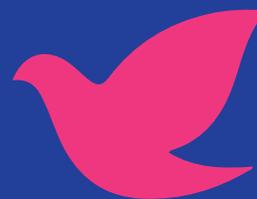


National Alliance for Human  
Rights and Social Justice Nepal



# Human Rights Alliance



Annual  
Report

| 2018

# Words from the Chairperson

National Alliance for Human Rights and Social Justice Nepal (Human Rights Alliance) was established in 1996 to promote and protect right to freedom of association, human rights and social justice, good governance, mutual accountability and transparency, promote civic engagement in policy decision making process and encourage marginalized and systematically excluded communities and groups.

The organization has been lobbying and advocating in the policy decision making process to realize and mainstream the people's basic rights and social justice agenda so that people can exercise and enjoy their basic rights.

This "Annual Report 2018" mainly reflects campaigns, initiatives, and events that have been carried out by Human Rights Alliance. I am pleased to share this annual report covering the glimpses of actively playing the role of civic watchdog to the government and concerned authorities with regards to human rights and social justice in the country concerning with different sectors such as humanitarian accountability, localization of basic rights including right to just development and Economic, social and cultural rights (ESCR), campaign against inequalities, advocacy for freedom of association and expression.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely appreciate the support provided by the Central, Advisory and Provincial Committees and District Chapters of Human Rights Alliance, civil society, people and funding partners to carry out the campaigns. Specially, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Government of Nepal for building collaboration and cooperation with us during the period of campaigns. I thank Dr. Padma Prasad Khatiwada, General Secretary for his tremendous contribution to enrich the organizational development, its overall advocacy and leadership at different forums in national and international level. Meanwhile, I appreciate the tireless effort of Mr. Bidur Subedi and Mr. Dilli Raj Dangji for supporting organizational campaigns and developing the strategy as well as annual report.

Thank you all!

**Min Bahadur Shahi**

Chairperson, Human Rights Alliance  
2019 January

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# Human Rights and Social Justice Campaign

National Alliance for Human Rights and Social Justice Nepal (Human Rights Alliance) has been carrying out several human rights and social justice-based campaigns covering wide ranges of areas playing the role of civic watchdog. Those include humanitarian accountability monitoring, localization of international instruments and ESC rights by reflecting them in local level planning and development activities, promoting right to food and its localization, civil society campaign against inequalities and so on. All the campaigns and initiatives are aligned with 2030 Agenda as well.

## Localization of Human Rights

Under this campaign, Human Rights Alliance organized capacity building of the local level representatives, policy dialogues for localizing human rights, and numerous workshops and interaction concerning on the human rights and social justice to localizing those rights through annual plans and policies.

## Capacity Enhancement of Representatives

Human Rights Alliance carried out series of workshops and interactions under the campaign of capacity enhancement of local level governments and civil society organizations in Dolakha district in 2018. Total 190 local level representatives, CSO's members, government authorities, journalists



were capacitated on areas of inclusive governance, human rights, and socio-cultural diversity along with drafting and executing local policies and practices inclusion of international commitments and provision SDGs, ESC rights, in the local level policies and planning. Meanwhile, participants are able to assess their respective local level's issues, problems, challenges and work for possible measures; in which, CSOs will be playing a civic watchdog to ensure inclusive development in the respective local units.

## Policy dialogue Series on Human Rights Instruments

Human Rights Alliance organized policy dialogue series on international instruments on human rights and their localization. The dialogues were organized in 9 local units of Dolakha district in 2018. Total 324 participants from local level governments of Dolakha took part. The series has sensitized to

the local government representatives concerning with human rights, national and international instruments, good governance and localization of fundamental human rights for ensuring human rights friendly, and inclusive, diversity friendly local level government. Meanwhile, they were also oriented about the possible approaches to be assimilated at local level considering localizing the international human rights policies based on the local context along with the carrying out necessary assessments local issues, problems, challenges and possible measures in the areas of human rights, good governance in the district.

Culmination of the series was formation of 'Dialogue Forum' comprising local level representatives and CSOs representatives from the district. It will function as a common platform for government and CSOs to assess the human rights status in the district and put collective effort to address emerging challenges in coming days. This initiative will be led of District Coordination Committee, Dolakha.

