

Newsletter

JANUARY 2022 | ISSUE 4

# GFOD MATTERS



**A lot of different flowers make a bouquet.  
This New Year let's pledge to make this  
world inclusive!**

**Global Forum of Communities Discriminated on  
Work and Descent  
wishes you  
A Happy New Year 2022.**



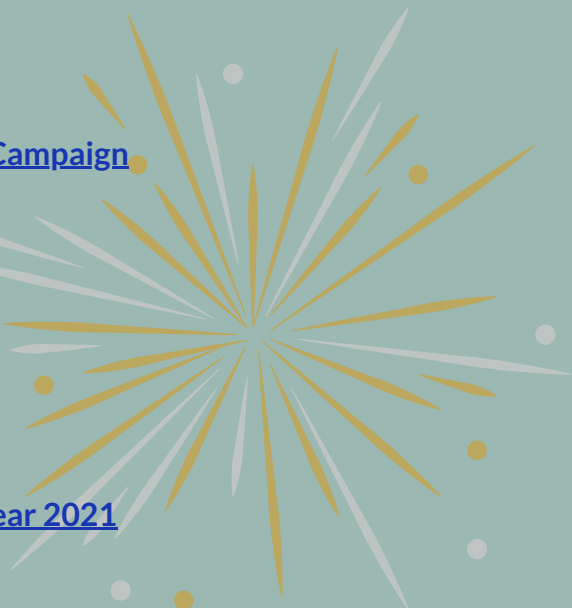
## Major Highlights:

[Human Rights Day Campaign](#)

## News from-

- [Africa](#)
- [Asia](#)
- [Europe](#)
- [Latin America](#)

[Throwback to the year 2021](#)



# HUMAN RIGHTS DAY CAMPAIGN

## HUMAN RIGHTS DAY SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN.



EQUALITY IS FOR ALL.

### CDWD rights are human rights.



**#CastOutSlavery**

From 1-10 December, GfOD conducted a 10 day campaign on its social media - 10 Days with CDWD. This campaign eventually led to a Twitter spaces discussion on Human Rights Day. Have a look at our Human Rights Day Social Media Campaign



10 DAYS WITH CDWD

IN BANGLADESH, LESS THAN ONE PERCENT OF DALITS/DWD HAS ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION, EVEN WITH QUOTA PROVIDED IN A FEW UNIVERSITIES.

ALMOST HALF OF NEPALI DALITS LIVE BELOW THE POVERTY LINE. THEY ARE MOSTLY LANDLESS AND HAVE A LOW LIFE EXPECTANCY AND LITERACY LEVELS COMPARED TO THE DOMINANT CASTE

**DALITS, SOUTH ASIA**  
10 DAYS WITH CDWD  
→

**#CastOutSlavery**

10 DAYS WITH CDWD

DALITS CONSTITUTE APPROXIMATELY 220 MILLION OUT OF 260 MILLION DWD COMMUNITIES WORLDWIDE AND MAINLY RESIDE IN SOUTH ASIA.

DALITS COMPRISE A MYRIAD OF SUB-GROUPS AND ARE SUBJECTED TO A VARYING FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AND VIOLENCE RANGING FROM ROUTINE DISCRIMINATION, EXCLUSION FROM CIVIC AMENITIES, HATE SPEECH, ASSAULT, SPATIAL SEGREGATION, DISCRIMINATION IN ACCESS TO JUSTICE, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, LIVELIHOOD AND LAND, PROHIBITION OF INTERCASTE MARRIAGE, SEXUAL ASSAULT AND RAPE, MURDER, LYNCHING, MASS MURDER AND OTHER EXTREME FORMS OF VIOLENCE.

**#CastOutSlavery**

OFTEN ASSIGNED MOST DEGRADING JOBS AND SUBJECTED TO FORCED AND BONDED LABOUR, HAVE LIMITED OR UNEQUAL ACCESS TO RESOURCES (INCLUDING ECONOMIC RESOURCES, LAND AND WATER) AND SERVICES, AND ARE DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED BY POVERTY.

AS PER THE NATIONAL CRIME RECORDS BUREAU, IN 2020, A SCHEDULED CASTE PERSON WAS A VICTIM OF CRIME EVERY 10 MINUTES IN INDIA.


MORE FROM HUMAN RIGHTS DAY SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN.



**CDWD AND DISABILITIES**  
10 DAYS WITH CDWD

**#CastOutSlavery**

GFoD




**10 DAYS WITH CDWD**

THE INTERSECTION OF DISABILITY WITH DISCRIMINATION ON WORK AND DESCENT CAN COMPOUND THE MANY ISSUES FACED BY CDWD. DISABILITIES MAY ACT TO REINFORCE THE DISADVANTAGES LINKED TO THE DWD IDENTITY AND RESULTING DEPRIVATION OF RIGHTS, OPPORTUNITIES, AND RESOURCES.

