



HIDR NEPAL

Himal Innovative Development & Research Pvt. Ltd.

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

**KNOW THE LAW, USE THE LAW, SHAPE THE LAW
STRENGTHENING THE RULE OF LAW**

2023 Year Review

In 2023, Himal Innovative Development and Research Pvt. Ltd. (HIDR) forged strategic collaborations with a multitude of esteemed national and international partners, amplifying its impact and reach. These partnerships were pivotal in advancing HIDR's mission of knowledge generation, its socialization and influence in policy shaping. Below, we present a detailed breakdown of the initiatives that HIDR undertook in 2023, forging a meaningful alliance with various organizations.

S.N	PARTNERS	NAME OF PROJECT
1	WORLD BANK GROUP	SOCIAL PROTECTION POLICY DIALOGUE ROUNDTABLES
2	THE ASIA FOUNDATION	PREPARATION OF DRAFT RESOURCE BOOK: THE COMPILATION OF LOCAL RIGHTS ASSIGNED BY FEDERAL LAW
3	THE ASIA FOUNDATION	CONSULTATION/ WORKSHOP AT MUNICIPAL LEVEL ON THE RIGHTS ASSIGNED BY FEDERAL LAW
4	HELVETAS NEPAL	TRAINING/WORKSHOP ON BUILDING CAPACITY OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR ON POLICY GAP ANALYSIS AND ADVOCACY FOR ENABLING BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT IN MADHESH PROVINCE AND LUMBINI PROVINCE
5	SAVE THE CHILDREN	TRAINING ON "UNDERSTANDING AND MANAGING HIV AND GENDER BASED VIOLENCE"

6	CAMPAIGN FOR CHANGE	ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION
7	FORUM FOR WOMEN, LAW AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS	SURROGACY IN NEPAL: ISSUES AND EXISTING POLICY FRAMEWORK
8	NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR WOMEN RIGHTS	PREPARATION OF POLICY BRIEF

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE CHAIR



MS. INDU TULADHAR
Executive Chair

Reflecting on 2023, I see it as a significant year for HIDR. The year marks a decade of operation for the organization. Work in the field of human rights, particularly for women, children, gender, justice, and other marginalized groups, continued, proving our credibility. We achieved the broader goal of knowledge production, socialization, and dissemination to shape policy with the help of our partners.

Meanwhile, efforts reached parliamentarians, local representatives, rights and duty holders, local women leaders, paralegals working with People Living with HIV (PLHIV) and Key Populations (KPs), and members of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the capacity-building process. We extend our gratitude to all partners with whom we have collaborated over the years, particularly in 2023. I sincerely thank the team members for their relentless honesty, passion, and perseverance. As a team, we strive to continue this journey in the coming years.

TEAM MEMBERS



MS. INDU TULADHAR
Executive Chair



MS. SUBEKSHYA TULADHAR
Media Coordinator



MR SUNIL PAUDEL
Senior Research Fellow



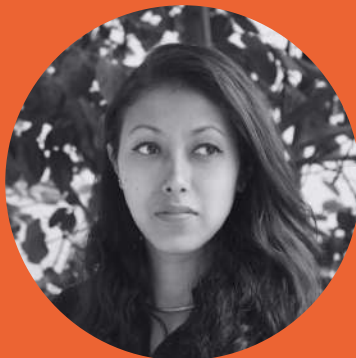
MS. LUMANA UPRETI
Program Coordinator



MS. USHA KUSHWAHA
Program Officer



MS. SUSHMA BASTOLA
Admin & Finance Officer



MS. PRAKRITI KC
Program Officer



MS. MIJALA CHITRAKAR
Program Officer

Initiatives of HIDR in 2023

In 2023, HIDR remained steadfast in its commitment to providing technical support to various organizations, spanning different thematic areas across multiple projects. Here, we highlight our collaborations and endeavors:

KNOWLEDGE GENERATION AND SOCIALIZATION

SOCIAL PROTECTION POLICY DIALOGUE ROUNDTABLES

In collaboration with the World Bank, HIDR embarked on a significant project aimed at addressing critical aspects of Nepal's social protection landscape. The project entailed a series of roundtable policy dialogues designed to foster constructive discourse and drive actionable solutions.



