

# Intergenerational dialogue between youth and decision-makers on addressing Gender Based Violence in Nepal

30 November - 6 December, 2021



**creasion**  
Envisioning the Change



**UNITED NATIONS  
NEPAL**



## ABBREVIATIONS

CSOs: Civil Society Organizations

GBV: Gender Based Violence

H.E.: Her Excellency

LGBTQIA+: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, and Asexual

SH: Sexual Harassment

SOGIESC (Sexual Orientation Gender Identity Expression and Sex Characteristic)

SRH: Sexual Reproductive Health

UN: United Nations

UNICEF: United Nations Children Fund

VAW: Violence Against Women



# DAY1

## Participants

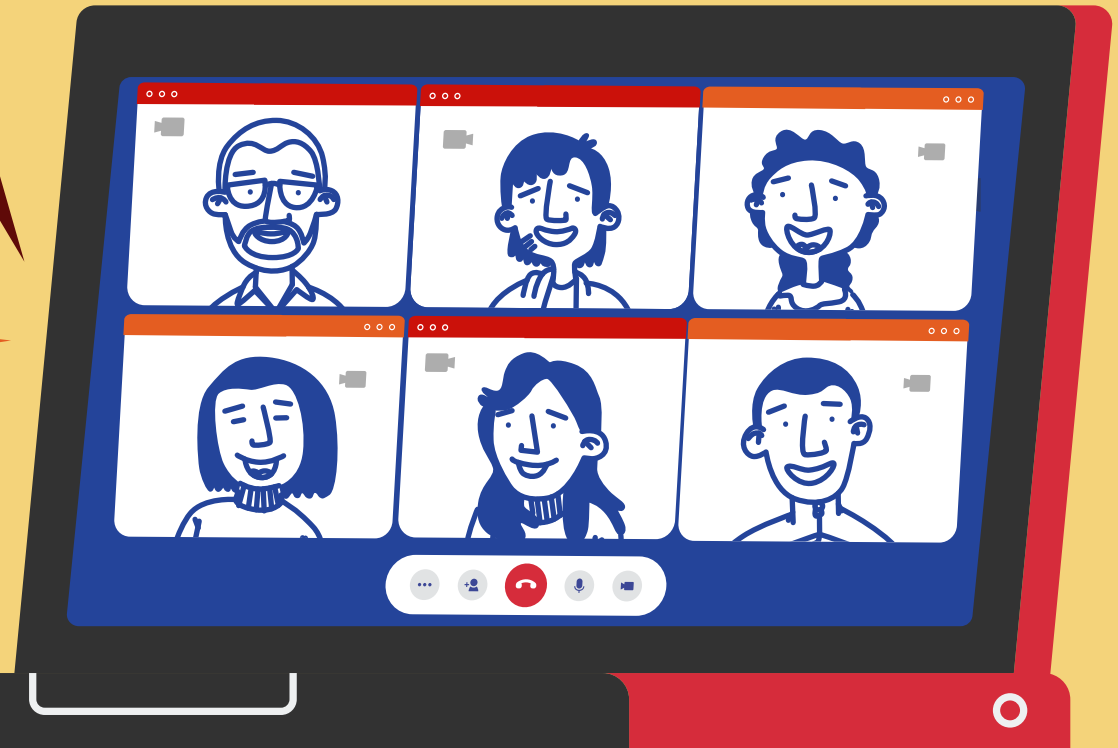
25 youths

Age 18-29

Participants selected  
via application process

Applications from 7  
provinces, Youth with  
Disabilities and LGBTQIA+

Consulted with young people in Nepal on violence against women, girls, sexual minority and untouchability groups, in order to identify various approaches in addressing GBV issues in their community and country. Young participants were asked to come up with 1) Roles of youth in preventing Gender Based Violence issues, and 2) Key call-to-action for decision-makers for the changes they want to see in Nepal on the issue.