DWD CHILDREN, WHO ALREADY STRUGGLE TO ATTEND SCHOOL DUE TO SEGREGATION AND DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT, FACE EVEN GREATER DIFFICULTIES ACCESSING EDUCATION WHEN THEY HAVE DISABILITIES.

**#CastOutSlavery**

GFoD



**10 DAYS WITH CDWD**


THERE ARE DIFFERENT TYPES OF DESCENT-BASED DISCRIMINATION, NAMELY, THE CASTE SYSTEMS THAT EXIST IN THE SAHEL REGIONS AND THE PRACTICE OF INTERGENERATIONAL SLAVERY AFFECTING THE DWD COMMUNITIES THAT ARE FORCED INTO IT BECAUSE OF THEIR SOCIAL POSITION IN SOCIETY

BONDED LABOUR OF DALITS EXISTS BOTH IN AGRICULTURAL AND NON-AGRICULTURAL SECTOR, IE., INFORMAL AND UNORGANISED SECTOR. WHILE, BONDED LABOUR IN AGRICULTURE HAS PERSISTED THROUGH TRADITIONAL TO NEWER TRENDS, THE INCIDENCE OF BONDED LABOUR IS PERHAPS THE HIGHEST IN THE UNORGANISED AND INFORMAL SECTOR IN SOUTH ASIA.

**#CastOutSlavery**

GFoD

**MODERN SLAVERY AND CDWD**  
10 DAYS WITH CDWD



**#CastOutSlavery**

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## MORE FROM HUMAN RIGHTS DAY SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN.


**10 DAYS WITH CDWD**

GFoD

IN YEMEN, THE AL-MUHAMASHEEN, OR THE MARGINALISED ONES, FORMERLY DEROGATORILY CALLED 'AL-AKHDAM' COMMUNITY, WHICH TRANSLATES INTO 'THE SERVANTS', IS A MINORITY COMMUNITY AND IS REGARDED AS AN UNTOUCHABLE OUTCAST GROUP.

TRACING BACK TO THE 5TH AND 6TH CENTURY OF YEMENI HISTORY, THEY ARE THE DESCENDANTS OF CHRISTIAN AFRICAN WARRIORS. WITH THE ADVENT OF ISLAM, CHRISTIAN AFRICAN WARRIORS WERE DEFEATED AND SUBSEQUENTLY EXILED. SOME OF THE AFRICAN ARMY THAT WAS LEFT BEHIND CAME TO BE COLLECTIVELY RECOGNISED AS AL-MUHAMASHEEN TO BECOME AN "UNTOUCHABLE" CASTE. HOWEVER, THERE ARE SEVERAL PARALLEL POPULAR BELIEFS IN TERMS OF THIS COMMUNITY'S ORIGINS.

**#CastOutSlavery**



**10 DAYS WITH CDWD**

GFoD

QUILOMBOS ARE COMMUNITIES DESCENDED FROM ENSLAVED AFRICANS AND AFRICANS WHO WERE ESCAPEES, PROTESTERS, AMONG OTHER FORMS OF GROUPINGS THAT WERE ESTABLISHED DURING THE SLAVE REGIME IN BRAZIL.

EVEN AFTER DECADES OF STRUGGLE AND RESISTANCE THEY ARE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST AND HAVE THE WORST INDICATORS OF INEQUALITY. EVEN THE END OF SLAVERY FAILED TO RESOLVE THE ISSUES OF THE SOCIAL EXCLUSION OF THE ENSLAVED. QUILOMBOLAS ARE STILL DISCRIMINATED AGAINST IN TERMS OF INCOME, ACCESS TO LAND, EDUCATION, HEALTH AND EMPLOYMENT. IN PUBLIC SERVICES, INCLUDING JOBS, THEY ARE OFTEN DISCRIMINATED AGAINST AND ATTACKED BECAUSE OF DESCENT AND ETHNIC-RACIAL BELONGING.

**#CastOutSlavery**



**10 DAYS WITH CDWD**


GFoD

THE ROMA MAKE ONE OF THE LARGEST ETHNIC COMMUNITIES IN EUROPE, WITH OVER 12 MILLION PEOPLE LIVING ON THE CONTINENT

THE ROMA'S INDIAN ORIGIN IS AN UNCONTESTED FACT, BUT THE EXACT TIME AND THE REASONS FOR THE MIGRATION FROM INDIA TO EUROPE REMAIN OPEN TO ASSUMPTIONS.

PEOPLE FROM THIS COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE DISCRIMINATION IN ACCESS TO EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING AND HEALTH FACILITIES AND AS A RESULT - HIGH LEVELS OF POVERTY, ILLITERACY AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

**#CastOutSlavery**



**10 DAYS WITH CDWD**


GFoD

REGARDED AS THE SLAVE CASTE, MOST OF THE PRESENT-DAY VICTIMS OF SLAVERY AND SLAVERY-LIKE PRACTICES ARE HARATINES. THE STATUS OF 'SLAVE-CASTE' IS ASCRIBED TO A PERSON AT BIRTH.

