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# LAND RIGHTS RECOGNITION IN NEPAL: TOWARDS CONSENSUS BUILDING FOR PEOPLE CENTERED LAND REFORM

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ASIA DAY

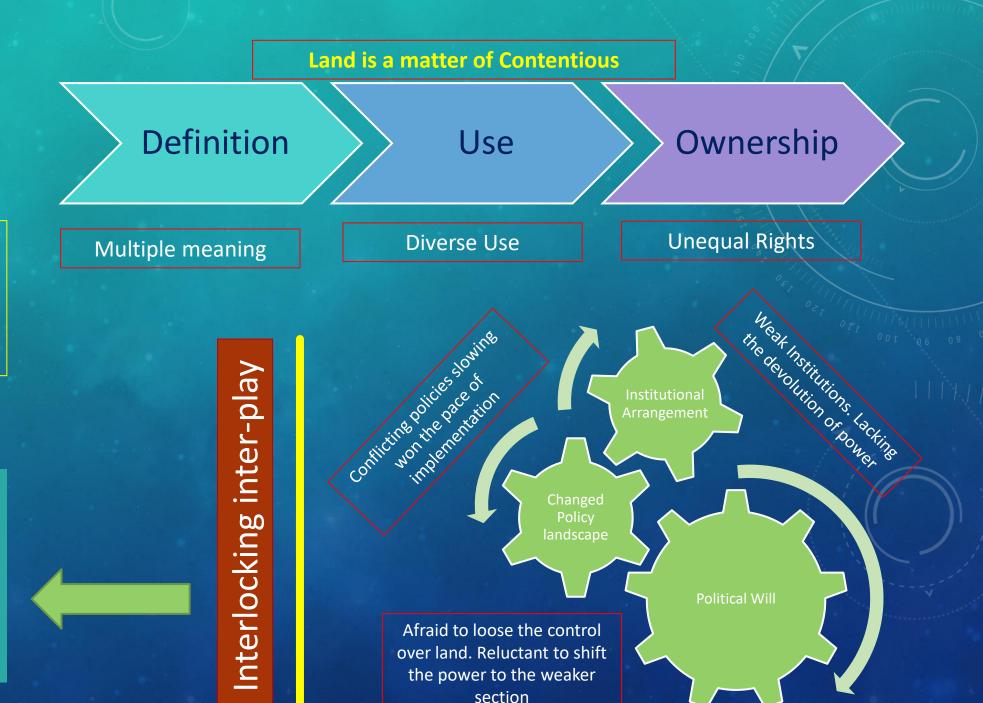
### **OVERVIEW**

- The Context
- Situation of Land Rights Recognition
- Efforts of CSOs towards consensus building for PCLG
  - Research
  - Policy Advocacy
  - Campaign
- Conclusion and Ways Forward

#### THE CONTEXT

Paradigm-shift in Governance and legal domain - no fundamental changes in people to land relations

Women, small farmers, agricultural laborers,IPs, economically poor, socially marginalized and politically weak communities find it difficult to access, own and use the land in reality.



## SITUATION OF LAND RIGHTS RECOGNITION



- So-called land reform related activities all failed to resolve the land and housing rights issues
  - Tenancy land separation
  - Land Ceiling Proposed
  - Kamaiya Rehabilitation
  - Haliya Rehabilitation
  - Sukumbasi Byabasthapan

Land reform never really targeted those who would make better use of it

Land tenure of Indigenous peoples are not recognized

3 High-level Land
Reform
Commissions:
Recommendation
never
implemented.
[total 22
commissions in last
70 Years]

Landless/informal settlers: 1.4 M
Tenant: Approx.
300,000
Owning land < 0.1
ha.: 16,20, 237

EFFORTS OF CSOS
TOWARDS CONSENSUS
BUILDING FOR PCLG



- Evidences for Advocacy/campaign
- Strengthening peoples' voice through peoples' data

#### **Policy Advocacy**

- Multi-stakeholder dialogues
- Policy co-implementation
  - Partnership of governments

#### Campaign

- Joint Land Ownership
- Strengthening Peoples' Organizations

# CONCLUSION AND WAYS FORWARD \*

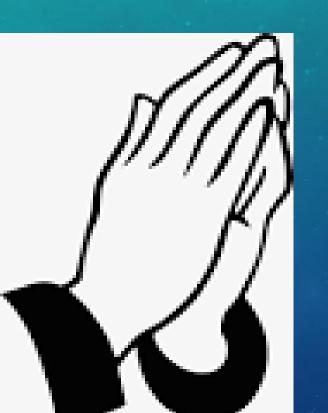
- Historical marginalization of land ownership creating serious problem in land and agrarian development and in the journey toward peace and prosperity
- Introduced some transformative policy measures need to be implemented to breakthrough fundamental reform in the area of land and agrarian reform: Redefine Land to People Relations
- Government must address the bureaucratic resistance that has been sometimes fabricating the issue.
- Legal/political commitment and decision to provide land to landless require honest implementation
- In times when powerful elites compel communities to move out of their lands, government need to safeguard them in collaboration with CSOs. Strong policy protections and program implementation are therefore critical.

## CONCLUSION AND WAYS FORWARD

- To Support and contribute to the ambitious work of National Land Commission there is a need for a sustained partnership among CSOs, Governments and Partners
- Promote and strengthen multi-stakeholder partnership for land reform initiatives – context mapping and sustainable land use planning showed a good example.
- Build capacities of own and peoples' organizations as well as public organizations through multi-stakeholder engagement process to advance impact of NES/LGWG.

#### **LEARNINGS**

- Collaboration with the multi-stakeholders- the government, development partner and the people is more effective
- Involvement of the community people in the process builds trust, engenders feeling of ownership over the initiative and brings true information that ultimately helps for a broader consensus.



• Thank you for your kind attention!