## 9<sup>TH</sup> NRNA GLOBAL CONFERENCE AND IGA 2019 Report on

Session "Women Movement across the World"

NRNA 9<sup>th</sup> Global Conference and International General Assembly was recently conducted in Kathmandu from 15-17 October 2019. Coinciding the conference, pre dedicated women session titled "Women Movement across the World" was conducted at NRNA Secretariat on 13<sup>th</sup> October in the chairman ship of Ms. Rajani Pradhan, Women Coordinator. The program was moderated by Ms. Janaki Poudel from Australia. The program was attended by Ms. Sapila Rajbhandari, Vice President of NRNA, Executives of Federation of Entrepreneurs Association of Nepal, Zonta Club Nepal, NRN Women Leaders, Media Persons and more.



The program was designed to share the achievement and challenges faced by Women forum in the term 2017-19 and how can women leaders take further steps to build networks and generate resources to work for the betterment of Nepalese Women across the globe.

VP Sapila Rajbhandari welcomed all the participants and shared her experience of a decade long journey in NRNA. She told how the women movement started with few women and how it evolved to be such a big group and reached more than 60 countries today and carrying out its tasks successfully.

Deputy Women Regional Coordinators Manakala Bista - Africa, Sangita Marahatta - Europe, Preeti Sharma - Oceania, Yasmin Begum – Middle East, briefed their regional reports of the term and shared their experiences of working with the women group. In current term women forum organized regional meeting in Dubai, UAE, Luxembourg, Italy, Hong Kong, Myanmar and discussed on the issues of NRN Women. Altogether 14 new women forum in NCC and LCCs were formed during the term.

Ms. Bishnu Maya Pariyar, women activist and active member from USA briefed on importance of empowerment of women for sustainable livelihood. Women are the pillar of any nation and development to nation is impossible without empowerment of women.

Executive Member of FWEAN Ms. Sunita Vaidya presented report on the Skill Enhancement programs which is being funded by NRN Women Forum in different parts of globe. NRNA women Forum has been funding the Skill Enhancement Programs for Women from remote areas since 2015. This year Women Forum funded 3<sup>rd</sup> Advanced Level Skill based Tailoring Training held in Nuwakot started from 1 March till 31 March 2019. The training was conducted at Chandeshowri Multipurpose Building Nuwakot. The program was jointly inaugurated by Rajani Pradhan NRNA Women Coordinator and Vice President and Executives of FWEAN. The program provided advanced level stitching and tailoring training to 20 women of Panchakanya Rural Municipality of Nuwakot. The training was provided by Ms. Ganga Dhakal and Ms. Sabitri Dhakal, local women from Nuwakot involved in Tailoring profession. The training focused on Blouse's and Kurta Set.



Ms. Vaidya highlighted the effectiveness of such trainings for women. She informed that more than 50% of the trained women got paid jobs in different institutions and 10% of women have started their women ventures. She thanked NRNA Women Forum for contributing for such endeavor and she ensured that the contribution of women forum will be utilized as the revolving fund which will train more of needy women in future.

Ms. Meera Jyoti, President of ZONTA Club Nepal briefed the role of club in Nepal and highlighted the activities the club is doing for the betterment of women and girls. Zonta is an international organization having its branches in more than 150 countries and works in the field of advocacy, empowerment and health issues of women. She called upon NRNA Women forum to join hand with ZONTA to combat the challenges and threats related to empowerment of Women in Nepal.

During the program women forum recognized and awarded most active women of Asia Pacific - Ms. Radhika (Tika) Gurung, for her dedication and continuous contribution towards serving the underprivileged women of Nepal and also actively supporting the NRN women activities. The program also felicitated Ms. Radha Basnyat, Past Advisor and Deputy Women Coordinator from Canada and Ms. Lila Sharma Manandhar ICC Member from Belgium with a certificate of Appreciation for their her dedication and continuous contribution towards

serving the underprivileged women of Nepal and also actively supporting the NRN women activities.

The program also felicitated Ms. Shrijani Sthapit Tuladhar , Proprietor and Designer of Shreejani Fashion and Tailors and Member of the Federation of Women Entrepreneurs' Association of Nepal (FWEAN) and Mrs. Shova Shrestha, Proprietor and Designer of Verstaile Boutique and the member of FWEAN for providing training to the NRN women of Europe under Tailoring And Stitching Training Program conducted by NRNA National Coordination Council Belgium in support of FWEAN from 10-25 April, 2019 in Belgium.

Concluding the program, Women Coordinator Rajani Pradhan briefed on the activities of women forum conducted during the two year. She informed that since its establishment; NRNA is supporting and contributing towards the empowerment of Women within and beyond association. Till date NRNA Women Forum has been established in more than 60 countries; these forums are working towards empowering Nepali women in and out of Nepal by minimizing and mitigating challenges and threats concerning women and promoting safe migration for women and their welfare. NRNA Women Forum had met and interacted with Nepal Government and different stake holders to address the major issues relating equal rights for Women, eliminate Domestic Violence, Women Health and their Education. Women Forum has been advocating for the right of women and issuance of citizenship to their children in the name of mother.

Women Forum had conducted four health camps in Shikharbesi and Rautebesi of Nuwakot on February 2019, Thokarpa, Sindupalchowk on 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2018, Mangalsen, Achham on 26-27 February 2018, Ramailo Pathsala School at Jaranku Kathmandu. In total more than 1500 beneficiaries benefitted from the health camps.

Women Forum has sponsored three Skill Enhancement and women empowerment program Tailoring Training was conducted in Belgium, Europe April, 2019, Advanced level Tailoring Training in Panchakanya Secondary School, Nuwakot on March 2019, 2<sup>nd</sup> Women Empowerment and Skill Enhancement Training Program on 1 November 2017 in Namuna College of Fashion Technology (NCFT). Total 60 women benefitted from such training and 50% of them are employed. She also briefed about all the achievement and activities conducted by women forum globally.



She presented financial status of the women forum and thanked all the individuals and NCCs for their generous contribution and support towards women focused programs. She emphasized that team work is important to accomplish any goal, like wise urged NRN women to come together and join hands to take up the women movement ahead within the NRN Association. She informed despite of limited resources, Women forum has efficiently mobilized its team and achieved the preset goals. There are lot more to do and if NRN women are determined and unity is the best policy to win the world. She thanked all the participants, Vice president, Secretary, Regional Deputy Women Coordinators, and Women Coordinators for their cooperation and support to make her tenure successful.