BONDED LABOUR BASED ON CASTE AND DESCENT EXISTS IN MAURITANIA, WHERE SOCIAL HIERARCHIES AND EXPLOITATION ARE ROOTED IN THE FORMER SLAVE TRADE.

ALTHOUGH A LAW EXISTS THAT CRIMINALISES SLAVERY IN MAURITANIA, IT IS NOT APPLIED AND COMMUNITIES DO NOT HAVE PROPER REDRESS.

**#CastOutSlavery**




**10 DAYS WITH CDWD**

GFoD

JAPAN ENACTED THE ACT FOR THE PROMOTION OF ELIMINATION OF BURAKU DISCRIMINATION IN 2016 FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ITS HISTORY. WHILE IT IS TITLED "ELIMINATION," THE ACT DOES NOT HAVE ANY SANCTION OR REMEDIAL CLAUSES FOR ANY BURAKU DISCRIMINATORY INCIDENT, THUS LEAVING BURAKUMIN WITH NO EASY ACCESS TO JUSTICE TO RECOVER THEIR DIGNITY.

BURAKU CONTINUES TO BE AVOIDED BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC, AS MANY PEOPLE STILL DO NOT WANT TO ASSOCIATE WITH THEM DUE TO THE LONG AND HISTORICAL STIGMA. TODAY, BURAKUMIN POPULATION NUMBERS ABOUT 3 MILLION ACCORDING TO THE UNOFFICIAL STATISTICS.

**#CastOutSlavery**



TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THIS:

FOLLOW US ON:  
 TWITTER- @CASTOUTSLAVERY  
 INSTAGRAM- @GLOBALFORUMCDWD  
 USE HASHTAG: #CASTOUTSLAVERY  
 #CDWDRIGHTSAREHUMANRIGHTS

## NEWS FROM ASIAN REGION

Twitter Spaces

### WHAT DOES UDHR MEAN TODAY FOR MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES?

Speakers:

- @ajaydalit
- @ManjulaHPradeep
- @PaulDivakarN

Moderator:

- @sitara1

Hosted by: NCDHR, ADRF, GfOD

FRIDAY 10 DECEMBER ON TWITTER  
12:30PM IST

LISTEN ON [@DALITRIGHTS](#)

#CastOutSlavery

### TWITTER SPACE: WHAT DOES UDHR MEAN TODAY FOR MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES?

A Twitter space was organized by GfOD along with NCDHR and ADRF on 10 December 2021, Human Rights Day to discuss the importance of UDHR for the Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent. The space was moderated by Ms. Beena Pallical of NCDHR and hosted Mr. Paul Divakar, GfOD, Ms. Manjula Pradeep, DHRD Net and Mr. Ajay of Rights.

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# CASTE

A Global Journal  
on Social Exclusion

## MARGIN AND TRANSCENDENCE

In memory of Siddalingaiah, poetic voice of the Dalit movement

EDITORIAL AND INTRODUCTION  
*Laurence Simon and Sukhadeo Thorat*

ARTICLES

A Commentary on Ambedkar's Posthumously Published "Philosophy of Hinduism" - Part III *Rajesh Sampath*

Norm Entrepreneurship at the UN - Dalits and Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent *Paul Divakar Namala*

Ambedkar and the Buddha's Saigha: A Ground for Buddhist Ethics *Timothy Lofus*

Reading Dalit Autobiographies in English: A Top Ten List *Christopher Queen*

Ethnic Identity, Discrimination and the Shaping of Remittance Culture in Ghana *Joseph Kwaku Assan*

A Critique of Sanskritization from Dalit/Caste-Subaltern Perspective *Ishita Roy*

Exclusion of Tribal Women from Property Inheritance Rights: A Study of Tripuri Women of India *Ashim Shil and Hemraj P. Jaigir*

On the Margins of Healthcare: Role of Social Capital in Health of Migrants in India *Shriyuta Abhishek and Nanda Kishore Kannuri*

Tending Immanence, Transcending Sectarianism: Plane of Mixed Castes and Religions *Roshni Babu*

FORUM

Ari Varutade: A Poem by *Chandni Grijja*

Reflection: A Poem by *Gaurav J. Pathania*

BOOK, ESSAY, FILM REVIEW

Spotted Goddesses: Dalit Women's Agency-narratives on Caste and Gender Violence *Balmurli Natrajan*

Dalit-Bahujan Feminism: A Newly Emerging Discourse *Kancha Ilaiah Shepherd*

Retro-Modern India *Zeeshan Husain*

Caste, Gender and Fire In *Meadathy: an Unconventional Fairy Tale* *Roja Suganthi-Singh*

CASTE: A Global Journal on Social Exclusion is collaborating with JSTOR to digitize, preserve, and extend access to our Journal

CENTER FOR GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT • SUSTAINABILITY  
THE HELLER SCHOOL AT BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

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### Norm Entrepreneurship at the UN - Dalits and Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent

*Caste - A Global Journal on Social Exclusion* - brings out an article 'Norm Entrepreneurship at the UN - Dalits and Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent'. Through this article Mr. Paul Divakar narrates the journey of Dalit and Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent rights' struggle in the United Nations.

