

# Constitution Building e-Bulletin

A quick and easy way to update yourself on the latest CCD news.

#### Dear friends,

Please find below the **Constitution Building e-Bulletin, Volume 1, No. 4, 2010.** It contains information and resources of interest and relevance to those working in the field of Constitution Building in Nepal, as well as other citizens who are interested in keeping up to date on the fast-moving events in Nepal's progress toward a new constitution. The update is developed in conjunction with partners, including the Constituent Assembly (CA), the UN, donors, media, CSOs, INGOs and others. This information will also be posted on the Centre for Constitutional Dialogue (CCD) web site for easy access. We encourage you to share any helpful resources and information with the CCD media team for inclusion in future updates and on the website. Please forward your information with necessary attachments and web links to info@ccd.org.np. We hope that you will find this e-Bulletin interesting and helpful.

Sincerely,

**Centre for Constitutional Dialogue (CCD)** 

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# What's Happening at the Constituent Assembly (CA)

1. On 30 June 2010, Prime Minister Nepal announced his resignation in a televised address to the nation. The move came after extended controversy between the major parties over a "three-party agreement" between UCPN/M, NC and UML of 28 May 2010, which had paved the way for the extension of the mandate of the CA and included the resignation of the Prime Minister. According to

the Interim Constitution, Art. 38 (9), the existing Council of Ministers continues to function until a new one is constituted.

- 2. On 1 July, President Yadav formally asked the parties to form a new government on the basis of consensus and gave them a 'deadline' to do so by 7 July. This was later extended to 13 July upon request by the parties. According to the Interim Constitution, Art. 38 (1) and (2), "the Prime Minister shall be selected by political consensus and the Council of Ministers shall be formed under the chairpersonship of the Prime Minister. If consensus cannot be reached, the Prime Minister shall be elected by a majority of the total number of members present of the Legislature-Parliament." The provisions regarding the formation of a government do not foresee any role for the President (except taking the oath of the new Prime Minister), timelines or definitions of political consensus.
- 3. The formation of an all-party government, or at least a broader coalition of parties enjoying a two-thirds majority, and progress on a number of crucial aspects of the peace process (in particular the integration and rehabilitation of Maoist combatants) are seen as prerequisites for a resumption of the constitutional drafting process. Meanwhile, no final agreement has been found on a new timetable for completing the drafting process.
- 4. On 14 July, the CA Chairman and the three major parties agreed to form a 7-member State Restructuring Commission. The Commission will have a two-month tenure.
- 5. On 9 July, a joint meeting of 22 parties represented in the CA formally requested the three major parties, UCPN-Maoist, Nepali Congress and CPN-UML to take initiatives to form a national consensus government and also expressed their concern over the attempts to form a majority government, instead of forming a national consensus government.
- 6. As per Art. 96 (A) of the Interim Constitution ("Special arrangements regarding revenue and expenditure"), on 13 July, the parliament passed a bill proposed by the present caretaker government authorizing the spending of up to one-third of the actual expenditure of the preceding fiscal year. Since the Constituent Assembly elections in 2008, this is the second time this procedure has been applied.

#### **Contentious issues**

- 7. CA Chairman Subash Nembang has been actively engaging political party leaders with the aim to resume the constitutional drafting process and has obtained commitments for expediting the constitution writing process. On 5 July, Nembang held discussions with the chairpersons of the 11 Thematic Committees and chief whips of the CA parties on the contentious issues to be sorted out to draft a new constitution.
- 8. The political parties are working to prepare a drafting schedule that aims to accomplish the completion of the new Constitution within 9 months (i.e., the second week of April 2011). Although

the draft calendar has not been made public, there is likelihood of allocating 2 or 3 months for a public outreach programme, as specified in the original CA Workplan.

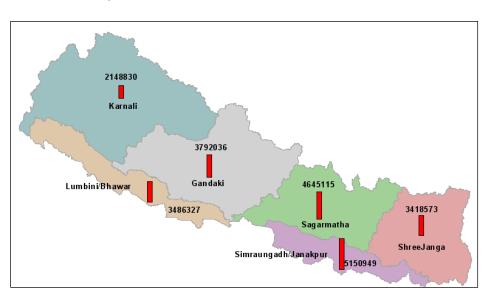
9. On 10 July, the UCPN-Maoist, at its parliamentary party office, presented its official stance on several contentious issues related to the peace and constitution building process. These positions relate to the YCL 'shelters', the establishment of a separate force for PLA combatants, the formation of a high level committee to address confiscated/seized property issues, and a timeline of two months for determining the number of combatants to be integrated in security forces. With regard to the constitutional drafting process as such, the Maoists proposed to resolve all contentious issues related to the new constitution within one month, form a State Restructuring Commission (however, without challenging the authority of the CA), complete the peace process before the adoption of the new Constitution and finalize the drafting process by mid-April 2011. However, the NC and UML rejected these proposals as an insufficient basis for agreeing on a consensus government.