## Education Immersion on Human Rights, Peace and Democracy

Human Rights Alliance carried out 3-week 'education immersion school' on freedom, democracy, peace, human rights, development agenda and justice on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2018 to 16 September 2018 in Kathmandu. Total 44 participants took part in the training representing university students, researcher, civil society, policy advocacy, journalism, law across the globe. Participants were from Nepal, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Brazil, Thailand, Philippines, Tanzania, Zambia, South Africa, and Morocco. Under the themes, presentations, lectures by experts, interaction and discussion were carried out among the participants. Overall, the participants have been capable to ensure their engagement in broader concepts or issues on freedom, peace and justice, and human rights existing at local to international level being committed to their contribution. Additionally, the training provided glimpses of daily issues of human rights and freedom connecting theoretical perspective with existing practices in the societies.



## Advocating for Right to Freedom of Association

### Advocating Right to Association

Human Rights Alliance organized policy dialogue series on *Freedom of Association: Shrinking Space of Civil Society* on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018 in Lalitpur. This interaction program was organized in the context of demanding meaningful participation in the policy formation process and ensuring fundamental constitutional right to freedom of association and expression while regulating CSOs in Nepal. Since the government had drafted numerous policies and preparing for implementing them with the aim of mobilizing CSOs of Nepal but meaningful participation of the CSOs has been utterly ignored in the process. Guests and participants asserted for collective voice to go against shrinking space of CSOs in Nepal as the government has planned to introduce regulatory guidelines and directives that should be according to spirit of constitutional provisions of freedom of association, functionality, and mobility.

### Advocacy Alliance with Federations and Networks

Human Rights Alliance conducted meeting with federations and networks on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018. This meeting series has been able to share the information and develop the common understanding on the advocacy agenda related to human rights, humanitarian monitoring, CSOs' space strengthening and so on. Those meeting helped to share the plan/progress and plan joint events along with developing common agendas of CSOs, federations, and networking in the initiate for common advocacy.

## Campaign on Humanitarian Accountability Monitoring

### Policy Dialogue Series on Accountability in Humanitarian Sector

Human Rights Alliance has organized 'Policy Dialogue Series' in the earthquake affected districts in 2018 with the aim make the policy makers (local to federal level) accountable by pulling their attention through evidence-based policy advocacy. It has been able to lobby and advocate for making necessary policy revision for timely and social justice based post-quake reconstruction and overall disaster management at local to national level. In the series, the government representatives, CSOs members, affected communities, media representatives have taken part. Overall, this series has been successful to identify policy issues, gaps and areas of revisions



on the relevant policies considering social justice based humanitarian support and reconstruction as basic human rights.

SN	Event Theme	Venue	Date	Participants
1.	Youth Participation in Disaster Management	Kathmandu	13 May 2018	34
2.	Issues of Human Rights and Social Justice in Reconstruction	Lalitpur	9 July 2018	39
3.	Reconstruction and Inequality	Kathmandu	29 July 2018	32
4.	Role of CSOs in Post-quake Reconstruction	Chautara, Sindhu-palchok	16 Sept 2018	46
Total				151

Particularly, the series has been able to lead to raise voice from civil society sector for the advocacy of policy revision required so that reconstruction could be more effective and social justice based in



the earthquake affected districts. It has been able to make the concerned stakeholders including National Reconstruction Authority by asserting the need of ensuring human rights and social justice based ongoing post-quake reconstruction and

overall disaster management because despite efforts made by the government in those areas, overall reconstruction has not been effective despite spending more than three years.

### Agency Mapping on Social Rebuilding in the Post-Quake Reconstruction

Series of programs have been able to explore reconstruction related issues, specifically, analyze critically accountability of government, donor agencies, national and international civil society organizations and private sector on post-quake reconstruction (and also disaster response and management) for ensuring social justice based post-quake- reconstruction. Guests and participants representing government bodies, National Reconstruction Authority, local level representatives, CSOs members, journalists, and earthquake affected people were present in the programs.