# DAY2

- 1) Provided a platform to connect young people's voices and ideas to decision-makers and facilitate a dialogue between them
- 2) Mobilized accountability and leveraged support for youth-inclusive comprehensive policies to design safe spaces for young people.
- 3) Empowering spaces for young people with a youth-led call to action.

**DAY1**

**Discrimination and Abuse**

**Torture**

**Social Plague**

**Social Norms**

**Violation**

**Patriarchy**

**Man's World**

**Making Some Feel Down**

**Pain**

**Believing that Boy is God**

**Women**

**Abuse**

**Oppression**

**Girl is a Curse**

**Discrimination**

**Deprivation**



Gender Based Violence occurs due to systemic inequalities between sexuality. The session covered the discussions on what measures and mechanisms are in place to address GBV and interventions on masculinities and social norms.

**DAY1**

**What youth can  
and want to do  
to help**

Sensitize  
communities on  
GBV, SRH, Sexuality,  
disability

Be the first-respodent/  
quick-respodent on behalf of  
GBV survivors who need access  
to support

Help disseminate  
information & improve  
existing services to be  
more accessible including  
youth preferred technology

Work together to help develop,  
push out, and scale key messages  
and campaigns that will interest  
youth

Support real-time monitoring,  
reporting, and gap identification  
including usage of digital



# DAY1

## Call To Action

### ACCESSIBILITY & AWARENESS

- Improve access to essential services (age and gender appropriate)
- Regularly disseminate information (jingle/video) including for youth/parents
- Reporting mechanisms that works for all ages, genders, and disabilities

### FUNDING

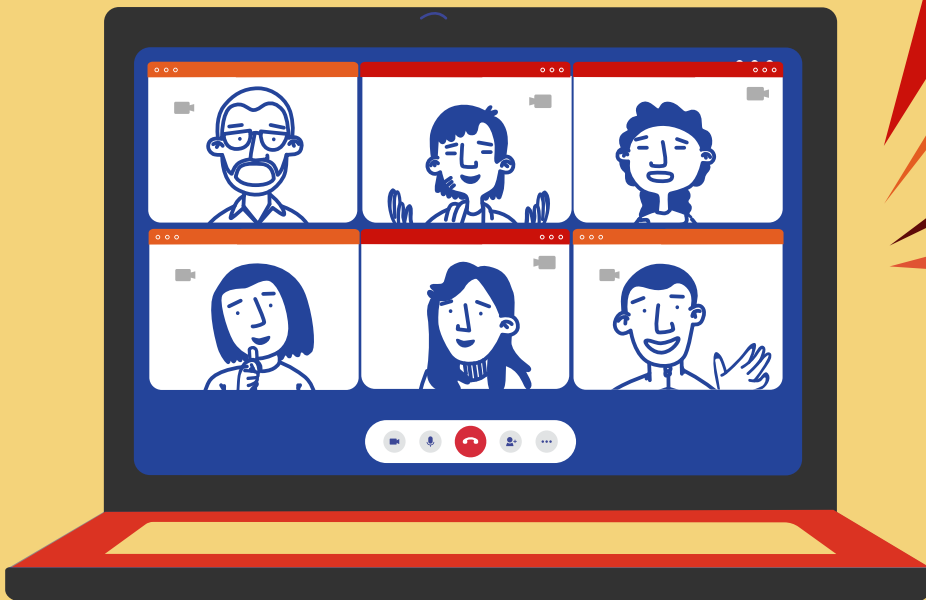
- Invest in accessible, inclusive, and transparent data collection and monitoring (age, disability, and gender disaggregated)
- Funding support to CSOs working on GBV; build a network of young people.

### INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

- Dedicated committee with GBV experts on central & local level
- Systematic public structure for smooth case handling & monitoring
- Fast track of GBV judiciary cases; child bench, separate GBV court
- Citizenship from mother's side/LGBTQIA+

### EDUCATION/SCHOOL

- Better curriculum on GBV/SH, LGBTQIA+/disability
- Educate youth on GBV cybercrimes
- Expertise of teachers on GBV
- Mandatory psychosocial counselling



# Youth Representatives

I work as a youth advocate for women's political literacy. I am leading a couple of movements against GBV - including rape cases such as street flash mobs across Nepal. I have been working with the government and development partners on youth's political engagement. Youth's role is very important in addressing GBV issues and advocating for women's citizenship.



