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IDSN Annual Report 2021-2022



International Dalit Solidarity Network

WORKING GLOBALLY AGAINST CASTE-BASED DISCRIMINATION

## IDSN Annual Report 2021-2022

By International Dalit Solidarity Network (IDSN) • Issue #4 • View online

### IDSN Annual Report 2021-22

The IDSN Annual Report 2021-22 covers key developments and activities within IDSN's work under the thematic areas Dalit women and gender justice, business and human rights and equality and participations. The report can be downloaded [here](#).

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### The highlights of the report include:

- Caste-hate speech report released at UN side-event
- IDSN collaborates with AFWA to end caste and gender based violence in the garment sector
- UN Special Rapporteurs on Violence against Women and Extreme Poverty meet with Dalit defenders
- Dalit defenders speak out at the EU-NGO Forum on economic, social and labour rights
- IDSN calls for action to end caste discrimination in supply chains at the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights
- Dalit activists highlight caste discrimination at the European Development Days IDSN virtual stand
- IDSN promotes two films featuring Dalit women as key agents of change in India and Nepal
- IDSN inputs in the revision of the OECD guidelines, EU mandatory due diligence processes and forced labour tool
- UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty calls for action on caste discrimination during Nepal visit

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### Meet the newest IDSN Members

In 2021, IDSN was thrilled to welcome new members and affiliates to our network, bringing each their unique and valuable set of skills and insight. We are delighted to introduce them here.

#### BANGLADESH

##### [Parittran](#)

Founded in 1993, by a group of Dalit students, Parittran brings experience and know-how on the situation of

Dalit communities in Bangladesh and the need for action. The movement, formally an NGO, is a Dalit social action group working to improve the lives of Dalits in Bangladesh through advocacy, empowerment and capacity building efforts. Parittran is also dedicated to building Dalit youth leadership.

#### SRI LANKA

##### [Human Development Organization](#) (HDO)

HDO's foundational blocks were laid in 1992 and the organization brings a long history of knowledge and engagement with caste discrimination in Sri Lanka to IDSN. The organisation works for a just and equitable Sri Lanka and seeks to fulfil its mission through people centred participatory and sustainable development projects around the environment, human rights and gender balance for social change. HDO works directly with underprivileged communities in Sri Lanka.

#### NEPAL

##### [Association For Dalit Women's Advancement of Nepal](#)

ADWAN was founded in 1998, by a group of Dalit women, to empower disadvantaged women through a combination of education and economic empowerment. ADWAN supports girls and women of Dalit and marginalized groups with education, economic empowerment for better livelihood and sensitisation on human rights to help them escape from inequality, oppression and poverty. The process of enhancing women's empowerment directly affects their life with education, awareness of human rights and skills training to have access to quality decent work.

##### [Dalit Alliance for Natural Resources](#) (DANAR)

DANAR was founded in 2009, by Dalits, women and other excluded forest activists in Nepal and brings unique knowledge, on the nexus of caste and socially inclusive natural resource management.

DANAR's mission is to ensure Dalit community representation and participation in access to natural resources and biodiversity. It aims to influence policies and programmes for equitable natural resource management and distribution, by promoting justice, social inclusion and good governance through advocacy and empowerment.

##### [Samata Foundation](#)

Samata Foundation founded in 2009, brings solid expertise, research, and evidence-based advocacy, on Dalit human rights in Nepal. The foundation engages in research both empirical and policy, and informed advocacy for the rights of Dalits. It operates from the outset that real change can only be brought by producing critical youth mass of Dalits and non-Dalits, disseminating knowledge, encouraging civic participation and supporting Dalit defenders to become leaders of the next generation.

#### PAKISTAN

##### [Center for Law & Justice](#) (CLJ)

The CLJ was founded in 2011, and brings key expertise on the situation of marginalised groups in Pakistan, including Dalits, religious minorities and sanitation workers. CLJ aims to ensure free and fair access to human rights for the underprivileged and marginalised communities in Pakistan. The organisation engages in legal, legislative, and cultural issues through research, fact-finding, litigation, advocacy and legal aid, and engaging the community and other stakeholders. The Center also runs the internationally recognised campaign 'Sweepers are Superheroes', which seeks dignity and safety for sanitation workers.

#### INDIA

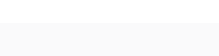
##### [The Blue Club](#)

The Blue Club was started in 2015 to amplify the voices of marginalised women and sexual and gender minorities. With content on topics such as mental health, the #metoo movement, trans womens rights etc. TBC's work goes a long way in providing a platform for society to think critically about the 'everydayness' of caste and gender discrimination and challenge the systems and hierarchies that underpin this. TBC also launched a unique Media Fellowship program for Dalit Women and LGBTQIA+ persons on community journalism as an important tool for change.

##### [National Dalit Christian Watch](#) (NDCW) \*joined in 2020

NDCW aims to eliminate 'caste' from the Christian Church and ensure 'dignity, equality, space and justice' to Dalit Christians within the Church and its domains. The organisation brings specific knowledge on the issues of marginalised Dalit Christians in India to IDSN working on inclusion and representation of Dalits at all levels of the Church, the need for caste-based reservations and quotas for Dalit Christians in India and leadership building.

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