About the Journal: *CASTE: A Global Journal on Social Exclusion advances peer-reviewed scholarship across disciplines into caste systems in South Asia and beyond and considers the marginalization and inter-generational oppression of religious, racial and cultural minorities throughout the world.* [Click on the picture above to access the article.](#)



Ms. Beena Pallical, Asia Dalit Rights Forum leader and NCDHR General Secretary gave a TEDx Surat talk on Caste and its impact today.



11th National Conference of Bangladesh Dalit and Excluded Rights Movement (BDERM) along with Nagorik Uddyog, Dhaka. 3/12/2021.



Samata Foundation conducted 'District Level Dialogue with Law Enforcement Agencies' in the 8 districts of Province no. 2 to promote their role in protecting Dalit rights and ensuring justice against atrocities related to caste-based discrimination and untouchability and violence against Madhesi Dalit women. The existing national / international laws and policies concerning to Caste Based Discrimination and Untouchability (CBDU) were discussed during the session. The local participants of the region shared the incidents of CBDU in response to which, the respective law enforcement agencies in the district has committed to cooperate in addressing the incidents and implementing existing laws and policies effectively.



Human Development Organization, Sri Lanka's training programme on Digital Security for the plantation youth was conducted on 05/12/2021 at the Riverdale Hotel, Kandy. There were 25 participants from Kandy, Matale and Nuwara Eliya Districts participated.



Feminist Dalit Organization (FEDO, Nepal) concluded the Provincial women conference in Bagmati province. Many thanks to all the active Dalit women leaders for being the part of this wonderful event.



UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery Mr. Tomoya Obokata's recent visit to Sri Lanka and engagement with plantation workers, migrants and CSOs.

UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery Dr. Tomoya Obokata Calls for input: Minorities exploited in contemporary slavery. *"I seek info on the victimisation of #minorities, including communities discriminated on work/descent & migrant workers, for my next report to UN HRC"*

Link to submit inputs - <https://bit.ly/3pfSXWL>

## NEWS FROM AFRICAN REGION



International Day for the Abolition of Slavery - Virtual Public Lecture

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

Panel:



Dr Abdoulaye Macko  
Speaker



Me Fatimata Mbaye  
Discussant



Dr Ousmane Diallo  
Moderator

02 December 2021

10.00 - 12.00 GMT

Register here

<https://bit.ly/3E4rbBA>

### International Day for the Abolition of Slavery: Invitation to Virtual Public Lecture

TrustAfrica, Amnesty International, ASW and the African Network against Discrimination Based on Work, Descent and Contemporary Slavery (ANDS) wish to jointly conducted a virtual public lecture to commemorate the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery. The theme of the lecture was: "Online and offline hate crimes against abolitionists and DWD communities in West Africa."

The purpose of this important public lecture was to draw attention to the ravaging effects of slavery in various West African countries, and also highlight the plight of abolitionists and DWD communities, who are often victims of violence and threats online. The public lecture, which was held on 2 December 2021 from 10:00 – 12 noon (GMT), moderated by Dr. Abdoulaye Macko, Researcher, DWD expert and Honorary President of the Temeedt Mali Association. The Discussant was Me Fatimata Mbaye, President of the Mauritanian Association of Human Rights and winner of the American Women of Courage Award, while the event was facilitated by Dr Ousmane Diallo, a researcher at Amnesty International's Regional Office for West and Central Africa, working on the Sahel (Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso) and Senegal.

## CONSULTANCY TO DEVELOP A DESKTOP BASELINE STUDY IN WEST AFRICA, CENTRAL AFRICA, AND NORTH AFRICA

Community Immunity is a collaboration between the Africa Philanthropy Network, TrustAfrica, and Southern Africa Trust. It is an advocacy campaign, guided by a series of community-generated initiatives, aimed at stopping the Covid-19 and flattening the curve of poverty and marginalization in Africa. While the pandemic is evenly distributed across regions and social groups, its impact and the capacity to respond are not. The campaign's theory of change is to effect transformation by bringing marginalized African voices to policy, national, and global spaces, using a series of practical and culturally contextualized strategies that resonate with the communities we serve. What sets this campaign apart is its commitment to a multi-stakeholder engagement using a common platform.

