

National Campaign for Education Nepal

Global Action Week for Education 2022

#GAWE2022

Background

The Global Action Week for Education (GAWE) stands as an annual flagship program for educational movement. This is celebrated every year during the last week of April and is designed to draw the attention of the governments to fulfill their commitment on right to inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong opportunities for all, ultimately contributing to SDG 4. Key education activists all over the world join together to advocate and campaign for right to education. A week-long campaign led by Global Campaign for Education (GCE) at the global level and its member CSOs in the regions and countries is celebrated. More than 100 countries show solidarity in this movement. Each year a specific theme is defined for the campaign. NCE Nepal has been a part in this campaign since 2003 and led GAWE related advocacy, campaigning, community mobilization, networking and partnership in Nepal.

This year the campaign was celebrated from 25th April to 29th April with the theme '**Protect Education in Emergency Now**'. This year too NCE Nepal and its member organizations celebrated GAWE massively through organizing campaigns, discourses, interaction programs, conferences, sit-in program, demonstration, appeal submission, rallies and mobilization media including social media at local, district, province and federal level with a key message 'Protect Public Education in all situations such as emergency, pandemic, disasters or any kind of political activities. During the GAWE campaign, the country was in the context of local election. Hence, NCE Nepal took GAWE campaign as an opportunity to engage with political parties and legislatures from local to federal level to advocate with them for prioritizing educational agenda in their election manifesto and election campaign to ensure free, qualitative and inclusive education for all. This year, GAWE campaign was amplified with massive social media mobilization as well as dissemination of messages and informative posters, pamphlets and stickers along with flex with CSO demands and these were pasted in the public places too. Key messages were aired through local radios. In this campaign, there was wider participation of education rights activists, NCE Nepal members, civil society organizations, parliamentarians, government officials, political party leaders, youths, parents, and people with disabilities, LGBTIQ, teachers and students.



Solidarity of different stakeholders in Sit-In Program at Matighar demanding for Public Education Strengthening and Education in Emergencies.

advocated during the campaign were included in the election manifesto of the major political parties and there was positive response from the political candidates to prioritize public education during the education policies and plans preparation.

Highlights of GAWE's Campaign

NCE Nepal, its member and partner organizations and various civil society organizations carried out the campaign in different modalities to draw the attention of the government and political party leaders towards the issues of public education. The advocacy campaign encompassed the issues like increase investment in education especially during the time of emergencies, implementation of free and compulsory education policy, tax justice for education, equity and inclusion in education, education governance, no privatization in/of education, youths and their empowerment etc. Members of NCE Nepal and representatives from partner organizations and CSOs and community participation was really a remarkable to succeed the campaign. Some of the campaigns conducted during the GAWE are as follows;



#GAWE 2022 Celebration at Districts



▣ Protest Action

Civil Society organizations, NCE Nepal's members, partners, youths, students, parents, organizations and people working with people with disabilities, LGBTIQ took part in the peaceful demonstration at the public place to show the solidarity with GAWE 2022 the different levels like; local, province and federal level. They took part with pamphlets, posters and placards that carry the messages and demands of CSOs. Those protest action were able to show the solidarity by the CSOs in the GAWE campaign and also to create civic pressure for free, equitable, inclusive and quality public education.

Mainly the CSOs demanded for protection of education during emergency, investment in public education with an additional budget to recover the learning loss due to COVID 19, prioritization of education during the local elections, vote for education, improve quality of education in public schools, etc.

In addition to the demonstration at the national level, NCE Nepal's district coalitions; Doti, Surkhet, Chitwan, Dolakha, Kaski, Udayapur also carried out the same at their level.



CSOs from different local levels taking part in GAWE Campaign and raising voices for Education in Emergencies and Fund for Education.

Community Mobilization

NCE Nepal massively mobilized the community peoples with the participation of local CSOs, women groups, youths, students, parents and community people during the GAWE 2022 campaign. The voices of the community people; like youths, children, women, dalits, indigenous, people with disability, single women and LGBTIQ were ensured in the campaign through awareness raising events, workshops, interaction, discourse and protests at the community level. Community people demanded for more investment in ICT based teaching and learning practices, practical and job-oriented skills in education, gender-friendly infrastructures in schools, scholarship for children from poor, vulnerable and deprived communities and these demands were included in the NCE Nepal's position which was submitted to local, province and federal government and different political parties etc.

Policy Discourse

One of the approach to observe the GAWE 2022 was conducting discourse and interaction with education stakeholders, civil societies and community people. This helped to discuss the agenda of public education including financing, education plan, policies, education in emergencies etc.



Activities performed at community levels so as to promote public education in solidarity of youth, women and communities people.

Policy Discourse at Local Level

NCE DCC Banke, Surkhet, Parbat, Makwanpur, Dolakha and Udaypur held citizen led policy discussions, interaction programs, conferences and radio dialogues with the political party leaders, government officials and parliamentarians to make them accountable on their commitments for public education and prioritization of education in any kind of emergencies and political campaigns. The programs emphasized to make educational agenda as priority agenda of political parties and priority area of nation's prosperity and development. The participants in these programs asked for more investment in the education sector, allocation of budget to facilitate learning during emergency, effective implementation of SDG 4 and ownership of local government towards it. These discourses influenced the candidates of local level elections to prioritize education in their election manifestos and showed their commitment for their well implementation.



