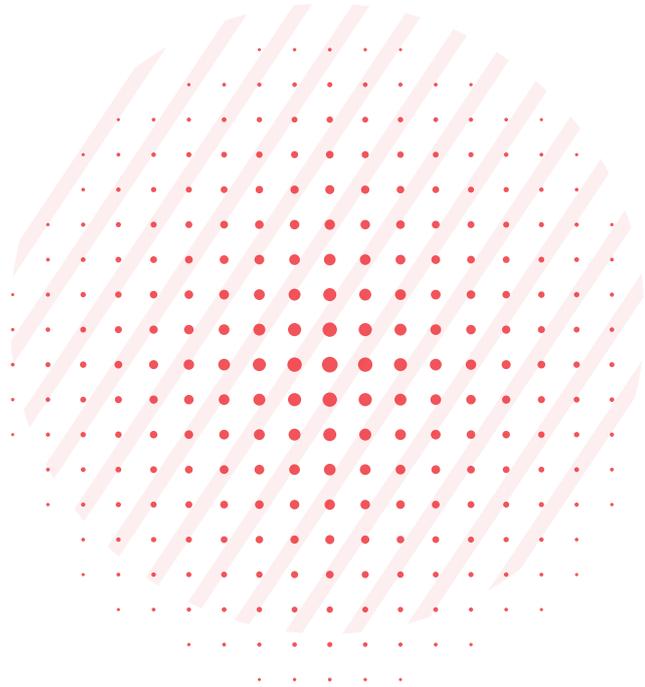


Civil Society Submission: Recommendations on Financing for Development (FfD4)

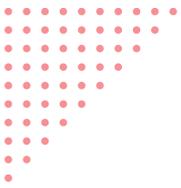


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**To:**

Hon. Bishnu Prasad Poudel
Minister of Finance
Government of Nepal

Cc:

Final Drafting Committee Representatives, FfD4

From:

TaxED Alliance · TAFJA Nepal · ActionAid International

Date:

28 April 2025

INTRODUCTION

The Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) must deliver **structural and transformative reforms** to the global economic and financial systems. As a member of the **FfD4 Final Drafting Committee**, Nepal must advocate for strong, systemic outcomes rooted in **equity, human rights, and climate justice**. In this context, Nepali civil society organizations (CSOs) submit the following **action area-based recommendations**, along with the **full proposed language** to be incorporated into the FfD4 Outcome Document.

ACTION AREA I: Strengthening Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM)

Primary Policy Asks:

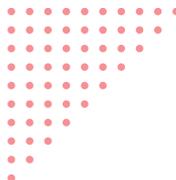
- Advocate for the establishment of a UN Tax Convention and an inclusive, intergovernmental UN Tax Body.
- Address illicit financial flows and corporate tax avoidance and abuses.
- Advance progressive taxation policies to sustainably fund social protection systems and public services.

Proposed Language for the Outcome Document

“We commit to establish a legally binding United Nations Convention on Tax to create an inclusive, transparent, and equitable international tax system. We agree to create an intergovernmental UN Tax Body with universal membership and decision-making authority.”

“We further commit to implementing automatic exchange of information, public country-by-country reporting, beneficial ownership transparency, and measures to eliminate illicit financial flows.”





ACTION AREA II: INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Primary Policy Asks:

- Ensure that development cooperation is public, grant-based, and rights-centered.
- End reliance on blended finance mechanisms and privatized ODA models.
- Mainstream feminist principles and promote genuine country ownership.

Proposed Outcome Document Language:

“We commit to prioritize public and grant-based development cooperation, rejecting the use of public resources to subsidize private profits through blended finance and public-private partnerships.”

“We reaffirm the principles of country ownership, human rights-based development, and feminist financing to ensure that development cooperation is equitable, inclusive, and accountable.”

ACTION AREA III: INTERNATIONAL TRADE AS AN ENGINE FOR DEVELOPMENT

Primary Policy Asks:

- Promote fair trade rules that protect development policy space.
- Oppose investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) mechanisms.
- Ensure that trade agreements respect human rights, labor rights, and environmental standards.

Proposed Outcome Document Language

“We commit to reform international trade regimes to promote equitable, sustainable development and safeguard the right of states to regulate in the public interest.”

“We reject the inclusion of investor-state dispute settlement (ISDS) mechanisms that undermine state sovereignty and human rights obligations.”

ACTION AREA IV: DEBT AND DEBT SUSTAINABILITY

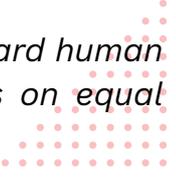
Primary Policy Asks:

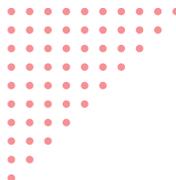
- Establish a multilateral sovereign debt workout mechanism under UN auspices.
- Promote debt cancellation where necessary.
- End the privileged status of private creditors.

Proposed Outcome Document Language:

“We commit to establish a fair, transparent, and independent multilateral sovereign debt workout mechanism under the auspices of the United Nations.”

“We recognize the need for debt cancellation, restructuring, and relief to safeguard human rights and sustainable development, and affirm the inclusion of all creditors on equal terms.”





ACTION AREA V: ADDRESSING SYSTEMIC ISSUES

Primary Policy Asks:

- Democratize the governance of the IMF, World Bank, and all international financial institutions (IFIs).
- Advance systemic reforms to build an equitable global economic system.
- Prioritize human rights obligations over investor interests.

Proposed Outcome Document Language:

“We commit to reform the governance structures of the IMF, World Bank, and other international financial institutions to ensure democratic representation and accountability.”

We affirm that international economic decision-making must prioritize human rights, gender equality, climate justice, and environmental sustainability over narrow investor and corporate interests.”

CROSS-CUTTING PRIORITIES: CLIMATE JUSTICE AND GENDER EQUALITY

Climate Finance

Primary Policy Asks:

- Secure new, additional, and grant-based public climate finance.
- Reject market-based false solutions like carbon trading.

Proposed Outcome Document Language:

“We commit to deliver new, additional, predictable, and grant-based public climate finance for mitigation, adaptation, and loss and damage, separate from ODA obligations.”

“We reject reliance on market-based mechanisms and reaffirm that climate finance must be based on the principles of climate justice and historical responsibility.”

Gender Justice

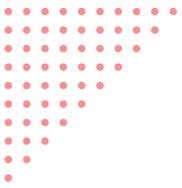
Primary Policy Asks:

- Ensure gender-responsive budgeting.
- Integrate intersectional feminist analysis in all financing decisions.

Proposed Outcome Document Language:

“We commit to ensuring that all financing policies and frameworks advance gender equality, women’s rights, and feminist principles. We will implement gender-responsive budgeting and guarantee the full, equal, and meaningful participation of women and marginalized communities in all decision-making processes.”





CONCLUSION

Nepal's Leadership at FfD4: A Call for Transformative Action

Nepal's leadership at the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) is pivotal. By aligning with bold, rights-based global civil society demands, Nepal has the opportunity to champion a financing system that serves people, the planet, and shared prosperity.

Civil society organizations in Nepal urge the Government to advocate strongly for the inclusion of these proposed commitments in the final FfD4 Outcome Document.

We stand ready to support and collaborate with the Ministry of Finance and Nepal's delegation to achieve a truly transformative outcome at FfD4.