This project aims to ensure that poor and marginalized communities are equipped with the tools to access information and relief to counter the effects of COVID-19 and hold decision-making structures accountable. Working with a wide range of partners on the African continent, the project will leverage the comparative advantage of the three Community Immunity Campaign partners and focus on a range of initiatives including, but not limited to, research, advocacy, dialogues, toolkits, communications, and grant-making. Efforts include a specific focus on marginalized groups. These include, but are not limited to: women in rural areas, young people, ex-miners, informal and cross-border traders, domestic workers, small-scale farmers, migrant workers, and refugees. [Read more.](#)





## NEWS FROM EUROPEAN REGION



### ADOPTION OF THE NATIONAL ROMA STRATEGIC FRAMEWORKS 2021-2030

By December 2021, 26 Member States and 7 Enlargement Countries were expected to submit their newly adopted national Roma strategic frameworks in line with the EU Strategic Framework for Roma Equality, Inclusion and Participation and linked Council recommendation. In October 2021, the ERGO Network conducted a public survey in these countries on the engagement of Roma and pro-Roma civil society organisations in the drafting of the strategic frameworks by the national governments and Contact Points for Roma.

The survey answered by 85 respondents in 22 EU Member States and 7 Enlargement Countries revealed that in 29% of cases there were more than 4 consultations with civil society organised at national level on average, while in 8% of cases only 1 consultation and in 13% of cases no consultation. On average, 41% of respondents answered that they did not know how many consultations have taken place with civil society organisations.

### ERGO NETWORK REPORT ON NATIONAL RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE PLANS - BULGARIA UPDATE

In September 2021, ERGO published its comprehensive analysis report of the National Recovery and Resilience Plans (NRRPs), prepared by EU Member States in the framework of the European Semester. They now released an update of this report, which now covers 12 countries and also includes Bulgaria, where the NRRP was only submitted by the Government on 15 October 2021.

*"In Bulgaria, the Roma are named in two sections of the text, including a reference to difficulties in accessing quality education due to existing segregation, as well as to the fact that early school leaving is high among Roma. The Plan pledges to address these challenges, identifying the Roma as explicit target group of beneficiaries, with specific associated measures. However, a thorough analysis of the situation of vulnerable ethnic communities, including the Roma, is missing".*

[Access the report here.](#)

## NEWS FROM LATIN AMERICAN REGION



### IN A YEAR AND A HALF, CONAQ AND ISA MAP CONTAGION AND DEATHS OF QUILOMBOLAS BY COVID-19

With the pandemic showing signs of regression, after more than a year and a half, the monitoring of Covid-19 in the quilombos is being finalized. In order to ratify and denounce the vulnerability existing in quilombos, CONAQ, in partnership with Instituto Socioambiental (ISA), started to monitor data referring to Covid-19 in the territories, with the support of local leaders.

*“This monitoring was important to highlight the health situation of quilombola communities, since there is no specific type of health system for them. Therefore, it was evident that the ADPF (Allegation of Non-Compliance with a Fundamental Precept) 742, was pointing out that the Brazilian State implemented specific actions to assist this population”, points out Milene Maia.*

[Read more..](#)



### CONAQ WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE CARRIES OUT IN-PERSON PLANNING

The Quilombola Women's Collective brought together women from 24 states to plan the National Women's Meeting in 2022. The Meeting took place in Salvador from December 1st to December 5th, 2021 and was attended by 68 women. A moment of reunion and strengthening of the women's agenda amidst resistance in the COVID-19 pandemic scenario.

The theme of the meeting was “When a quilombola woman falls, the quilombo rises with her” and had the support and partnership of Instituto Socioambiental, Fundo Casa Socioambiental, Terra de Direitos, Um Verteilen, Thousand Currents, Ford Foundation and Elas Fundo de Social Investment.

[Read more..](#)





# 2021 - GFOD THROWBACK

Feb, March & April

## COVID-19 AND THE IMPACT ON CDWD - REPORT



On 19 March 2021, GFoD, along with ADRF (Asia Dalit Rights forum) and national level members of ADRF, conducted a **People’s Forum** side event “**Development Justice for Dalits in the Pandemic**” for the release of 7 reports which were the result of studies conducted in 6 countries - Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka - on the impact of COVID-19 and the extent to which State responses included CDWD in COVID Mitigation Measures. The report release was conducted alongside the Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism (APRCM)

The event brought a great deal of interventions for the Dalit communities in Asia and highlighted the impact made by rights-based organisation around the region in providing basic services to Dalit households. The reports highlighted strengthening capacities of CDWD, including caste in Asia in the context of COVID-19. The study and dissemination also enabled a systemic understanding of the issues in each of these countries during the pandemic through the analysis of the key schemes for the basic welfare of all the communities in these countries.







