

## **Saloni Pradhan Singh**

**Member**

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**Core Values: Equity, Justice, Empathy, Respect and Applied Learning**

Saloni Pradhan Singh is a member of National Planning Commission, an apex advisory body for Government of Nepal, since 10<sup>th</sup> Bhadra, 2078 (26 August. 2021). She has a Post Graduate Diploma in Social Development from St. Francis Xavier University, Canada. She has an M.A. in Economics, Foreign Aid and International Trade and B.A. in Economics, History, Literature and Political Science from Tribhuvan University.

She is a Socio-economist and Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Expert with over three decades of experience in the field of social development in Nepal and internationally. She has worked in key development areas like Social and Economic Development, Political and Educational Empowerment, Climate Change and Environment, Health and Wellbeing, Rule of Law and Governance and Gender Based Violence and Violence against Women.

She has planned, developed and implemented numerous gender and equity focused research and action research programs including training in the area of Social Engineering, Social Organization Skills, Participatory Development Planning, Resource Mobilization, Micro Credit, Good Governance and several National/International Poverty Alleviation Programs with organizations within Nepal as well as in the region.

She has organized, managed and implemented several programs related to participatory action research on development, economic empowerment and democratic decentralized governance programs at international, regional and national (community) level for several development agencies including SDC, AusAID, DFID, USAID, GIZ, SNV, DANIDA, JICA, ADB, World Bank, UNICEF, UNDP, UNIFEM, ILO, UNW, UNHCR, UNESCO, JICA, Action Aid, HELVETAS, USC-Canada, IDRC Canada, South Asia Partnership (Canada, Srilanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal) PAMFORK- Kenya.

Since the last 20 years, women's empowerment, gender equality and socio-equity issues have always been the core working areas in all the sectors she has worked. As a development planner and action researcher, conflict analysis, transformation, development and peace building has been part and parcel of her profession. The growing global armed conflict and internal conflicts in the South Asia Region and the decade long violent insurgency in Nepal led her to study, learn, advocate and facilitate in conflict transformation and peace building activities. She has also been one of the founder of first Nepali Women's Network for Peace called ShantiMalika. She has also been the core member of UNSCR # 1325 Action Group, Gender Core Group member of Global

Partnership on Prevention of Armed Conflict, and Gender Focal Point of Regional Centre for Strategic Studies.

As a co-founding chair of Nepal Participatory Action Network, one of the pioneering network that advocated and facilitated for sustainable environment, food security, equitable social order and safe and risk free ecological development in this climate changing world, the above mentioned theme has been her passion as well as her area of expertise. She has also worked as a member of national expert group on NRM in Nepal Australia Forestry program, Nepal UK community forestry project, and NARMSAP Denmark since 1991. She has also worked as one of the members of National Task force on Community Forestry of Nepal, ICIMOD working group on Climate Change, expert on Disaster Management and Gender with UNDP, TMI, SDC, SNV, and Helvetas in the past couple of decades.

As an advocate and practitioner of community based action research and community led bottom up development approach, education both formal and non – formal, children and adult has been one of the core and priority area of her work. Her belief and passion of education as lifeblood of the development led her to work in different local, national, regional as well as international levels. She has been involved and contributed to several education related institutions and networks. She has held key position for two terms as Global Executive Member of Asia South Pacific Association of Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE). She is one of the founding members of National Coalition of Education of Nepal (NCEN), ICAE, Chair of Coady International Institute (Adult Education and Development institute of St. Fx. University, Canada) Alumni Association of Nepal. She has also carried out numerous studies and researches on Education in partnership with GoN, Action Aid, EU, SCF, SDC, UNICEF, and SNV.

She has also initiated and participated with responsible key positions in several issue based development NETWORKS like General Secretary of Gender Watch Professional Interest Group (GWPIG), Founder Executive Member of Asia Pacific Women in Politics Network (APWIP), Founder Co-Chair of Nepal Participatory Action Net Work (NEPAN), General Secretary of NGO Federation of Nepal, Coordinator and member Secretary of Alliance for Political Empowerment of Women, Founder Core member of SHANTI MALIKA women's Alliance for Peace in Nepal, country representative in the board of global Partnership Against Armed Conflict ( GPPAC) and Regional Center for Strategic Studies ( RCSS) , and Ex-Executive Council Member of Asia South Pacific Bureau of Adult Education ( ASPBAE).

In her professional career Ms Singh has traveled dozens of countries in Asia, America, Europe, Africa, Scandinavia and Latin America.