Key Components:

1. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK ASSESSMENT:

The first segment of the policy dialogues centered on evaluating the institutional framework proposed by the National Planning Commission within the Integrated National Social Security Framework. Diving deep into mechanisms at federal, provincial, and local levels, participants examined the strengths and weaknesses of the existing structure.

2. INTEGRATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAMS:

The second segment delved into the coordination and integration of social security programs tailored for children aged 0 to 5. Through comprehensive discussions, Stakeholders explored strategies to enhance the effectiveness of existing programs and ensure holistic coverage for vulnerable demographics.

Outcomes and Impact:

The roundtable discussions facilitated robust engagement among diverse array of participants, yielding valuable insights on Integrated National Social Security Frameworks. A consensus was reached among stakeholders, including officials from the National Planning Commission and various government departments, on the necessity for a robust institutional structure to effectively implement social security measures. Key agreements reached include the revision and implementation of the proposed institutional structure in line with federal principles. Additionally, officials unanimously agreed on conducting a comprehensive assessment of children benefitting from existing programs, coordinating stakeholders. Formulating policies, establishing institutional framework, and enhancing local authorities' capacity. This outcome underscores a commitment to strengthening social security efforts and improving service delivery across all government levels.



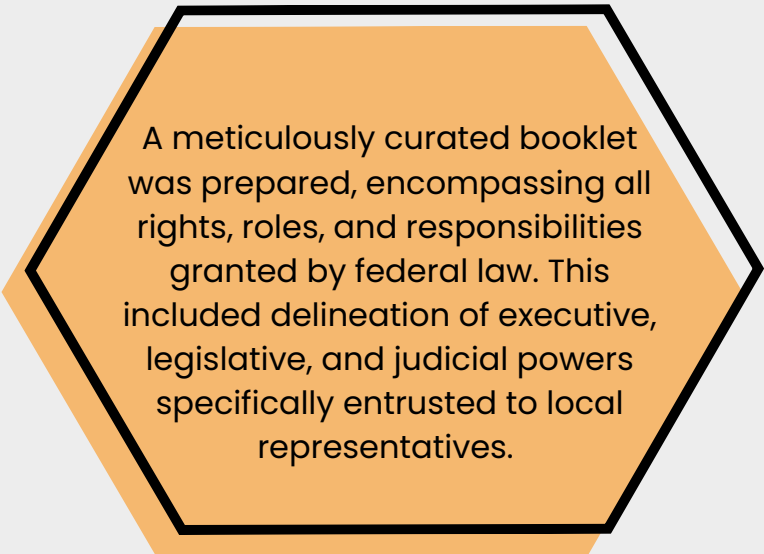
In collaboration with The Asia Foundation Nepal, HIDR provided technical support for the development of a comprehensive resource book tailored for local governments. The primary objective of this initiative was to alleviate ambiguity surrounding the rights, powers, roles, and responsibilities of local authorities.

Key Components:

1. CLARITY AND ACCESSIBILITY:

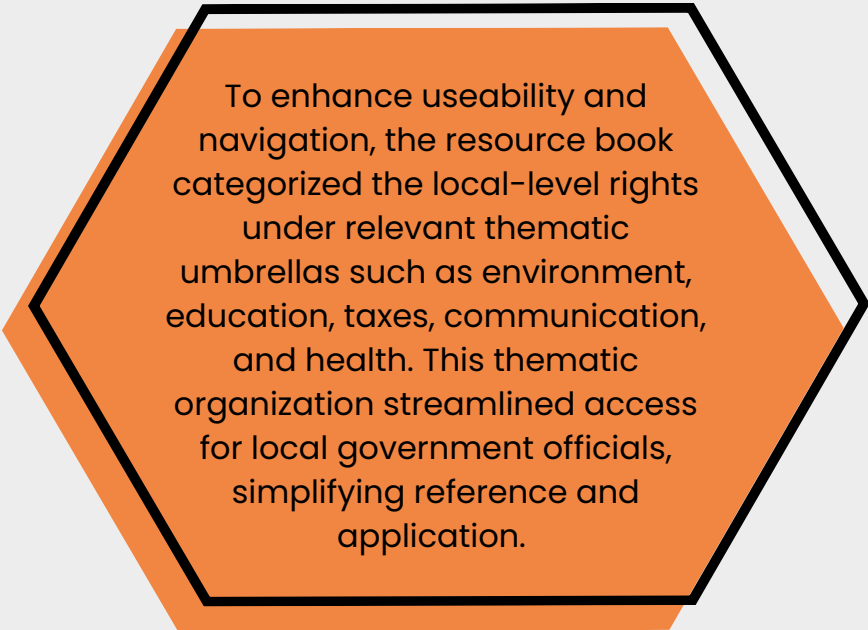
The project aimed to provide clarity and accessibility to local government officials regarding their legal mandates. HIDR's active involvement in reviewing federal laws, encompassing 366 legislations enacted until 2079, ensured comprehensive coverage of relevant legal provisions.