## YOUTH RESILIENCE: PERSPECTIVES FROM AFRICA, ASIA, SOUTH AMERICA AND EUROPE

YOUTH CONSTITUENCY WITHIN STAKEHOLDER GROUP OF COMMUNITIES DISCRIMINATED ON WORK AND DESCENT

# YOUTH RESILIENCE

Perspectives of youth activists from Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent (CDWD)

[Click here to register](#)

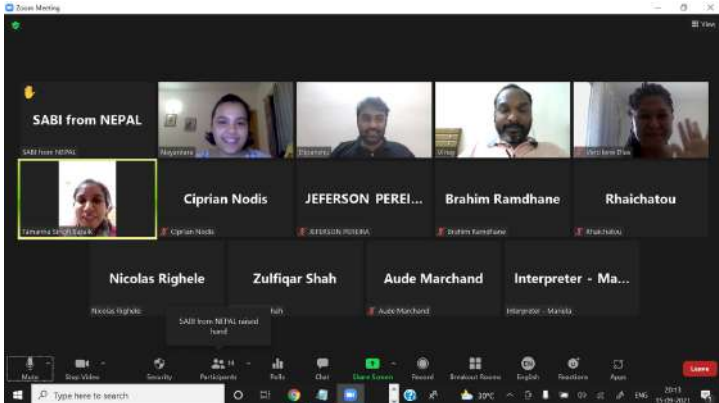
 <p><b>MOUHAMED DATI</b> Sahel Foundation AFRICA)</p>	 <p><b>TAMANNA BARAIK</b> BDERM (BANGLADESH)</p>
 <p><b>JEFERSON PEREIRA</b> CONAQ (BRAZIL)</p>	 <p><b>CARMEN TANASIE</b> ERGO NETWORK (EUROPE)</p>
 <p><b>DIPANSHU R</b> ADRF (INDIA)</p>	 <p><b>SONA KHATIK</b> DALIT WOMAN ACTIVIST (NEPAL)</p>
 <p><b>PRADIP PARIYAR</b> MODERATOR SAMATA FOUNDATION (NEPAL)</p>	

6 April 2021 9:00 AM EDT, 1:00 PM GMT, 6:30 PM IST, 6:45 PM Kathmandu, 7:00 PM Dhaka

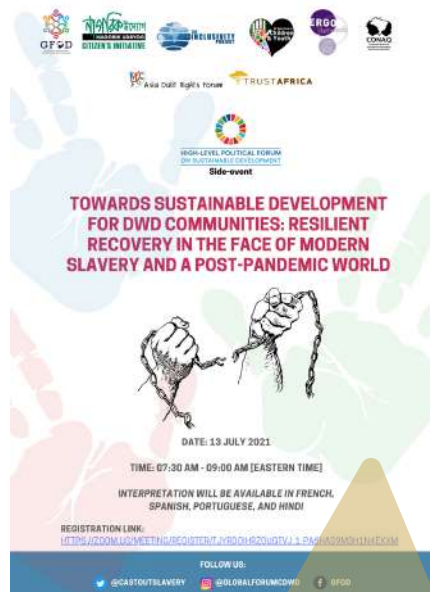


# 2021 - GFOD THROWBACK

## IN MAY, TWELVE RIGHTS EXPERTS IDENTIFIED FROM 11 COUNTRIES -



**Twelve Rights Experts identified from 11 Countries** - Bangladesh, Brazil, Belgium, Romania, Nepal, India, Pakistan, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Mauritius and have begun a 12 month intense engagement to strengthen the GFoD network and its interventions. The training enabled REs to effectively participate and make interventions in the MGoS, at the High-Level Political Forums (HLPF) and other forums and spaces under the auspices of ECOSOC. REs also contributed to the preparation of thematic policy briefs connecting SDG goals.



GFoD organised a side event during the UN High-level Political Forum on 13 July 2021 on *DWD Communities: Modern Slavery and Resilient Recovery in the face of a post-Pandemic World*. The event was co-organised and supported by TIP, Youth MG, Trust Africa, CONAQ, ERGO, ADRF, Nagorik Uddyog.

## ROUND TABLE ON ACCESS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL



### ROUND TABLE ON ACCESS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER & SANITATION FOR ALL

**JUNE 4 @ 10.00 EDT, 14.00 GMT, 19.30 IST**

Interpretations available in Spanish, Portuguese, French & Hindi

ZOOM LINK: [HTTPS://BIT.LY/3U7BLLE](https://bit.ly/3U7BLLE)



HOSTED BY:

Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations New York



On 4 June 2021, the Permanent Missions to the United Nations of Germany and Spain, The Inclusivity Project, and the Global Forum of Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent organized a virtual Round Table on *Access to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation for All*.