Discourse and Discussions program for making the stakeholders responsible and accountable for attaining the educational rights as envisioned in the SDG4 and constitution of Nepal.

Province Level

As part of GAWE celebration, Province level dialogues were also held in Lumbini Province, Gandaki Province and Sudurpaschim Province. These programs helped to reflect on the specific context and educational challenges of the provinces as well as the innovative and exemplary works done by the province governments in the education sector. It also supported in strategic planning of educational policies and programs of the province governments. It highlighted on the commitment of province parliamentarians, government officials and political party leaders for prioritizing the agenda of education. These dialogues helped to emphasize on the coordination between the province, local and federal governments for smooth implementation of educational policies.



Participants during the sudurpaschim province level discourse program demanding for Right to Education.



Ms. Bishnu Maya Thapa Magar, Member of Lumbini Province Planning Commission highlighting on capacitating the public schools quality and inclusive learning.



Participants during the discussion program.

National Level

At the national level, an interaction program was held with the major political party leaders to emphasize on education as a political agenda and prioritize the education sector in the election manifestoes of the political parties. The program was participated by more than 65 different civil society organizations who provided various suggestions to strengthen the public education system with the leadership of the political party leaders.

These suggestions were well documented and submitted to the political parties for supporting in the development of election manifestoes



Interaction program conducted for providing suggestions to the political party leaders in regard to the strengthen of public education in election manifesto.



Participants in hall during the discourse program on Education in Local Election Manifestos of Political Parties.

and making them accountable on their commitments. The major suggestions included preparing disaster reduction plan at every local level, making education system more equitable and inclusive with equal rights to children with disability and gender minorities, ending privatization and commercialization of education, provision of counsellor in schools, reducing the digital divide in education, etc. The program also helped to analyze the progress made by the political parties since the last election five years ago.

Appeal, Delegation and Submissions

NCE Nepal prepared 20 points CSO suggestions and appeal based on the member consultation, discourse and suggestions received from community citizen and the appeal and suggestions were submitted by NCE Nepal, its member organization and district coordination committees to the local, province and federal government on improving the public education system. In the suggestion issues of prioritizing public education in political parties agenda, education plans, policies and budget, issues related to CSO led monitoring of policy implementation, issue of teacher development etc were included.



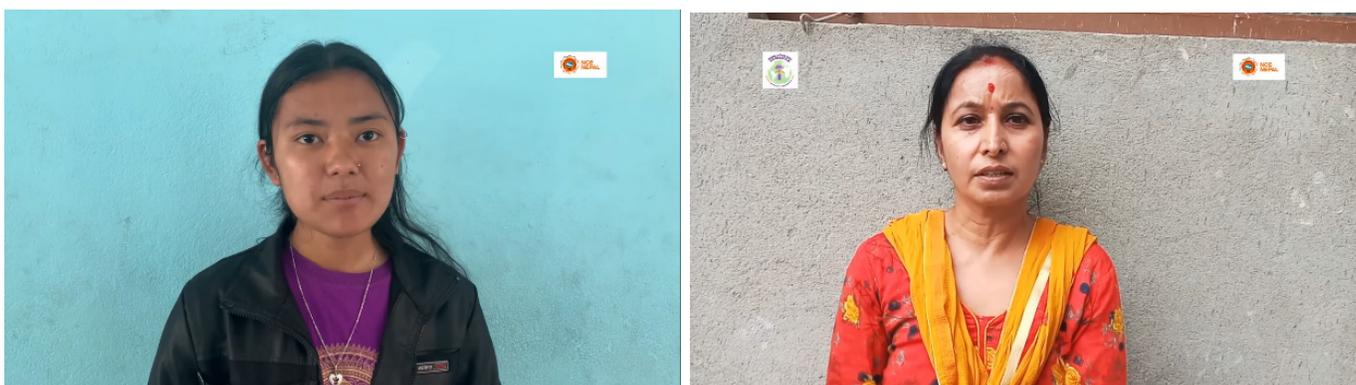
Dissemination and Publicity

The campaign was made more public and visible with the wider dissemination of campaign related materials and its publicity. Fact sheet depicting the situation of education inequities, pamphlets containing the civic demands on public education were prepared and disseminated. Similarly, stickers with catchy messages for accountability of stakeholders in education were also designed and distributed to education stakeholders, youths and community people for generating more awareness on educational issues. In addition to physical distribution and dissemination, they were massively made publicized through social media particularly facebook.



Media Mobilization

NCE Nepal capitalized its social media platforms to disseminate the messages of the campaign in the form of videos, infographics, posts and slogans. Stakeholders' voices mainly from students, youths and parents were captured where they expressed their perspective on the role of the local governments for strengthening public education sector and they were shared.



Informative slogans were posted in social media to educate and aware the local people for demanding commitment from the local level leaders and election candidates to prioritize the education sector in the local level elections.

Regular updates, photos and news of local, district, province and national level campaigns was shared in NCE Nepal's Facebook's page for wider dissemination and enlarging solidarity of other CSOs and stakeholders into the campaign.

Photo Gallery



