

**CEDAW EXPERTS (INDIVIDUALS AND AGENCIES)  
INVOLVED IN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA-PACIFIC**



**CEDAW Experts**

NAME AND PROFILE	COUNTRIES OF WORK	WORKING LANGUAGES	EMAIL
<p><b>Alison Aggarwal</b> - Alison Aggarwal is the Principal Adviser of the Sex Discrimination Team of the Australian Human Rights Commission.</p> <p>She has worked on women’s human rights issues in the Asia Pacific region since 1999. She has actively worked with the Asia Pacific networks of women’s movements and women’s human rights organisations in the Asia Pacific region on issues related to violence against women, women’s political participation and intersectional discrimination. She has also worked on women’s economic social and cultural rights, working with women’s human rights groups and related networks at the international level.</p> <p>Alison has a high level of expertise in research, policy development and the development and delivery of training on women’s human rights, at the local, regional and international level.</p> <p>Alison is a law graduate from the Australian National University. She has a Masters in International Human Rights Law from Oxford University and a Master of Asian Studies from the Australian National University.</p>	Asia Pacific	English	alisonaggarwal@hotmail.com
<p><b>Amarsanaa Darisureen</b> – is a researcher and a founder of the Centre for Human Rights and Development (CHRD), Mongolia. She has been working with UN Women as a</p>	Mongolia, Southeast	English	<a href="mailto:Amarsanaa.darisuren@unwomen.org">Amarsanaa.darisuren@unwomen.org</a>

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<p>Human Rights Specialist or CEDAW Southeast Asia Programme (SEAP). Prior to joining UNIFEM, she was a Programme Officer for Asia Pacific Forum on Women Law and Development (APWLD), Thailand. She has more than 10 years of extensive experience on gender and women's human rights, both at the national and regional level.</p>	Asia		
<p><b>Asmita Basu</b> - Asmita Basu is a lawyer with over ten years of experience working on women's rights and human rights law and policy as a researcher, consultant and senior management in the NGO/development sector.</p> <p>She served as Coordinator of the Lawyers Collective (Women's Rights Initiative) [LCWRI] -- a national level Indian NGO—from 2002-2009. As Coordinator, she was vested with the overall responsibility of implementing all advocacy and research programs undertaken by the LCWRI. The LCWRI's most successful campaign led to the enactment of India's civil law on domestic violence. As Coordinator, Asmita led and authored empirical research projects to monitor and assess implementation of laws relating to women's rights, provided trainings and successfully advocated for changes in legal policy.</p> <p>Asmita was awarded the Fulbright Nehru Doctoral and Professional Research Fellowship to Brooklyn Law School (NY, US) in 2009 to conduct research on employment discrimination. She currently works independently consulting with UN agencies, particularly UN Women, as well as a range of South and South East Asian NGOs, primarily on issues related to violence against women. She has also undertaken research projects on broader issues relating to human rights, governance and health. She has significant experience in monitoring and reviewing the implementation of laws and has been called upon as a policy expert to review legislative approaches in dealing with violence against women in Bangladesh, Laos, Myanmar, Tajikistan and Pakistan.</p> <p>Asmita graduated from the National Law School of India University in 1998. She has a</p>	India, South Asia, South east Asia	English	asmitabasu@gmail.com

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LLM in Public International Law from the University of Nottingham (UK), which she pursued after being awarded the British Chevening Human Rights Scholarship in 2000.			
<b>Aurora Javate-De Dios</b> – is a former CEDAW Committee member and expert from 1995-1998. She was Rapporteur from 1996-1998. As Expert, she reviewed over 60 national reports on women and provided technical advice on the national compliance with the Convention. As Rapporteur she prepared the Committee’s Report after every session for submission to and international dissemination of the UN Division for Advancement of Women. She has contributed to CEDAW as a trainer nationally and internationally. She is currently the Executive Director of Women and Gender Institute (WAGI) of Miriam College, the Philippines, the Gender Advisor of the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW), and the President of Board of Trustees of the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women – Asia-Pacific (CATWAP).	The Philippines; Southeast Asia; Global	English	<a href="mailto:adedios@mc.edu.ph">adedios@mc.edu.ph</a>
<b>Christine Mary Forster</b> - is Senior Lecturer in the Law Faculty at University of New South Wales, Australia and at the ILS Law College in Pune, India where she teaches Feminist Legal Theory. Her major research focus is on CEDAW and women’s human rights. She has undertaken consultancies on women’s human rights and CEDAW legislative compliance for the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development, UNIFEM Pacific and the UNDP Pacific Centre. She authored and co-authored with Vedna Rajni Jivan a number of publications on the topic including ‘Gender Equality Laws: Global Good Practice and a Review of Five Southeast Asian Countries’ (2009) and ‘Translating CEDAW into Law: CEDAW Legislative Compliance in Nine Pacific Island Countries’ (2007) in collaboration with UNDP and UNIFEM, which has initiated law reform projects in the region.	Australia; Asia Pacific	English	<a href="mailto:c.forster@unsw.edu.au">c.forster@unsw.edu.au</a>
<b>Deepika Udagama</b> – is a human rights educator. She was appointed member of the Board of Trustees of the UN Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human in Rights in 2008. Having been elected by the UN Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (1998-2001), she has previously served as the UN Co-Special Rapporteur on the theme “Globalisation and its Impact on Human	Sri Lanka; South Asia	English	<a href="mailto:udagama@law.cmb.ac.lk">udagama@law.cmb.ac.lk</a>