The event focused on the goal of intervening in the Third Committee Biennial Resolution on 'Human Rights to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation' to add language in the resolution ensuring access to water and sanitation for all, with a particular focus on communities discriminated on work and descent who are often excluded and denied these fundamental rights.

May, June & July

# 2021 - GFOD THROWBACK

## YOUTH BEAT COVID



GFoD organised a CDWD Youth Conclave: *Youth Beat COVID*, on 12 August 2021, along the side-lines of *International Youth Day*. Stakeholder Group of Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent, TIP, ADRF, Child and Youth Major Group, National Coordination of Articulation of Rural Black Quilombola Communities, GCAP, Trust Africa, and ERGO were the joint organisers of this event.

Aug, Sept & Oct

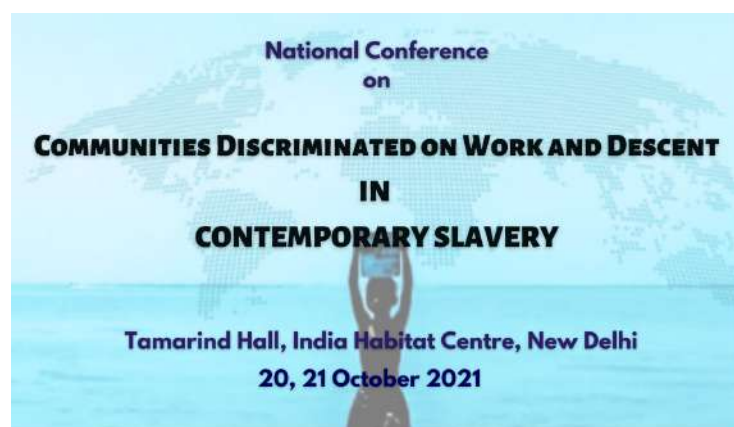
On the 20th and 21st of October, GFoD, in collaboration with Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, TIP and ADRF, organised a two days National Conference on Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent in Contemporary Slavery at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. The participants were individuals, journalists, CSOs, community leaders from across India. The conference was also live-streamed with participants from across the world participating in the presentations and discussions. Two key research reports were released during the conference:

1. CDWD in South Asia: Status of Modern Slavery and
2. CDWD in Modern Slavery: A Global Phenomenon were released by the distinguished guests and participants.

## CDWD PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY - DURING UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2021



On 22 September 2021, CDWD People's Assembly formed a part of the Global People's Assembly organized by Global Call to Action Against Poverty, a forum where participants from 14 countries spanning from Japan to Brazil and US, covering 5 continents will present their situation and demands. The panelists review the structural reasons for social, environmental and economic inequalities and injustices during COVID-19 crisis and beyond. The session brings community voices, expert evidence, parliamentarians, and community artists, musicians, singers, among others on a single platform through this event.



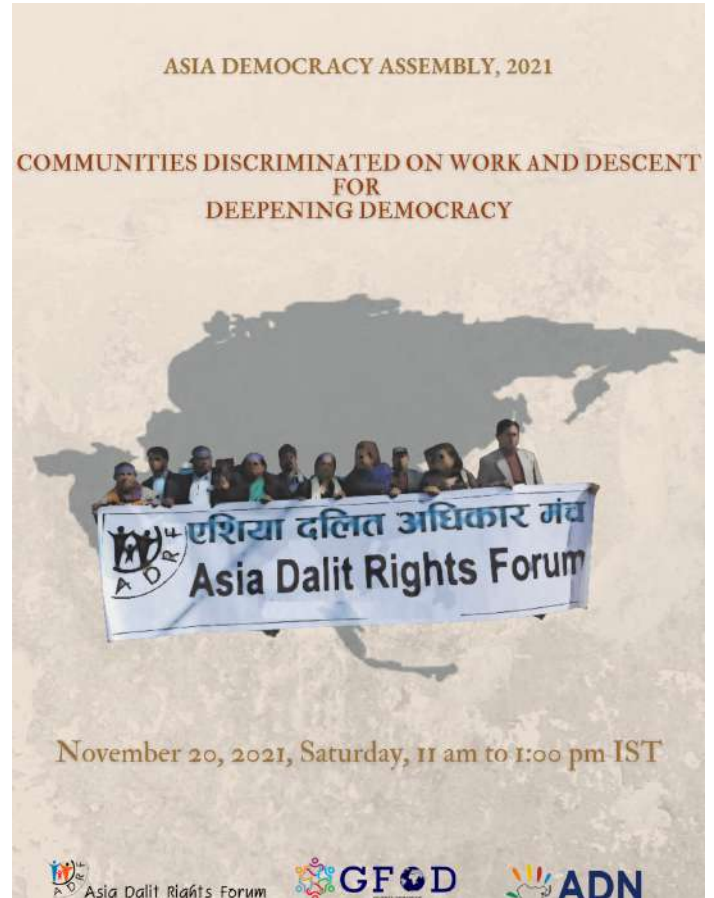
# 2021 - GFOD THROWBACK

## CONVENINGS FOR FEMINIST MOVEMENT BUILDING AND (POST) COVID -19 RECOVERY ALONG WITH OXFAM



Covid-19 crisis continues to devastate lives and cause untold sufferings. For the poor, vulnerable and discriminated communities, the impact of these multiple crisis has been devastating. How are women, particularly those at the margins of intersecting vulnerabilities in the global south - coping with the crisis? What has been their experience of life, disease and resilience? Ms. Beena Palliccal represented ADRF and put forth the issues of Dalit women.