#### **Toward a New Constitution and a Federal State Structure**

- 10. In the public debate about the future federal structure, the so-called "six-province"-model has been mentioned with increasing frequency by political leaders and commentators in recent weeks. Many who disagree with the 14-province model of the CA State Restructuring Committee claim that it would be too expensive or unsustainable, and that smaller provinces would not be viable. However, no solid research has yet been brought forward to support such claims.
- 11. The six-province model was one of two models proposed by a Sub-Committee of the CA State Restructuring Committee, along with another one based on 14 provinces. The Committee later voted to include only one model, largely based on the 14-province Sub-Committee proposal but with some significant variations, in its final report presented on 4 February. The six-province model appears to be favoured by the NC and other parties who are less keen on federalism, generally.
- 12. The characteristics of the six-province model are that it would divide Nepal into six provinces based on geographic/cultural conventions (Karnali, Lumbini/Bhawar, Gandaki, Sagarmatha, Simraungadh/Janakpur, and Shree Janga), and would have relatively balanced population sizes (see below). An effort appears to have been made to give all six provinces physical 'access' to the southern border with India. Like the 14-province proposal later suggested, the six-province model would also divide the areas of a number of existing districts.
- 13. The most significant difference between the two models becomes apparent when the composition of the provincial populations is compared. The 14-province model aims to delineate provinces on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The differences between the 14-province model put forward by the Sub-Committee with what the CA State Restructuring Committee finally adopted are that the former had proposed two separate provinces in both the Western Terai (Tharuhat and Western Madhes/Lumbini) and the Eastern Terai (Madhes and Birat), whereas the latter merged these into only two Terai provinces and added the provinces of Sherpa and Jadan.

the basis of concentrations of ethnic and linguistic communities, but would not create any provinces where ethnic groups form an actual majority (based on the available 2001 census figures). The provinces would include pluralities ("dominant groups") of, for example, Tamangs in Tamsaling, Newars in Newa, Gurungs in Tamuwan, etc. The six-province model, however, would result in a plurality of the Hill Brahmin/Chhetri group in five of the six provinces.



Population Distribution in the Six-Province Model

**Largest Group Percentages Based on Six-Province Model** 

Province	Population	Percentage of total	Largest group/category (%)
Simraungadh/Janakpur	5.1m	22.7 %	Yadav (14%)
Sagarmatha	4.6m	20.5 %	Hill Brahmin/Chhetri <sup>2</sup> (33.9)
Gandaki	3.8m	16.7 %	Hill Brahmin/Chhetri <sup>3</sup> (42.1)
Lumbini/Bhawar	3.5m	15.4 %	Tharu (26.9)
Shree Janga	3.4m	15.1 %	Hill Brahmin/Chhetri <sup>4</sup> (29.4)
Karnali	2.1m	9.5 %	Hill Brahmin/Chhetri <sup>5</sup> (67.6)

# What's Happening at the CCD

CCD Dialogue and Seminar Series: Federalism in Nepal: How will it work?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The single largest group would be Tamangs (20.7%), followed by Newars (18.2%).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Includes Thakuri and Sanyasi. The single largest group would be Magars (23.1%).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The largest groups would be Chettris (16%), followed by Rai (15.8%), Hill Brahmin (13.4%) and Limbu (9.9%).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Includes Thakuri and Sanyasi. The single largest group would be Chettris (45.9%).



These presentations by Nepali and international experts are designed to inform interested CA members, their staff, and the general Nepali public on the issues that must be addressed in the new Constitution and beyond

for Nepal to transition to a successful federal state. As you read about these interesting programs, you may wish to know more about the subjects. To obtain the full presentations or the PowerPoint slides for any of these programs please send an email request to: info@ccd.org.np.

