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**24thAnnual Human Rights & People’s Diplomacy Training Program in partnership with**

**INSEC, Nepal**

**November 3 – November 19, 2014**

**Call for Applications**

The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) and INSEC Nepal are calling for applications for DTP’s **24th Annual Human Rights and People’s Diplomacy Training Program for Human Rights Defenders from the Asia-Pacific Region and Indigenous Australia.**

This annual, comprehensive human rights and advocacy training course is the longest established human rights training program held in the region. It builds knowledge of international human rights standards and the UN system, and their relevance to advocacy on a wide range of human rights concerns. There are intensive sessions on human rights and development, advocacy and media skills.

Civil society advocacy has a vital role to play in closing the gap between agreed human rights standards and their implementation. The advocacy and engagement of civil society is a key driver of better governance, of accountability. Participation is recognised as essential to sustainable development outcomes, and effective participation requires both knowledge and skills.

This course will increase the capacity of civil society advocates to engage effectively with governments and others – locally, nationally and internationally. It will equip participants with the knowledge, skills and confidence to engage in dialogue and will build their support networks.

**WHO SHOULD APPLY FOR THE TRAINING?**

The program is for human rights defenders working with NGOs in the Asia-Pacific region committed to developing and sharing their knowledge and skills in human rights advocacy. Consideration is given to ensuring a gender and geographical balance within each course.

**WHAT WILL PARTICIPANTS LEARN?**

* Knowledge of international human rights law and principles, including civil and political, economic, social and cultural rights;
* Knowledge of and practical advocacy skills around the relationship between development, poverty and human rights, the human rights based approach to development,
* Practical skills in engaging the UN human rights accountability mechanisms and UN system;
* Practical skills in strategic advocacy, lobbying, media, and ‘peoples’ diplomacy’.

**TRAINERS**

Trainers on DTP programs are experienced and highly respected local, regional and international human rights practitioners, academics, and officials who understand and support DTP’s philosophy of participatory learning. **Professor Virginia Dandan,** the UN Independent Expert on Human Rights and International Solidarity, will again be a key trainer and will be joined in teaching by leading practitioners and award winning human rights defenders from Nepal and the region.

**TRAINING METHODOLOGY**

The DTP recognizes and values the experiences and skills that participants bring to its programs. The training methodology is interactive, with an emphasis on group work, role plays, case studies and discussion. Sharing knowledge and lessons with other participants and trainers is one of the highlights of participating in the program. The training is conducted in English and an ability to participate in discussions in English is essential.

**NEPAL AND THE DIPLOMACY TRAINING PROGRAM**

This course will be held in Nepal, and will draw on local and international human rights experts and practitioners. Nepal is currently negotiating the place of human rights in a new Constitution - and confronting the challenges of poverty and development as it overcomes a legacy of feudalism and war. Issues of transitional justice, accountability and reconciliation are pressing issues - together with poverty, the rights of women, the recognition of Indigenous peoples’ rights and mass labour migration. Nepal’s human rights movement has successfully engaged international solidarity and the UN system and has in turn contributed to regional and global movements for human rights. There will be opportunities to learn from these experiences.

DTP’s engagement with human rights in Nepal dates back to its first course in 1990 and DTP’s alumni include some of Nepal’s best known human rights defenders. In May 2013, INSEC hosted the first meeting of DTP’s Nepal alumni. From February 2013-2014 DTP developed a special program to build the capacity of advocates working for Nepal’s migrant workers. Holding the 24th Annual Regional Human Rights & Peoples’ Diplomacy Training Program in Nepal will enable the sharing of lessons and the building of practical links between people facing shared challenges.

**THE DIPLOMACY TRAINING PROGRAM**

**The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP)** is an independent, non-governmental organisation (NGO) advancing human rights and empowering civil society in the region through quality education and training and the building of skills and capacity in NGOs. The DTP was founded in 1989 by José Ramos-Horta, the 1996 Nobel Peace Laureate and former President of Timor-Leste. It is affiliated with the UNSW Faculty of Law in Sydney. DTP has trained over 2500 community advocates and human rights defenders across the Asia-Pacific region. Learn more at [www.dtp.unsw.edu.au](http://www.dtp.unsw.edu.au)

**INFORMAL SECTOR SERVICE CENTER (INSEC)**

**The Informal Sector Service Center (INSEC)** was founded in 1988 by the late human rights defender Prakash Kaphley, and prominent human rights activist Sushil Pyakurel. INSEC’s goal as an NGO is to protect and promote human rights in Nepal. INSEC monitors and documents human rights, organises campaigns, runs awareness and education programs enabling people to claim their human rights Further information at [www.insec.org.np](http://www.insec.org.np/).

**APPLICATIONS & COURSE FEES**

Application forms can be downloaded from the [DTP website](http://www.dtp.unsw.edu.au) or can be requested from dtp@unsw.edu.au. Closing date for applications is **31 August, 2014.** DTP is an independent organisation and course fees are an important source of income. The course fee of **US $4000** covers tuition, accommodation, food, field trips, and resource materials during the training. Travel expenses to and from the training are not included in this fee. **Applicants are invited to enquire about subsidies.**