## ASIA DEMOCRACY ASSEMBLY



On 20th November 2021, ADRF along with GFoD organised a convention *Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent For Deepening Democracy* as part of the *Asia Democracy Assembly* organised by *Asia Democracy Network* between 23-24 November 2021. This event brought along activists and advocates of CDWD rights from Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka and navigate solutions to the injustices and issues CDWD face and demand justice and democratic rights of DWD communities in South Asia and strengthen and uphold democratic values in the region through inclusiveness.



# MAJOR EVENTS OF OUR PARTNERS IN THE YEAR 2021



On 8 April, ERGO celebrated the 50th International Roma Day! While the roots of Romani activism go back to the 19th century, the 8th April 1971 constitutes a turning point for Roma communities around the world, when activists moved their struggle to the international arena with the first World Romani Congress held near London

*The day means for us a celebration of our culture, language and the endurance to keep our identity alive. The First Congress promoted the Roma symbols used as tools for unification and political mobilization, such as the umbrella term 'Roma', the Romani flag, the slogan Opre Roma! (Roma Arise!) our anthem (Djelem djelem) and national day (8 April).*



ERGO Network launched 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."

[Read more..](#)

A TrustAfrica mission visited Bamako, Mali on 2, 3 and 4 October 2021 to meet with the leaders of the Temedt Association on the situation of victims of discrimination based on descent and slavery. TrustAfrica and Temedt after working sessions went to the Children's City in Bamako where more than 131 people who have been unjustly displaced from their village, Baghamabougou, reside. Most of these displaced persons are affected by modern slavery practices in their local communities. They have been driven away from their villages because they refused to submit to the abusive demands of their masters. According to human rights activists, thousands of people have been driven from their villages in the Khaye region as a result of slavery.





# MAJOR EVENTS OF OUR PARTNERS IN THE YEAR 2021



*In partnership with the Action for World of Solidarity (ASW), the African Agency for the Fight against Discrimination Based on Work and Descent and Slavery and Amnesty International, TrustAfrica conducted a Workshop on restitution of studies on Discrimination Based on Descent and Slavery in Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania and Niger.*

## ***International program selects Brazilian initiative that provides for the creation of an anti-racist public education system***



The WK Kellogg Foundation announced ten finalist projects for the 2030 Racial Equity Challenge, an open, worldwide call for innovative solutions, with the purpose of creating a more equal future for children, families and communities across the globe. Among the ten finalists is the world's first anti-racist public education system, proposed by six organizations that have joined forces to fight racial discrimination in education.

According to the international announcement made this Tuesday by the WK Kellogg Foundation, a total of US\$90 million will be granted for investment in organizations in the field of human rights that promote transformative and plural local actions to value the contributions of the black population and indigenous peoples in the social, economic, political areas, among others.

The Brazilian project is led by the self-styled Grupo Brasil, comprising ActionAid, Ação Educativa, the National Campaign for the Right to Education, CONAQ (National Coordination for the Coordination of Rural Quilombola Black Communities), Geledés Instituto da Mulher Negra and UNEafro Brasil.

# MAJOR EVENTS OF OUR PARTNERS IN THE YEAR 2021

25th of July: in a virtual plenary Women from CONAQ reflect on the challenges of the quilombola trajectory



July 25th, CONAQ celebrates the Day of the Latin American and Caribbean Black Woman and the National Day of Tereza de Benguela, our Black Queen. A very significant date for the struggle and trajectory of black quilombola women and black people. The CONAQ Women's collective met in an online plenary to reflect on: How to be a free and empowered quilombola woman fighting violence and racism in current times? [Read More](#)

## WISH YOU ALL A PROSPEROUS, PEACEFUL & JUST 2022

**Happy New Year**

**GFoD**  
GLOBAL FORUM OF COMMUNITIES DISCRIMINATED ON WORK AND DESCENT

**A lot of different flowers make a bouquet. This New Year let's pledge to make this world inclusive!**

**Global Forum of Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent wishes you A Happy New Year 2022.**

ERGO, Global Call to Action Against Poverty, TRUSTAFRICA, Asia Dalit Rights Forum, African Network on Discrimination based on Work, Descent and Contemporary Forms of Slavery, CONAQ