"Can a Judiciary be Accountable without Compromising its Independence?" was conducted on June 21, 2010. The experts were Mr. John H. Sims and Prof. Ed Ratushny. The presentations focused on the theme of independence and accountability of the judiciary. The experts highlighted issues relating to rule of law, judicial appointments, requirements for accountability and independence of the judiciary, financial security, security of tenure and judicial administration. It was stressed that judicial independence is very essential for the public to have confidence in the judiciary, rule of law and in all public institutions, and that, the issue of

independence of judiciary is recognized as a fundamental principal both in Nepal and internationally. It was also clarified that separation of powers among the various organs of the state is vital and that, the three institutions of the state must respect the roles and responsibilities of the others as public confidence in one institution enhances confidence in the other two institutions. After the presentation, the floor



was opened for question and comments from the participants to which the experts responded.

A seminar, **Sherpa: Can a Small Province Thrive in Federalism?** was presented by Mr. Chandra Kanta Gyawali, Honourable Lucky Sherpa and Dr. Pradip Prasad Upadhyaya on 23 June 2010. Mr. Gyawali said that economic viability of the states should be the primary criteria for restructuring Nepal. Meanwhile, factors such as geographic compactness, addressing concerns about ethnic and linguistic identity should also be taken into account. The Honourable Lucky Sherpa said that Sherpa people demand an autonomous state because they were discriminated against for 240 years by state powers. Dr. Upadhyaya said that federalism helps in political, socio-economic and cultural development of the state. He also claimed that the proposed Sherpa state can be one of the strongest and successful states of Nepal.

A presentation on "Right to Self Determination: Contemporary Constitutional and

International Law Understanding" was held on June 25, 2010. Prof. Sujit Choudhry pointed out that there is a big gap between the legal and political understanding of right to self determination. He also expressed that, the conflict for self determination can surface in different spectrums, ranging from conventional politics, militant politics, and low level hostilities



to high level hostilities. He was of the opinion that international law does not guarantee the right to succeed as such and the right to secede is very limited to prevent utter chaos. Advocate Surendra Kumar Mahto, clarified that there is no universally accepted definition and understanding of 'right to self determination' and it has changed over a period of time. He expressed that nations with homogenous population do not generally have problems regarding the issue of right to self determination which the diversely populated nations have. He further emphasized that right to secede is an exception and applicable when a minority population is oppressed and dominated. After the presentation, the floor was opened for comments, questions and answers.

A seminar on Ensuring Dalit Rights in Constitution: an Indian Experience was jointly presented

by Ashok Bharti and Dr. Vivek Kumar on 30 June 2010. Mr. Bharti asserted that limited or no exposure to the constitution making and working of the government restricts effective participation of Dalit CA members in Nepal. Dalit CA members need exposure to the law making process. He also said that most of the political parties in Nepal are still hegemonic and are not accustomed to give adequate importance to the Dalits. While Dr. Vivek presented



statistics of the positive impacts of the reservation for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in India.

"Political Preferential Right: Arguments For and Against" was held on July 1, 2010. *Dr. Krishna Bhattachan* pointed out that the minorities (*Adhivasis, Janjatis, Dalits, Madhesis* and others) who have been subjected to historical oppression and discrimination should be given political preferential rights. He also stated that the terms used in the preliminary report of the

Committee on Restructuring of the State and Distribution of the state Powers, regarding political preferential rights, is confusing and not in favour of the minority population. He asserted that the proposed timeframe of political preferential right being limited only for a period of two years is erroneous and merely in name only. He also pointed out various international legal instruments which seek to justify political preferential right.



Advocate *Dinesh Tripathi*, stated that the new constitution needs to ensure broad based, inclusive, participatory democracy and the focus should shift from mere procedural democracy to a substantive one. He asserted that the provisions in the new constitution should be just, fair and reasonable. He expressed that massive political empowerment of marginalized and excluded communities is the need of the hour, but explicit use of the term 'political preferential right' cannot be found in any international instrument, as such. He stressed the importance of diversity of a nation and the need to reflect it in every institution and political organ. Thereafter, the floor was opened for a lively interaction.

A Panel Discussion on **Tamsaling Province: Coming in from the Periphery** was conducted on 2 July 2010. Mr. Parshuram Tamang said that many Tamang communities have been intentionally excluded from the proposed Tamsaling province which weakens the Tamsaling. Further he also

claimed that only preferential rights of the Tamang community and autonomy of Tamsaling would help to compensate for the loss and damage caused by 240 years of state based discrimination to the Tamang communities. Dr. Mahendra Lawoti said that centripetal institutions would bind the country and maintain national integrity. If regional interests are not protected



at the center and the center dictates the regions, the question of separatism could grow among dissatisfied regions. Another panelist Malla K. Sundar said that if there is dispute between Newa province and Tamsaling province it should be solved bilaterally with respect and good faith. Mukta Singh Lama presented an analytical picture of Tamsaling province with historical proofs and figures.