2. COMPREHENSIVE CONTENT:



A meticulously curated booklet was prepared, encompassing all rights, roles, and responsibilities granted by federal law. This included delineation of executive, legislative, and judicial powers specifically entrusted to local representatives.

3. THEMATIC ORGANIZATION:



To enhance useability and navigation, the resource book categorized the local-level rights under relevant thematic umbrellas such as environment, education, taxes, communication, and health. This thematic organization streamlined access for local government officials, simplifying reference and application.

Outcomes and Impact:

The development of the resource book marks a significant milestone in empowering local governments and strengthening their capacity to fulfill their duties effectively. By providing clear guidance on legal mandates and responsibilities, the initiative contributed to improved governance, decision-making, and service delivery at the grassroots level.

Roundtable Discussion on “Birth Registration and Policy

Recommendations for National ID and Civil Registration Department”



In July 2023, HIDR, in collaboration with Campaign for Change Nepal, organized a Policy Roundtable Discussion on Birth Registration and Policy Recommendations for the National ID and Civil Registration Department. This roundtable convened key stakeholders to deliberate on existing legal gaps and challenges concerning birth registration in Nepal, with a particular emphasis on the practical hurdles and issues confronted by intersex individuals.

Key Components:

1. Inclusivity and Policy Amendments: The discussion centered on advocating for policy amendments aimed at fostering inclusivity within the birth registration process. HIDR underscored the importance of simplifying procedures and addressing gender-related challenges to ensure equitable access for all individuals.

2. Comprehensive Legal Overview: Participants were provided with a comprehensive overview of legal issues surrounding birth registration, encompassing both national and international laws. This holistic understanding shed light on the sensitivity and responsibility of the Government of Nepal in ensuring effective registration procedures.

3.Focus on Behavioral Challenges: A primary focus of the discussion revolved around addressing behavioral challenges inherent in the birth registration process. Specific policy recommendations and solutions were proposed to tackle these challenges head-on, paving the way for more streamlined and inclusive registration practices.

Outcomes and Impact:

The Roundtable Discussion served as a catalyst for constructive dialogue and collaborative action, laying the groundwork for tangible policy reforms aimed at enhancing birth registration processes in Nepal. By prioritizing inclusivity, simplification, and responsiveness to gender-related issues, the initiative aimed to ensure that all individuals, including intersex individuals, have equal access to their fundamental rights.

SURROGACY IN NEPAL:

ISSUES AND EXISTING POLICY FRAMEWORK

HIDR, in collaboration with Forum for Women, Law and Development (FWLD) and Center for Reproductive Rights (CRR), embarks on a thorough investigation of surrogacy's legal landscape in Nepal. The study aims to shed light on the prevalence of surrogacy among intended parents and assess the current policy framework.

Outcomes and Impact:

The study on surrogacy in Nepal aims to catalyze meaning policy reforms and interventions to address the challenge in the current legal landscape. By providing evidence-based insights and pragmatic solution, HIDR, FWLD and CRR aim to contribute to the development of policies that prioritize reproductive health, protect women's rights, and ensure ethical practices in surrogacy,

CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT

TRAINING/WORKSHOP ON BUILDING CAPACITY OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR ON POLICY GAP ANALYSIS AND ADVOCACY FOR ENABLING BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT IN MADHESH PROVINCE AND LUMBINI PROVINCE



In May 2023, HIDR collaborated with HELVETAS Inelam to conduct a training/workshop focusing on "Building Capacity of Private Sector on Policy Gap Analysis and Advocacy for an enabling business environment." Held in Madhesh and Lumbini Province, the sessions aimed to enhance the capacity of various private business sectors in each province.

