sector from all across Nepal participated in the training.

The inaugural and closing programs of the training were attended by VIP Guest Honorable Member of Parliament Shobha Shakya, Member of the Constituent Assembly Kamala Bishwakarma, Honorable Member of Parliament Anjana Bisunke, and the Honorable Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission, Mr. Tap Bahadur Magar. Their promises to address issues of GESI sensitivity in their professional and

personal life was not a less commitment for success of the training organized. The objective of the training was to enhance conceptual clarity of the social and political Dalit Women Activists on GESI Sensitivity in order to enable them to contribute in co-creating conducive space and environment for more and meaningful participation of Dalit women in social, political and economic spheres of public life.

UPCOMING EVENTS

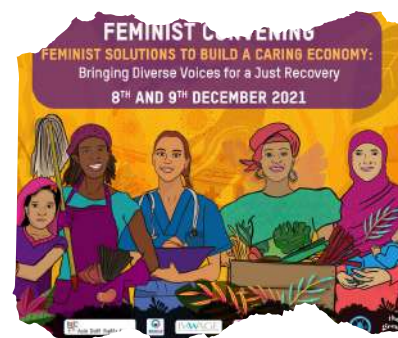
Online and Offline Hate Crimes Against Abolitionists and DWD Communities in West Africa, Trust Africa



Funding of bottom-up approaches: Ways forward to support Roma inclusion, ERGO



Feminist solution to build a caring economy: Bringing diverse voices for a just recovery, ADRF



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