

"Three Decades of Pro Public"

DAO Regd No.: 42/048-49
Affiliation with SWC: 9456



FORUM FOR PROTECTION OF PUBLIC INTEREST (PRO PUBLIC)



Seeking and obtaining social, economic, environmental and political justice for the disadvantaged and marginalized groups.

Since 1991

ABOUT US

Pro Public, a non-profit, non-governmental organization dedicated to the cause of public interest, was founded in 1991 by a consortium of environmental lawyers, journalists, economists, engineers, consumers, and women rights activists. It raises the voice against corruption, red-tape, and irregularities and makes the government bodies aware of their duties and responsibilities. Its focus over the years has been on good governance, conflict transformation, peace building, protection of natural and cultural heritage, environmental justice, pollution control, gender justice, and consumer protection. Pro Public has consistently succeeded in creating government accountability in Nepal through media campaigns, advocacy, tool of social accountability, negotiation, correspondence, and public interest litigation.

Our Values

- » Mutual Respect,
- » Equality, justice, diversity and humanity,
- » Gender sensitivity and responsiveness Integrity,
- » Solidarity with people living in poverty and exclusion,
- » Zero tolerance to corruption and all forms of discrimination.

Pro Public Opposes

- » All forms of violence against human beings. Child marriage/Child labor/Dowry,
- » Caste-based, gender-based, religion-based, race-based discrimination, abuse and violent,
- » Exclusion,
- » Violent means to achieve an end.

Our Right-Holders

- » Women,
- » Children,
- » Senior Citizen,
- » People with Disabilities (PWDs),
- » LGBTIQ,
- » Marginalized and Disadvantage Groups.



Vision

A just society where each citizen of the country is socially and economically secure, and where the state is politically, legally, and administratively inclusive and fair, and where every person enjoys social, economic, cultural, and political rights.



Mission

To play catalytic role in increasing access to social, economic, cultural, political and environmental justice for the excluded, women and other marginalized groups, and thus contribute to the creation of a just, inclusive, and fair society.



Goal

By 2027, one million women and other marginalized Nepalese people gain economic and social security through exercise of social, economic, cultural, political rights as enshrined in the constitution of Nepal.



Objective:

- » To strengthen government accountability, transparency rule of law and democracy;
- » To promote Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI);
- » To promote peace, social cohesion and peaceful co-existence;
- » To promote environment conservation, consumer rights, women rights and child rights.



Governance of Pro Public

Pro Public has a well-managed and established governance system and structure in order to run its core and project activities effectively and transparently. All our activities are guided by Financial, Administrative Guidelines and Personnel Policies endorsed by Annual General Meeting (AGM) as well as the Statue of Pro Public. Pro Public has an Executive Committee consisting of 9 Executive officials/members including a President, Vice-President, General Secretary, Treasurer, Joint Secretary and four Executive Members. The election of the Executive Committee is held in every three years. As per the Statue of Pro Public, atleast 44% of the positions of the Executive Committee (EC) are reserved for women; Dalit, Madhesi, physically challenged person, minorities and indigenous communities (Article 12). At present, there are 5 (56%) female members, out of 9, in the executive committee.

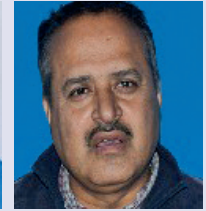
Similarly, members of the EC are not allowed to hold the same position for more than two terms (Article 12 A). A staff member is not allowed to run for any position of the EC. In the same way, a member of the EC is not allowed to work as regular staff. Pro Public has binding standards of guidelines i.e. personnel, financial, sexual harassment, procurement, communication, safeguarding, safety and security, grievance handling, and so forth. Pro Public has total of 98 members, out of which 31% are "women". It has members from marginalized communities.