## Interview with Sunil Babu Pant, CA Member

A Belarus-educated computer engineer, the first openly gay lawmaker of Nepal, the first person to organize and establish an official organization to fight for sexual minorities in Nepal: these and many other attributes characterize 37 year old Sunil Babu Pant who not only represents sexual minorities of Nepal but who is also a proactive young CA member. Born and educated in Gorkha, it was only some 13 years ago he confirmed his identity as a third gender person. Since then he founded and is the current President of the Blue Diamond Society (BDS) which works

with local communities and on a national level to improve the sexual health, human rights and well being of sexual minorities in Nepal. The BDS is the only organization of its kind in Nepal.

**CCD:** What was your family's reaction after they came to know about your sexual identity?

**Pant:** In the beginning, they were upset but gradually they understood and accepted it.



Actually, they were sad not knowing the reality of my sexual orientation earlier. I had explained how a man was compelled to commit suicide in Kathmandu after he told his family he was gay. My mom initially was very worried about the risks that I was taking in being gay.

**CCD:** How did you become a CA member?

Pant: Well, I had never been interested in politics. However, the President of the Communist Party of Nepal (United) was interested in our activities and on the last day of nominations I got a call from them saying they wanted someone from the BDS to be a candidate for proportional representation in the Constituent Assembly elections. Since other members of our organization either did not have citizenship or were not registered as voters, I decided to put forward my candidacy. We mobilized Blue Diamond Society offices at the district level for garnering votes and I can proudly say that CPN (United) won 5 seats allocated by proportional representation in all fifteen districts where the BDS then had offices and could campaign. So I became a CA Member and began my campaign to contribute to the historic task of writing a new constitution for the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal.

**CCD:** How do you analyze the provisions in the thematic committees' report from a third gender perspective?

Pant: I must say that, so far, I am satisfied. I have devoted myself to drafting a new constitution that will embrace equality for all. In the preliminary draft of the Fundamental Rights Committee we got agreement from all major parties for the inclusion of provisions to ensure non-discrimination on grounds of gender and sexual orientation. Similarly, they have recognized the third gender and agree social security provisions will include all Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, and Transgendered (LGBT) people and that it will set out rights to a family for everyone, irrespective of gender or sex. This implies that Nepal's new constitution will specify that it is the right of any one 'person' to marry any other 'person' with no further definition. Having said this, I feel that practically all existing parties in Nepal support gay rights.

**CCD:** Bitter political in-fighting is something which Nepalis are used to. But whatever form of government ultimately emerges in Nepal, it seems ours will be one of the most liberal constitution in the world. You are also one of the young CA members. How is that helping you to organize other young CA members?

Pant: I had started a campaign for organizing young members against the traditional ways the leaders are guiding the nation. We collected the signatures of 250 CA members and handed them over to party leaders stating that consensus should be reached and the young CA members should be provided meaningful roles in constitution building. The older generation neither trusts us nor have they built trust amongst themselves. Thus, I even took time in the CA and said that the youngsters should be given more responsibilities to show a difference and make timely decisions. I think the present deadlock can be resolved if all young CA members exert pressure on their respective leaders.

Recently I along with some other youth CA members organized an interaction program inviting the top leaders of major parties to determine the ways and a timeline for reaching a solution on

the current political deadlock. We told them that we need to decide what responsibilities we need to bear and what sacrifices we need to make for this. The worsened scenario 28 May has made consensus and cooperation even more distant.

The constitutional assembly has now been extended by one year. The leaders are required to consider the national interest and apply themselves seriously to constitution building, peace process and national consensus. But they have not been able to do that. We, the CA members of the new generation, have worked laboriously over the past two years and the CA has completed around eighty per cent of the constitution building process. During the program we told them that the CA member of the new generation will take over the leadership and move forward in a similar manner if the leaders are not able to arrive at consensus and resume the task of constitution writing.

**CCD:** Finally, do you have a parting comment for the readers?

**Pant:** Yes. Please do not see sexual minorities as different creatures. They are not different and we can make a difference if given opportunities in every sector of social, cultural and political lives. The stigma and discrimination against sexual minorities are gradually changing. We believe that we should neither be discriminated against nor be treated specially. We are the same as any other citizens of this society. I also urge people from sexual minorities to respect their identity and be honest with their families and society.