Prakriti Bhattarai

Chairperson, Political Literacy for Women  
UNICEF Youth advocate for GBV

I am a burn victim since I was 18. A male friend threw kerosene out of his ego for rejecting him as a potential suitor. It has been a painful, difficult and depressing journey. I want to voice against this type of violence and advocate for other survivors in a similar situation. I am advocating for forming strict laws even for acid attackers.



Puja Karki

Astitwa Nepal  
GBV survivor & activist

I am a disabled LGBTQIA+ activist and a burn survivor. I faced sexual and mental harassment in the orphanage. It is difficult for the LGBTQIA+ community to accept me because of my disability and they are not sensitized about disability of LGBTQIA+. My scholarship was revoked when I first came out in the media identifying myself as a gay man with a disability. I'm now a program officer in the Blue Diamond Society. I want to help people with the disability LGBTQIA+ and get their Human rights.



Aaditya Rai

Blue Diamond Society  
LGBTQIA+ activist

# DAY 2

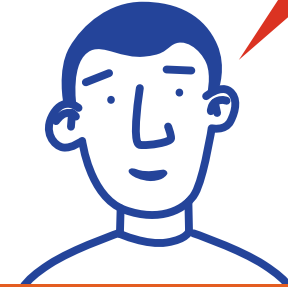
With the great number of youth networks in our country, how can we utilize them to advocate and prevent GBV in the coming days?



There is a lack of laws, reforms, and support for Burn Survivors in comparison to Acid attack Survivors in our country. Are your organizations advocating anything for the Burn Victims?



Do your organizations have a GBV policy of diverse SOGIESC to respond to workplace discrimination and violence? Are there any LGBTQIA+ and disability representatives in the National Youth Council?



In response to Aaditya's question on gender-inclusive policy we do have a workforce on diversity policy in our office which ensures people from marginalized groups including persons with disability and gender minorities to engage as personnel and perform their tasks with dignity.

Elisabeth von Capeller  
H.E. of the Embassy of Switzerland



The movement against gender-based violence has been going on for years, yet women still suffer. But with evolving times, we are also continuously developing and updating our acts and policies to incorporate all the needs of the people. Addressing Puja and Aaditya's question, the government has drafted acts for burn survivors and is planning the inclusion of quotas for people with disability and LGBTQIA+ in the National Youth Council. Let's be hopeful and wait as the government amends all these changes. I would also like to emphasize that we need to push the government for action but at the same time the youths also need to address the issues as soon as we see them in the community and raise more awareness.



Chandra Thapa,  
Under Secretary,  
National Youth Council,  
Ministry of Youth and Sports



Richard Howard,  
Resident Coordinator ad. interim Country  
Director at ILO Nepal

Addressing the question posed by Aaditya on gender-inclusive strategies and policies within the UN system there exists of the United Nations-wide Strategy on Gender Parity and shared that it has specific targets and indicators that ensure gender parity in the UN.

We recognize the UN Youth Group Task Force which is working for youth-centric programming in the UN system and acknowledge this youth dialogue coordinated by the UN Youth Task Force Team. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought more vulnerability for women and girls about Gender Based Violence and is often a multidimensional concern with intersectionality around it. I want to emphasize the importance of strengthening institutional capacities to address GBV, including in the education sector. There is a new sectoral plan for education in Nepal which could serve as a good opportunity. It is important to protect social security along with the need for behavioral change to address GBV issues. I urge the need of today's young people to be the change-makers for the coming future in addressing the VAW and GBV issues.



Elke Wisch  
UNICEF Representative for Nepal





Elke Wisch, Richard Howard  
Prakriti Bhattarai, Sujata Koirala, Puja Karki, Aaditya Rai, Elisabeth von Capeller, Chandra Thapa