Dr. Nirmala K.C.
Chairperson



Sr. Advocate
Ms. Rama Pant Kharel
Vice Chairperson



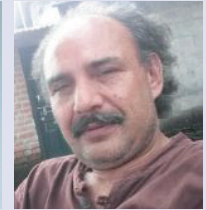
Mr. Dhiraj Pokhrel
General Secretary



Ms. Urmila Joshi
Treasurer



Advocate Ms. Kabita
Basnet Pandey
Joint Secretary



Mr. Prakash Dahal
Executive Member



Dr. Shiva Paudel
Executive Member



Mr. Ram Charitra Sah
Executive Member



Advocate Ms. Laxmi
(Nani) Thapa
Executive Member



Major Milestones of Pro Public over the past three decades

PEACE BUILDING AND CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION

Pro Public has been implementing various programs in peace building and conflict transformation using tools such as Mediation; Social Dialogue; Enacting Dialogue; Peace Research; Non-Violent Communication (NVC); and Restorative Dialogue both as preventive and curative measures aimed at resolving disputes and promoting strong relationships among the people in the communities to establish "Culture of Peace" and to build a resilient society.



Community Mediation

- » Over 2500 mediators trained in about 80 Local Government Unit (LGUs) of Nepal,
- » Around 70 community mediation centers established and 10,000 local disputes settled,
- » Developed resource pool for 15 certified mediation trainers,
- » 300 mediators trained on multi-stakeholders mediation,
- » Social marketing of mediation through radio, posters, leaflets, hoarding board, wall painting, and street drama in 60 LGUs,
- » Pro Public facilitated training in about 70 LGUs for the Judicial Committee in the capacity of a training providing institution under Mediation Council Nepal,
- » Established endowment fund of around 12 million rupees for the sustainability of the mediation,
- » The contribution made to ensure this provision "Judicial Committee" in the municipalities and rural municipalities through Article-217 of the Constitution of Nepal,
- » 20 best mediators award provided,
- » 60 Advisory Committees formed and convened involving a total more than 1800 members representing from "Various walks of Life",
- » Training Manual prepared and published in cooperation with Access to Justice (A2J) program of UNDP.



Above
150
Judicial Committees
Trained



10,000
Local Disputes
Settled



12
Million Rupees
Endowment Funds
Established



2,500
Mediators Trained
and Engaged



215
Social Dialogue
Groups Formed



150
Dialogue
Facilitators
Trained



About

50,000
People reach
through Radio
Jingles



13
Peace Libraries
Established



1,720
Members
engaged



60
Peace Events
Observed by
over 50,000

Promoting Peace through Dialogue, Libraries and Media

- » 150 Dialogue Facilitators (50% from ex-combatants) trained in Dialogue Facilitation in 16 LGUs of 12 districts,
- » 215 social dialogue groups formed involving 1720 members (50% ex-combatants) and convened 7 steps of dialogue fortnightly,
- » 40 Dialogue group formed involving 400 members and convened,
- » 13 peace libraries established and were visited by altogether 50 thousand community people,
- » Radio Jingles on dialogue, mediation, and psychosocial counselling aired by various local FM stations with hundred thousands of listeners,
- » 60 mass based peace events organized with participation of above 50000 people,
- » 20 community envisioning organized and provided action plans to the concerned government agencies,
- » 16 events of community dialogue on Gender Based Violence (GBV), Dowry, Child Labour, Chhaupadi organized.



30,000
Total Audiences



500
Playback Theatres
Organized



70
Playback Theatre
Resource pool



2,000
Stories Shared

Enacting Dialogue (Playback Theater):

- » Developed resource pool of 10 trained Playback Theatre Master Trainers and 60 Dialogue facilitating artists (DF) and engaged in 7 districts,
- » 500 Playback Theater organized, participated by 60 audiences each (total 30,000) and more than 2000 stories Shared,
- » 2 documentaries; 3 story books; a book "Enacting Dialogue: From Concept to Practice "Reflections from Nepal"; Enacting Dialogue Operation Guidelines & Mediation Handbook published,
- » 2 Enacting Dialogue and Mediation Centers established formally in east and west cluster involving Playback Theater artists.

Nonviolent Communication (NVC)

- » 700 participants (Mediators, Dialogue Facilitators, local peace committees, members of Province assembly representatives from government agencies, psychosocial counselor including NHRC, CIEDP, TRC, locally elected representatives, teachers and students trained on NVC,
- » Developed resource pool of 15 NVC facilitators,
- » Produced a documentary on NVC "In the Eyes of Good",
- » 290 elected representatives from 58 local government have been trained on NVC.