# **SPCBN Civil Society Project Activities**

### Federalism Dialogues in Magrat and Lumbini-Awadh-Tharuwan Province

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> in the series of Federalism Dialogues, sponsored by the CCD, were held in the proposed capitol of Tansen (Magrat Province) on 24-26 June and Ghorahi (Lumbini-Awadh-Tharuwan Province) on 28-30 June. Both workshops focused on sensitizing local people and initiating informed dialogues on federalism, its application in Nepal, and its opportunities and challenges and to allow people of these provinces to voice their needs and recommend to the Constituent Assembly the language they would like in the new constitution. These dialogues were facilitated by the Professors Krishna Khanal and Professor Krishna Hachhetu of Tribhuwan University Central, Department of Political Science.

Considering the restructuring of the state by the State Restructuring Committee (SRC), the representative of Nepali Congress from Palpa argued that "though federalism has recognized the identity of some ethnic communities, the thread for the identity of other groups is fading away which may create conflict in the future." Further, he also stressed that Dalits, who are

the most highly affected by the discrimination in the unitary system, must have sufficient provisions for them.

Prof Hachhetu pointed out that the SRC has addressed the minorities in macro level but not in micro level. With this insight Maimoona Siddiki questioned, "how the issues of 40 lakh Muslims in Nepal can be addressed by the 14 provinces". She also added that unless and until Muslim identity has been recognized, again they will be held back from getting opportunities.

The long name of the Lumbini-Awadh-Tharuwan province was a major concern of the dialogue in Ghorahi. Prof. Khanal explained that against the principle that the largest ethnic population is recognized in the name of the province, Tharu is the second largest population in the province, not the second. Realizing the fact, the participants suggested that geographical continuity could be given by having the related VDC included in the Magrat or Karnali establish the majority of Tharu ethnic community in the province and recognize that ethnic identity creates more than one province in the Terai area.

Referring to Prof Khanal's urging to have informed dialogues, Ganesh Shreepali, the district committee member of UML from Gulmi said, "As the situation is in turmoil for making the constitution, this dialogue has broadened the knowledge of the participants and provided information, especially to the local leaders of different political parties so they can be more analytical in the constitution making process." He was hopeful that the dissemination of this information to a greater mass of people can involve more people in the process of constitution building of Federal Nepal.

## **BBC World Service Trust Activities**

Sajha Sawal aired the following programmes in May and June considering issues of utmost importance for Nepal's constitution building.

#### Rule of Law - 2 June 2010

Rule of law is taken as one of the major problems facing the country at the moment. Therefore, we recorded a programme on 2<sup>nd</sup> June on this critically important issue at the Nepal Tourism Board Hall with around 80 participants. Among the three panelsits, two of them were from major political parties, whereas the third was a well-known ex-beuracrat. Ram Nath Dhakal, Chairperson of a Parliamentary Committee, is responsible for looking into anomalies and irregularities pertaining to the implementation of rules and regularities from the State mechanism, while Surya Nath Upadhaya, Former Chief of the Commission for Investigation of Abuse of Authority, received acclaim for his stance and work when he headed the anti-

constitutional corruption body. The third panelist was Ekraj Bhandarj, UCPN Maoist CA Member cum lawyer. All panelsits agreed that due to the lack of honesty in political leadership, the country is facing a situation of lawlessness. They also shared their views on the implemention of laws.

#### Resolving Disputed Issues on Constitution Making - 5 June 2010

The tenure of the Constitutional Assmebly was extended by one more year on 28<sup>th</sup> May. This programme was recorded in Bakery Cafe, Kathmandu on 5 June and aired on 6 June. Parties had been discussing the prime-minister's post for the past week. This Sajha Sawal recording focused on the Constituent Assembly. Three top leaders of major political parties were on the panel with a hundred and fifty in the audience. The panelists were: Barshaman Pun 'Ananta' Politbureau member of UCPM Maoist, Narahari Acharya, Central Committee Member, Nepali Congress, and Upendra Yadav, President, Madhesi Janadhikar Forum. The Programme concluded that if the leaders are sincere, then the new constitution could be written in six months. According to the panelists, the major areas of dispute between poltical parties on the issues of constituent making included the federal structure of the country, the governance System, the voting system, and the judiciary. All the leaders agreed that if they can sit together and have mutual trust in each other, they can certainly come up with certain agreements, which could result in a new constitution written on time.

