

MONTHLY UPDATES

August, 2023

Three Clusters formed by NOC

On August 1st, the World Social Forum 2024 Nepal Organizing Committee (NOC) formed three working clusters with the aim of consolidating previous efforts and formulating an action plan. These clusters are as follows:

- Research, Communication, Documentation and Media Cluster
- Program/Methodology, Liaison, Logistic, Cultural, and Volunteer Management Cluster
- Resource Mobilization Cluster

The primary objective is to assess past accomplishments and chart an effective course of action. The action plans devised by these clusters encompass several tasks, including collaborating with thematic committees for documentation, crafting a code of conduct for WSF 2024 Nepal, enhancing digital branding, managing ICT aspects of the pre- and post-event phases, coordinating communication with local, provincial, national, and international journalists and media outlets, launching campaigns in all seven provinces of Nepal, conducting meetings and discussions, organizing side events at national, regional, and international levels, collaborating with academic institutions and universities, liaising with government agencies, mapping the sizes of halls and rooms, holding meetings with Hotel Association of Nepal (presumably an organization or entity), collecting contact information for small and medium-sized hotels, and coordinating with campuses for venue arrangements. It's worth noting that these clusters include the coordinators of each respective sub-committee.

WSF International Facilitation Group Meeting

World Social Forum International Council Facilitation Group meeting was held on 11 August 2023. The meeting discussed and made a decision to form some committees including both the volunteer members from Nepal Organizing Committee (NOC), Asia Pacific Social Forum- Facilitation Committee (APSF-FC), and International Council (IC). Based on the meeting's decision, Mobilization, Methodology, Communication and Documentation, Finance and Resource facilitation groups were formed.

APSF Organizing Committee Weekly Meetings

Altogether three Asia Pacific Social Forum Organizing meetings were held in the month of August. All the three meetings mainly highlighted on the WSF2024Nepal side event in ASEAN Civil Society Conference, progress and updates on the preparatory activities by Nepal Organizing Committee. Likewise, the meeting also underscored on the speakers to be invited in the opening and closing ceremony and during the thematic sessions. The meeting primarily suggested to make an action plan on the logistics and to work on it without delay as the WSF2024Nepal is approaching. The members of the APSF-FC feedback on mapping of the venues for sessions and keeping record in database. Similarly, the meetings also focused on the website of the forum.

Methodology sub-committee meetings

The methodology sub-committee convened two meetings on August 10 and 18, respectively. Throughout both gatherings, the primary focus was on thematic areas, the program's structure and schedule. There was a comprehensive discussion regarding the forum's themes, their descriptions, the selection of speakers, the registration process, and the space requirements for assemblies and activities. These meetings culminated in the development of an action plan for the preparatory phase, with themes being finalized with the team's consensus.

Furthermore, it was decided during these meetings to incorporate a hybrid mode for thematic sessions, based on recommendations from various organizations across different continents. While all programs are essentially self-organized, Nepal-based organizations are prepared to facilitate and coordinate them if necessary. Thematic assemblies will have access to high-speed internet, projectors, screens, sound systems, and volunteer or support systems, while spaces and Wi-Fi will be provided for sessions and activities.

Communication and ICT Sub-Committee meetings

The ICT members gave an update and also showcased the WSF2024 website in the meeting for review and feedbacks. Firstly, a proposal to prepare a proper agenda and a meeting Calendar was made. Secondly, the Secretariat along with the other committee members pointed on some crucial issues like adding accommodation and travelling quick links in the website, making the website disability friendly, to arrange an interpreter for online meeting and to prepare one statement for the Logo. Additionally, Translation work in different language was also encouraged by the members. In conclusion, decision was made to work on the issues brought in the meeting.

On August 30th, an IC and Nepal Communication meeting was organized. The discussion focused on the communication strategy and action plan for WSF2024 Nepal. The conversation focused on spreading the information about WSF2024 and utilizing the various platforms for promotion. IC members agreed that they will respond to Nepal's action plan at the next meeting. The group determined to have a regular update meeting.

Liaison Sub-Committee meeting

Liaison Sub-Committee met with the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology and briefed about the WSF2024Nepal.

International Council Meeting

The International Council Meeting on August 31 discussed an accommodation fund and the parliamentary forum. Some IC members suggested having 3-4 larger forums instead of multiple side events. There was also a call for active IC involvement in the forum and the inclusion of speakers from Latin America and Africa by IC and APSF-FC members.



NGC & NOC meeting

In the Nepal General Council (NGC) and Nepal Organizing Committee (NOC) meeting held at Padma Kanya Campus on 21 August 2023 coordinators of each subcommittee updated on the activities they have done as a part of preparatory process. The Coordinator of Methodology briefed on the overview of the core themes and detailed action plan encompassing a Solidarity March, Opening Program, Thematic Assemblies, Convergence, and Closing Program. The Logistic sub-committee, announced plans to sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for academic collaboration with Padma Kanya Campus. The coordinator of mobilization sub-committee, shared to adopt digital media an action plan for engaging national, regional, and international communities' highlighting their connection with a 600-member strong WhatsApp group and ongoing email collection. The resource mobilization sub-committee coordinator updated on the resource and finance status and a projection for essential operational activities.

Crowdfunding methods were also discussed as a means of resource mobilization. The ICT & Communication sub-committee shared Communication & ICT updates, outlining website details and the registration process. The Intercontinental Youth Forum (IYF) coordinator reported on the finalization of 9 themes, venue, and aspirations to gather 10,000 youths.

A significant decision for individuals was made to make registration fees not mandatory; those willing to pay will pay those who are not, will be exempted. But the organisations must pay the registration fee.



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