700

People Trained on NVC



290

Elected
Representatives
Trained



15

NVC Facilitators
Mobilized



Restorative Dialogue (RD)

- » 26 Mid-Career Political Leaders from different political parties trained on Restorative Dialogue.

Psychosocial Counseling

- » Psychosocial Caretaker & Psychosocial Counseling training to 35 & 25 Dialogue Facilitators

Peace Research

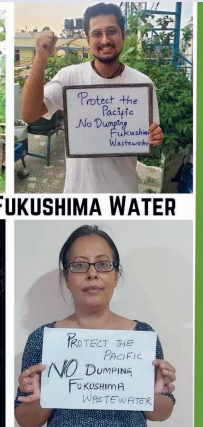
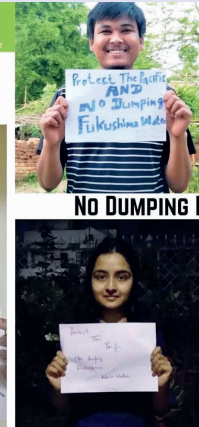
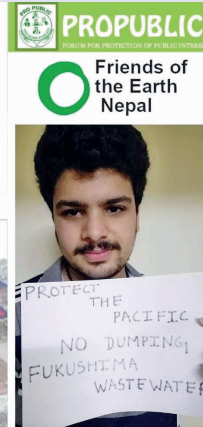
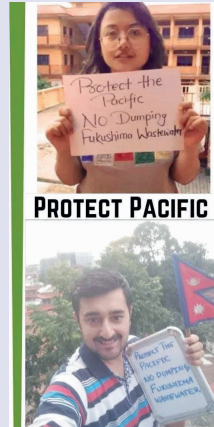
- » Pro Public conducted a peace research entitled "Predictors of Peace and Violence in Nepal: An Empirical Study of Peace Needs and Peace Services" sampling 1177 respondents in 40 LGUs.

Capacity Building of the Judicial Committee

- » About 150 persons, members of judicial Committees and government officials from 30 local governments were provided training on Conflict Resolution and Mediation

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE JUSTICE

- » Organized Biodiversity Conservation Education Program, 120 people from different districts trained,
- » Organized Training for judges on "Environment and Justice" from time to time,
- » Organized Interaction Program on Proposed Environment Quality Standard for the improvement of the proposed Environmental Quality Standards from time to time,
- » Organized workshop on Medical Waste Management issuing 11 point Kathmandu Declaration for safer medical waste management,
- » Published books entitled "Collections of Environmental Cases" including 44 Landmark cases filed by Pro Public,
- » Organised number of Campaigns, Dialogues and Advocacies.



GOOD GOVERNANCE AND SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

- » The Good Governance Program (GGP), launched in 1997, produced around 650 episodes of radio magazine, 250 episodes of fortnightly television program & bulletins. Over 6,300 Good Governance Clubs in all districts with around 62,000 members were sensitized. Organized hundreds of public hearing and campaigns throughout the country,
- » Organised a number of public hearing on the nomination of the potential candidates on the constitutional commissions and different level of the elections,
- » Implemented National Capacity Development Institute with support from World Bank's Program for Accountability in Nepal (PRAN), Three hundred CSOs, media and government representatives from 43 districts were trained, engaged in social accountability activities (SAC). 104 sub-grantees mentored and coached on SAC Tools implementation,
- » Implemented civil society support project to improve services of some key ministries particularly the MOES, MOHP, MOAC, MOLD and MOLRM from 2003 to 2005. Representative from three hundred CSOs were trained along with member of advocacy, media campaign, interaction and workshops,
- » Implemented Civil Society Anti-Corruption Project from 2005 to 2007 in 10 districts that trained more than 1000 representatives from CSOs and the government as well as launched Campaigns,
- » Worked with 60 Community Forest Users Groups and 60 Irrigation Water User Associations in 120 Village Development Committees and provided training to 265 people including government representatives under Strengthening Advocacy Capacity and Local Government Accountability from 2002 to 2004.



300

Civil Society Organizations



62,000

Members



6,300

Good Governance Clubs

PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION

Filed hundreds of public interest litigation (PIL) at different courts on issues, among others, environmental protection, gender equality, human rights, child rights, consumer rights, and good governance over the years and achieved significant milestones.