SN	Event Theme	Venue	Date	Participants
1.	Sectoral Issues Sharing and Interaction	Kathmandu	13 July 2018	72
2.	Debriefing in Sindhupalchok	Sindhu-palchok	16 Sept 2018	46
3.	Debriefing in Kathmandu	Kathmandu	29 Oct 2018	23
4.	Report Dissemination on Agency Mapping	Kathmandu	29 Nov 2018	90
Total				231

Collected feedback and suggestions were incorporated in the Agency Mapping Report that was disseminated among all the stakeholders. It was able to make the concerned stakeholders well informed about the status of financial and other technical support for the government and NRA in reconstruction by prioritizing social justice based reconstruction.

## Advocating for Right to Food and Food Sovereignty

Human Rights Alliance has been working on right to food and its localization by asserting to align the issue through provincial and local governments' policies and annual plans. Based on this objective, several activities were carried out in 2018.

### Workshop on Right to Food and Food Sovereignty

National workshop on right to food was organized on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018 in Nepalgunj in collaboration with Human Rights Alliance, FIAN Nepal, RtFN, RRN, NNDSWO, Kadhya Adhikar Sanjal organized aiming to make aware about the right to food bill and its provision. More than hundred participants were present in the program. Experts presented presentations on the issue emphasizing food right as basic right that has to be ensured by the government and organizations working in this area.

The workshop organized on 12th October 2018 in Kathmandu to mark the 37th World Food Day concerning with right to food and food sovereignty by making participants aware on recently drafted bill on Right to Food and Food Sovereignty 2075.

Total 50 participants took part in the program. Presentations and key notes were presented by the experts on Right to Food and Food Sovereignty Act 2075; bill's relevance, and other cross-cutting issues. Guest and participants shared and discussed on the relevance emerging issues on rights to food or food security in relation to international provisions and initiatives; to assess the status of food security and food sovereignty in Nepal caused by earthquake, flood, climate change and other nature and human induced problems.

SN	Event Theme	Venue	Date
	National Workshop on Right of Food	Nepalgunj	15 Feb 2018
	Secretariat Committee Meeting	Kathmandu	21 Sept 2018
	Secretariat Committee Meeting	Kathmandu	27 Sept 2018
	Workshop on Right of Food	Kathmandu	12 Oct 2018

*Annual General Meeting, Kathmandu, 28 Dec 2018*

### Secretariat Meetings

Right to Food Network Nepal (RtFN) Secretariat organized meetings on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018 and 27<sup>th</sup> September 2018 respectively in Kathmandu. The first meeting decided to hand over the Secretariat



of RtFN under the Human Rights Alliance office and carry out all the activities accordingly 1st September 2018 onwards. The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting decided to celebrate the World Food Day (on 16 October 2018) aiming to create awareness on recently drafted right to food bill, Food Security and Food Sovereignty, 2075 through national level conference. It also decided to assert meaningful role of civil society as it has carried out several campaigns in right to food and its security in the country aiming to make the government and other stakeholders accountable.

### 3rd Annual General Meeting

RtFN organized its 3rd Annual General Meeting in Kathmandu on 28<sup>th</sup> December 2018. The meeting was successful to prepare upcoming strategies, to revive its core committee for the upcoming term, and to form a committee aiming to revise RtFN policy guideline. This meeting endorsed the decision of bringing RtFN secretariat under HR Alliance from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018. It also decided for formation and mobilization of the committees of RtFN from central to local levels along with restructuring its organizational mechanism based on federalism.



## Civil Society Campaign against Inequality in Nepal

Collaborative campaign against inequality was organized on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2018 in Lalitpur. This campaign has contributed for advocating ensuring equal and just society in Nepal. The campaign was organized to pull the attention of leaders and authorities from Nepal concerning with gathering the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Switzerland by the world's business elites and top politicians. It was able to pull attention the government and concerned governing bodies by demonstrating the message of need of proper implementation of the existing plan and policies to eliminate inequalities; maintaining accountability by the stakeholders, bringing reformation in policies to eliminate all forms of inequalities i.e. gender, land, and language. This series of events is a solidarity support to the global campaign against inequality. Hundreds of social activists and volunteers from about 60 civil society organizations and social movements assembled together providing the solidarity against the prevalent inequalities existing in our society. Several slogans and cartoons depicting the status of inequality were displayed in the form of banners, posters, flex, placards, street arts etc. Organizers were Human Rights Alliance, SDG Forum, NGO Federation of Nepal, and SAAPE, HAMI, LDC Watch.





