



# **WORLD SOCIAL FORUM 2024**

## **SOLIDARITY STATEMENT FROM ACTIONAID AND ALLIES**

19 February 2024

ActionAid and allies, gathered at the World Social Forum in Kathmandu, reaffirm our commitment to work with communities, peoples' organisations, social movements, young people, women's groups, and others to overcome the structural causes and consequences of poverty and injustice.

We believe that change is possible, and it is rooted in the individual and collective actions of those most affected – through People Power. Rooting work in deepened democracy, meaningful participation, and campaigning for just and credible alternatives, we will collaborate with movements and coalitions, supported by global solidarity.

We acknowledge the power of young people as leaders and agents of change, both now and in the future, and that they are central to leading and facilitating many movements in demanding radical, political and systemic change.

We demonstrate our unwavering solidarity with the people of Palestine who have been under siege and occupation for decades. We support the struggles to uphold human rights and social justice in Myanmar, Syria, Afghanistan and in other countries across the world, where rights are in crisis and duties of assistance and protection are disregarded.

In Kathmandu, we deliberated with allies on climate justice, labour rights and decolonisation of aid and as a result, we demand the following:

### **CLIMATE JUSTICE NOW: WE MUST TRANSFORM THE EXTRACTIVE ECONOMIC MODEL!**

- Stop investing in fossil fuels and industrial agriculture.
- Redirect investment towards a real solution: renewable energy and agroecology that centres the rights of indigenous people, local communities, women, and vulnerable communities.

### **INFORMALISATION OF LABOUR IS UNJUST**

- We demand universal social protection. We demand dignity, safety, and justice for the rights of all informal workers and those in the gig economy. We demand accountability from stakeholders across the supply chain.
- We must guarantee safe and violence free working space for informal workers.
- We demand the freeing of all bonded labourers in agriculture, brick kilns, domestic work, and other sectors and the immediate and just rehabilitation of all freed bonded labour communities.

### **DECOLONISATION OF AID IS URGENT FOR EQUALITY AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE**

- We demand debt cancellation for nations and all indebted and bonded people.
- We strongly reject regressive conditionality and the austerity measures that comes from the IMF and is adopted by many Ministries of Finance. There is an alternative.
- We call for sustainable public financing through ambitious and progressive tax reforms to finance quality public services and end privatisation.



## SIGNATORIES

- ActionAid
- Chitwan Sakriya Women's Foundation
- Dalit Awareness Society (DAS)
- Dalit Jana Kalyan Yuba Club (DJKYC)
- Deurali Society
- Divya Development Resource Centre (DDRC)
- Equality Development Center Nepal (EDC-Nepal)
- Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal (FECOFUN)
- Food Security Network (KHANI), Bangladesh
- Freed Kamaiya Society (FKS)
- Freed Kamalari Development Forum (FKDF)
- Freed Kamaiya Women Development Forum (FKWDF)
- General Federation of Nepalese Trade Unions (GEFONT)
- General Strike Committee of Nationalities, Myanmar
- Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP)
- Initiative for International Dialogue, The Philippines
- Integrated Community Development Campaign (ICDC)
- Kamaiya Mahila Jagaran Samaj Nepal (KMJS)
- Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Centre (KIRDARC)
- LDC Watch
- Makwanpur Mahila Samuha
- National Campaign for Women's Rights
- Nepal Mahila Ekata Samaj (NMES)
- Pacific Island Feminist Alliance
- Participatory Research & Action Network- PRAAN, Bangladesh
- Purple Foundation
- RadhaKrishna Tharu Jana-Sewa Kendra (RKJS)
- Rastriya Harwa-Charwa Adhikar Manch
- Rastriya Mukta Haliya Samaj Mahasangha (RMHSF-Nepal)
- Rural Reconstruction Nepal (RRN)
- Siddhartha Social Development Center (SSDC)
- Social Resource Development Center Nepal (SRDCN)
- South Asia Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE)
- Tax and Fiscal Justice Alliance Nepal (TAFJA)
- The Milk Tea Alliance, Asia
- Visual Rebellion, Myanmar
- Women I Tok Tok Tugetha, Vanuatu
- Youth Advocacy Nepal (YAN)



**ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE !**

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