At present, Pro Public has been filing public interest litigation and pursuing cases related to civil liberty and human rights, gender and social justice and environmental rights since September 1994. Initially the program was supported by The Asia Foundation, Kathmandu, Nepal. Due to the good outcome of the project ARD/ USAID Rule of Law Project is also provided support for new cases and advocacy work of Public. Later Save The Children and OHCHR also supported for the intervention. Even when there is no support, Pro Public runs these interventions on its own.



15

Ongoing Cases in
Supreme Court



60

Environmental
Related Cases



50

Gender-Based
Cases



STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS



- » 200 media people were trained and engaged in radio, television and open-air Public Debates on Issues surrounding the Constituent Assembly (PDICA) in 40 districts,
- » 100 central level political party leaders and over 10 thousands community people interfaced under “Leaders, Listen to the Voice of People!” targeting the CA election from July to September 15, 2007,
- » 100 public hearing organized across the country attended by 10 thousand people and a book published defining the Public Agenda for Strengthening Constituencies for Peace and Reform in Nepal in 2006,

- » Over 1,20,000 people provided civic education in eight modules under Civic awareness program,
- » Provided civic education and voter education to 74,405 and 83,412 respectively under Coalition for Constituent Assembly Support,
- » Organized community dialogue and round table discussion between members of parliaments in 20 districts including 10 mock parliaments for young political party leaders,
- » “Coalition for Gender Responsive Electoral process in Nepal” implemented in 2013 in all 75 districts and 240 constituencies participated by 3,177 people,
- » Numbers of Advocacy, Interactions, Campaigns and Workshop going on.




1,20,000
 People Provided
 Civil Education


3,177
 Participants in the
 CGRE Process

PUBLIC HEALTH

Trained and engaged 100 young leaders in different districts for the Advocacy in public health through Leadership Development and Mobilization of Young Leaders in Response to HIV and AIDS Project.



100
Young Leaders



HIV/AIDS
Project



CONSUMER PROTECTION AND FARMER'S RIGHTS

In order to equip the consumer organizations and media with the capacity to cope with the onslaught of liberalization and globalization and to help them better protect the interests of the consumers and also to promote the farmer's rights issues Pro Public intervened in multiple interventions.

- More than 25 seminars were organized in different places of Nepal on consumer protection that were participated by more than 1000 audience representing government institutions, civil society organizations, media houses, consumer committees, teachers, law practitioners intellectuals from various districts were participated,
- A number of South Asian Level Regional and national level Seminar on Competition Policy and Consumer Protection in the Context of Liberalization were organized and collaborated,
- Pro Public launched media advocacy by providing training to representatives of different media from different parts of the country particularly on agro-biodiversity,
- Pro Public organized series of events to build networking with the organization working in the areas of Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs), Farmers' Rights, and Food Security,
- Pro Public carried out number of research in the area of trade, i.e, Access to and Use of Biological Resources by Dabur Nepal Private Limited; Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing: Perceptions, Practices and Expectations of Farming Communities; and plant variety protection and Farmers' Rights".



GENDER EQUALITY AND JUSTICE

- » Provided capacity building training to hundreds of judges from different courts; conducted researches, advocacy from 1996 to 2006,
- » Altogether 75 judgments and 90 charge sheets related to Rape and Trafficking analysed from gender equality justice perspective,
- » Organized 35 court room observations to understand gender sensitivity in the court room,
- » Drafted a shadow constitution from women's rights and gender equality perspective,
- » Trained more than 2000 mediators on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion,
- » Utilized GECL as cross-cutting session in the other interventions,
- » Organized number of Campaigns, Workshops, Dialogue and advocacy,
- » Organized "Men Engage" program to end all forms of discrimination.