Key Components and Approach:

1. Tailored Content:

Recognizing the diverse needs of participants, the training sessions were meticulously crafted to address sector-specific challenges. Content covered essential aspects such as understanding advocacy, the advocacy cycles, problem identification, policy frameworks, and policymaking.

2. Empowering Participants:

The training/workshop emphasized empowering participants, equipping them with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to effect meaningful change in their respective sectors. Through interactive sessions and practical exercises, participants were provided with a platform to actively engage with advocacy frameworks, and problem-solving techniques. The training/workshop served as a catalyst for personal and professional growth, enabling participants to gain clarity on advocacy strategies, address daily work concerns, and understand the importance of continuous and embedded advocacy in driving positive outcomes. By empowering participants with actionable tools and resources, the initiative not only enhanced their individual capacities but also contributed to the collective strength and resilience of the private sector in Madhesh and Lumbini Province.

Outcomes and Impact:

The initiative yielded tangible outcomes, fostering a more informed and empowered private sector in both provinces. Participants emerged with enhanced knowledge and skills, enabling them to navigate policy challenges effectively and advocate for conducive business environments. By equipping private sector stakeholders with advocacy tools, the initiative contributed to strengthening the overall business ecosystem and promoting sustainable economic growth.

TRAINING/WORKSHOP ON RAISING AWARENESS AND ADDRESSING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AGAINST HIV-INFECTED AND AFFECTED WOMEN AND GIRLS, DIVERSE SEXUAL IDENTITIES, AND INDIVIDUALS FACING SEXUAL MARGINALIZATION (LGBTIQ)



HIDR together with Save the Children, organized a comprehensive training/workshop aimed at raising awareness and addressing gender-based violence (GBV) against vulnerable populations, including HIV-infected and affected women and girls, diverse sexual identities, and individuals facing sexual marginalization (LGBTIQ).

Key Component and Approach:

1.Supporting Vulnerable Populations: The project was initiated to address the specific needs and vulnerabilities of populations impacted by HIV and GBV. By empowering individuals from the LGBTIQ community, people living with HIV, and GBV survivors, the training aimed to provide essential knowledge and skills to navigate and mitigate the risks of GBV.

2.Structured Training Phases: The training was structured into three distinct phases to ensure comprehensive coverage and effective engagement. The first phase was conducted in Chitwan in December, followed by the second and third phases scheduled in Kathmandu at the end of January. This phased approach allowed for focused learning and facilitated deeper understanding among participants.

Outcomes and Impact:

Through this collaboration, Save the Children and HIDR sought to enrich the knowledge of targeted audiences and strengthen their capacity to understand their rights recognized by the law. By providing essential training on understanding and managing HIV and GBV, the initiative aimed to empower participants to advocate for their rights, access support services, and contribute to efforts aimed at ending GBV in all its forms.

Following the successful training conducted in 2023 for private stakeholders associated with the InElam project, HIDR has renewed its collaboration with HELVETAS Nepal to further enhance the capacity of these stakeholders in policy analysis and advocacy.

Key Component and Approach:

1. **Empowering Stakeholders:** The collaborative effort with HELVETAS Nepal seeks to leverage HIDR's expertise to empower primary stakeholders within the InElam Project. By providing advanced training in policy analysis and advocacy, the project aims to equip stakeholders with the necessary skills to comprehend policies, effectively utilize them for positive social and economic development, and advocate for policies aligned with their interests and goals.
2. **Facilitating Informed Policy Engagement:** The primary objective is to facilitate impactful positive changes in the work environment of stakeholders through informed policy engagement. By fostering a deeper understanding of policy frameworks and advocacy strategies, the project aims to empower stakeholders to actively participate in shaping policies that reflect their needs and priorities.

Outcomes and Impact:

Through this partnership, HIDR and HELVETAS Nepal are committed to fostering a more informed and empowered private sector within the InElam Project. By enhancing stakeholders' capacity in policy analysis and advocacy, the project aims to catalyze positive social and economic development outcomes, ultimately contributing to sustainable growth and prosperity.