#### Role of Youth C.A. Members in Current Politics – 13 June 2010

This discussion was recorded at Nepal Tourism Board on 13th June with 80 youth participants from different organizations participating in the event. The panellists included 3 renowned young political leaders representating three major parties: Chandra Bahadur Thapa 'Sagar', CA Member from UCPNM, Dhanraj Gurung, CA Member from Nepali Congress and Rabindra Adhikaree C.A. Member from CPN UML. The youth leaders shared their views on issues like developing the nation; they all agreed that the most crucial problem facing the country is the problem of corruption. All of them promised that they would try their best to eradicate corruption in their respective parties and the nation, as well. At the same time, the Nepali Congress and UML leaders were against the Young Communist League and said their parties will not be forming such a youth group. Youth leaders promised to pressure their parties' top leaders to reach an agreement on the current political deadlock.

Two days after the program was recorded on 13th June, the youth leaders of various parties called for a get together of the top brass of different parties and gave a 10-day ultimatum to end the existing political mess.

#### Utilization of Natural Resources – 15 June 2010

Sajha Sawal recorded one more discussion on 'Utilization of Natural Resources.' The discussion was recorded at the Nepal Tourism Board audiotirum in Kathmandu on 15th June. This is a standby programme for broadcast in July. The audience was a good mix of students, people working in forest conservation, some scientists, and people from the public sector. The panel discussants were: Sarvajeet Nahato, Director General, Department of Mines and Geology, Sujeeb Shakya, Independent Economist, and Hari Roka, C.A. Member from the Natural Resources Committee. The panelists unanimously said that not enough research on Nepal's natural resources has been carried out. In addition, they also pointed at the lack of laws regarding the proper utilization of natural resources, adding that Nepal's resources have not been used properly due to political instability.

### Women's Perceptions on Current Politics – 17 June

• This programme was recorded at Nepal Tourism Board in Kathmandu on 17th June. Three renowned women leaders of three major parties of Nepal were challenged with questions and queries from the audience. Around 100 paricipants from different walks of life asked them questions on many an issue and on what vision the women leaders have so as to put an end to the current political stalemate. The panelists were: Dama Kumari Sharma, C.A. Member, UCPN Maoist, Suprava Ghimire, C.A. Member, Nepali Congress, and Radha Gyawali, C.A. Member, CPN- UML. It was seen that the women leaders blamed each other's party for the current political deadlock. They said they will try for women leadership in their respective parties, adding that they are raising their voices in the CA to address their issues.

## **CB Resources and Recent Publications**



In his paper, Mainstreaming Environmental Rights in the New Constitution: Right to a Clean and Healthy Environment, Advocate L.B. Thapa asserts that almost all the constitutions formulated after 1992 have enshrined the right to clean and healthy environment. Thapa asserts that the opportunity for all-round development of the present and future generations could be guaranteed if, at least, the provisions he suggests were to be incorporated under the Fundamental Rights section of the new Nepal Constitution.

**Federalism and Water Resources in Nepal**. In water resources is as important as other issues such as nationality, economy, structural arrangements, administration, security perspective and national integrity. In this presentation, Ratna Shrestha addresses the challenges of water resources management in the federal context. What will be the model of the constitution? What kinds of provisions relating to water resources should be included in it? The paper suggests the importance of having the Constituent Assembly (CA) discuss the utilization of water resources, and formulates necessary provisions by arriving at a proper decision while adopting federalism in the country and addressing these issues in the new Constitution.





This report, in Nepali and English, on Environmental Federalism by Narayan Belcose, a senior environmental legal expert, discusses appropriate distribution of environmental resources, services or goods among the federal, provincial and local government in a federal structure and suggests what should be included in the new Nepal constitution to protect the environment.

The publications above were presented papers at a dialogue session conducted in March, 2010 cosponsored by UNDP (SPCBN) and the World Conservation Union-Nepal (IUCN), along with other contributing partners ICIMOD, Nepal Ministry of Environment, NTNC, UNEP, and WWF.



### Public Awareness and Participation Campaign 2009-10 - Awareness Booklet.

This 60 page primer has been published and attractively printed in Nepali by the UNDP (SPCBN) Civil Society Project. The theme is: "Let's Make Public Partici-pation Effective in the Constitution Building Process." The booklet discusses why it important to participate in constitution building for every citizen, discusses how to make submissions, and finally covers in some detail each part of the Constitution by outlining the proposed provisions provided thus far by each CA thematic committee in their reports. This is a perfect resource for students and activists, alike. The CCD library has copies for distribution to those who request copies.