# Organizational Activities

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## Seventh National Council Meeting

Human Rights Alliance organized 'Seventh National Council Meeting' in Nepalgunj on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018. In the meeting, Central Committee Members and Secretariat Committee Members, Advisory Committee Members and other representatives from all seven provinces and district chapters were present. In the meeting, proposed by-law amendment was endorsed. Along with this, presented Provincial Executive Committee Procedure 2074 prepared was also endorsed from the meeting along with this plan of action of the organization was presented covering role of district chapter, provincial and central level committees. The meeting passed all previous decisions that were decided by the secretariat meetings conducted after sixth Council Meeting. The meeting was collaboratively hosted by Province 5 and 6 committees.

## Central Committee Meeting

Human Rights Alliance organized Central Committee Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018 in Nepalgunj. The Meeting set the possible agenda to be discussed in the Seventh National Council Meeting. From the meeting, all the previous decisions made by Secretariat meetings were passed that include presenting provincial organizational report and organizational report financial report, proposed by-law amendment, Provincial Executive Committee Procedure. Meanwhile, discussion was also made about existing issues in human rights and organizational initiatives along with future course.

Another Central Committee Meeting was organized on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018 in Kathmandu. Dr. Padma Prasad Khatiwada, General Secretary of Human Rights Alliance presented organizational and

program reports, Annual Financial Report 2074/75 BS that was prepared by the Treasure of Human Rights Alliance in the meeting. Under the program reports, upcoming strategic objectives based action plans of Human Rights Alliance for five years (2019-23) along with initiatives to achieve the goals were presented. Presented reports were endorsed by the meeting after a necessary discussion. The meeting congratulated Min Bahadur Shahi, Chairperson of Human Rights Alliance being appointed as a Member of National Planning Commission. Meanwhile, decision was made to carry out advocacy campaign being further vocal for ensuring accountability and transparency in reconstruction, humanitarian aid and to strengthen district chapters of Human Rights Alliance.



and government representatives were present in the program. The day was also marked in districts chapters including Baitaidi, Syanja, Kaski districts. All the guests and participants congratulated Human Rights Alliance for entering into its 19th year making its strong network presence in the country in human rights to play crucial role for making the government accountable to ensure human rights and social justice.

District Chapters and Province Committees of the Human Rights Alliance also carried out activities on advocating human rights and social justice in the localities through interactions, dialogues, press statements, lobby, and monitoring visits.



## Human Rights Alliance Day Celebration

Human Rights Alliance has been celebrating its establishment day on 13<sup>th</sup> July each year being aligned with its human rights and social justice based campaigns. Continuing the practice, 18th establishment day was celebrated on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2018 in Kathmandu. Existing and former members of Human Rights Alliance, representatives from organizations working in human rights, CSOs



# Publications

## E-newsletter

Human Rights Alliance has been publishing e-newsletter in quarterly basis. The e-newsletter has been covering the organizational activities, initiatives, campaigns, and advocacies that have been carried out by the organization based on numerous sectors that include human rights and social justice, humanitarian monitoring initiative, campaign against inequality, right to food, CSOs space and so on.



## Post-quake Reconstruction News Archiving

Post-quake reconstruction news archiving initiative is based on the compilation of covered news on the national daily newspapers and online news portals related reconstruction. It has reflected status of reconstruction, critical issues (status of social justice based reconstruction), problems, challenges, and achievements encountered in the overall reconstruction process aiming to make the concerned stakeholders accountable in the reconstruction process through wider dissemination of relevant post-quake reconstruction based news and features through HAMI's official website. This is ongoing initiative of Human Rights Alliance in collaboration with Humanitarian Accountability Monitoring Initiative (HAMI). Till the date, among the sectors, total 2,000 news stories or features on post-quake reconstruction have been archived so far.



# Our Partners and Networks

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## Partners of Human Rights Alliance

Open Society Foundation (OSF)

Canadian Fund for Local Initiative (CFLI)

LDC Watch/South Asia Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE)

People's Support Foundation

## Human Rights Alliance in Networks

South Asia Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE)

Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development FORUM-ASIA

Humanitarian Accountability Monitoring Initiative (HAMI)

Right to Food Network Nepal (RtFN)

Campaign for Climate Justice Nepal (CCJN)







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