SOME IMPACTS of PRO PUBLIC

Pro Public's works over the years have had some significant impact which are given below;

- » Contributed to the formulation of Good Governance Act and Right to Information Act along with their by-laws,
- » Contributed to the formulation of guidelines on Public Hearing 2062; Public Audit and Social Audit Directive 2063; Simplification of Government Decision Directives, 2065,
- » Contributed to the formulation of Mediation Act 2068 and its by-law and establishment of the Mediation Council under it to institutionalize mediation in Nepal,
- » Contributed to the provision of Article 217 of the Constitution of Nepal that deals with the formation and operation of judicial committees at the local level. These committees are part of the decentralized governance system in Nepal with the legal framework of the Local Operation Act 2074 (2017),
- » Contributed to the establishment of National Judicial Academy in 2004,
- » Contributed to the establishment of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in Nepal,
- » Contributed to the campaign that led to the banning of commercial ads of alcohol and tobacco in TV and radio Nepal,
- » Contributed to the formulation of Government policy on single women allowance,
- » Contributed to safeguarding 'Guthi' land from abuse and encroachment,
- » Contributed to the issuance of guidelines from Supreme Court on ending all forms of abuse and exploitation of women workers, and making it decent and women workers-friendly.



90

Charge Sheets
Analysed



35

Court Rooms
Observed



75

Judgments



2000

Mediators on Gender
Equality Trained

Development Partners

Over the past three decades, Pro Public has been receiving precious support from a number of esteemed development partners from time to time, to carryout our good work for which Pro Public is always grateful.



Network

Pro Public has a global Network with various regional and International network with whom different levels of Collaboration are going on.



The image displays a collection of 24 book covers from the PRO PUBLIC series, arranged in a 3x8 grid. The books are published by PRO PUBLIC, a joint venture of the National Book Foundation, Nepal, and the International Centre for Integrated Rural Development for Asia (ICRDA). The covers are organized into three rows and eight columns, each featuring a unique design and the PRO PUBLIC logo at the bottom.

Row 1:

- असल शासन** (Real Governance): वर्ष पुस्तक २०६५ (Year Book २०६५)
- असल शासन** (Real Governance): स्रोत संग्रहणी (Source Collection)
- असल शासनको लागि ब्याकल** (Backlog for Real Governance): (स्रोत संग्रहणी)
- सामाजिक आकाशचिह्न** (Social Skyline): २९ सयन (29 Years)
- From Constraints to Transcendence**
- वैशालिमा कूट** (Vaishali Ma Kut)
- एक प्रजासत्ताकी लोकतन्त्र की प्रजासत्ता** (One Democracy's Democracy)
- सर्वजनिक सभा** (Public Assembly): निर्विवाद सभा (Uncontested Assembly)
- निर्देशिका** (Guidelines)
- संवाद** (Dialogue): संविधान संसदीय संसदीय (Constitutional Parliamentary)

Row 2:

- सामुदायिक वैशालिमा कूट** (Community Vaishali Ma Kut): स्रोत पुस्तिका (Source Book)
- Man Against Violence** (Man Against Violence): (स्रोत संग्रहणी)
- Man Against Violence** (Man Against Violence): (स्रोत संग्रहणी)
- Predictors of Politics and Violence in Nepal**
- Impact Study Report on Locally Elected Women's Leadership Training Programme**
- सिंह स्वयं सम्पूर्ण सुदूर** (Singh Swam Samपूर्ण Sudur)
- समाजिक न्याय** (Social Justice): (स्रोत संग्रहणी)
- A Study on Gender and Judges**
- न्यायिक आकाशचिह्न** (Judicial Skyline): (स्रोत संग्रहणी)
- न्यायिक आकाशचिह्न** (Judicial Skyline): (स्रोत संग्रहणी)

Row 3:

- Threatened Himalayas, Threatened People**
- एकैको एकै पल** (One by One): (स्रोत संग्रहणी)
- PRIVATISATION: EXPECTATION AND REALITY**
- वातावरण संरक्षण सम्बन्धी मुद्दाहरूको संग्रहणी** (Environmental Protection Issues Collection)
- Selected Issues in Trade WTO and Nepal**
- नेपालको विकास** (Nepal's Development): (स्रोत संग्रहणी)
- नेपालमा सिमान्त क्षेत्र** (Nepal's Frontier Areas): (स्रोत संग्रहणी)
- International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture**
- सर्वजनिक सभा** (Public Assembly): (स्रोत संग्रहणी)
- Food Security in the Global Age: South Asian Dilemma**

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