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<p>Rights". She founded the Centre for the Study of Human Rights of the University of Colombo and served as its Director for six years from its inception. She is also a former member of the National Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka. She serves on the governing bodies of several organisations including the CMI Rights Movement of Sri Lanka and the International Centre for Ethnic Studies.</p>			
<p><b>Eleanor Conda</b> – is a feminist lawyer and a human rights advocate. She was deeply involved in the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women, the 2000 Beijing +5 Review, some sessions of the UN Commission on Women, and the UN Open-ended Working Group that negotiated the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW (1996-1999) as the NGO member on the Philippine Government delegation. She co-founded and was the first Executive Director of the Philippine-based Women’s Legal Bureau, Inc., known for its pioneering work in feminist lawyering. She was the former co-director of the Women’s Caucus for Gender Justice and the former director of the Asian Centre for Women’s Human Rights (ASCENT) based in Manila. She has also served as the sub-regional coordinator of the International Women’s Rights Action Watch-Asia Pacific working on CEDAW.</p>	Southeast Asia, Global	English	<a href="mailto:condael@hotmail.com">condael@hotmail.com</a>
<p><b>Evalyn G. Ursua</b> - Evalyn G. Ursua is a practicing lawyer, human rights advocate and researcher and widely regarded as a family law expert, too. She has a Master of Laws in Asian Legal Studies. She is a senior lecturer at the University of the Philippines Department of Women and Development Studies, a member of The Outstanding Women in the Nation’s Service (TOWNS) Foundation, and a Consultant with the Office of Rep. Luzviminda Ilagan, Gabriela Women’s Party, House of Representatives, Quezon City, Philippines.</p> <p>Evalyn has served in various positions over the years. She was a senior lecturer of the University of the Philippines College of Law, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of Women’s Legal Bureau, Inc., Senior Lecturer at the Department of Women and Development Studies in the University of the Philippines, Executive Director and</p>	Southeast Asia	English	egulaw@yahoo.com, egulaw@gmail.com

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<p>Deputy Executive Director of the Women’s Legal Bureau, Inc., Senior Researcher with the Institute of International Legal Studies, University of the Philippines and Legal Researcher with the Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center, Quezon City, Philippines.</p> <p>Evalyn is also a recipient of the prestigious The Outstanding Women in the Nation’s Service (TOWNS) Award for Women’s and Children’s Rights Advocacy in the Philippines in 1998.</p>			
<p><b>Ferdous Ara Begum</b> – is a CEDAW Committee Member. She is also a former member of the Board of Directors, Grameen Bank, 2002-2007, and served UNFPA as an Expert Consultant on Gender issues in 2005-2006. She worked for the Bangladeshi Government from 1977 until 2005 and held office of Additional Secretary to the Ministry of Establishment and a number of other senior positions. As a Joint Secretary to the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, she engaged in a wide range of tasks such as oversight and monitoring of the implementation of CEDAW, CRC and BPfA, developing curriculum, tools and training programmes on gender governance, media and justice system as well as formulation and implementation of gender-related policies and gender mainstreaming of other ministries and departments and NGOs. Her professional and publication work have been dedicated to women’s empowerment in relation to microcredit, violence against women, HIV/AIDS, trafficking, migration issues amongst others.</p>	South Asia; Global	English	<a href="mailto:ferdousarabegum@yahoo.com">ferdousarabegum@yahoo.com</a>
<p><b>M.P. Geeta Devi</b> – is a women’s rights activist lawyer and a core group member in the Asia Pacific project on ‘Monitoring the fulfilment of State Obligation on CEDAW’; member of National Alliance of Women (NAWO), New Delhi; resource person of IWRAW-AP. She has actively contributed to information dissemination on CEDAW, law, ethics and HIV as well as been involved in a number of regional trainings of lawyers and consultation workshops of NGOs and grassroots workers on CEDAW, organised by NAWO and IWRAW. Since 1993, she has been practicing law as an advocate in Karnataka, taking up cases in the High Court and Family Court on behalf of</p>	India; Asia Pacific	English	<a href="mailto:geeth@bgl.vsnl.net.in">geeth@bgl.vsnl.net.in</a>

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<p>distressed women. She has also been engaged not only in implementing the guidelines of the Supreme Court on Sexual Harassment at work place in Karnakata but also various activities and campaigns with the NGOs in Bangalore concerning women's right.</p>			
<p><b>Heisoo Shin</b> – served as a member of the UN CEDAW Committee from 2001-2008 and as Vice-Chair of the Committee for 2003-2004. She was also a member of the Advisory Committee to the UN Secretary General's In-depth Study on All Forms of Violence against Women. She was the Commissioner of the National Human Rights Commission, the Republic of Korea for 2005-2008. She has been working for more than thirty years to protect and promote women's human rights home and abroad, especially in the area of violence against women. As President of Women's Hot Line, she has successfully led the movement for legislation on violence against women, which resulted in new laws on sexual violence (1993), domestic violence (1997), and trafficking and prostitution (2004). She is currently representative of the National Movement for Eradication of Sex Trafficking, which she established in June 2009, and is an adjunct professor at the Graduate School of International Studies at Ewha Woman's University. In April 2010, she was elected member of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights for a four-year terms beginning 1<sup>st</sup> January 2011.</p>	<p>Republic of Korea; Global</p>	<p>English</p>	<p><a href="mailto:heisooshin@hanmail.net">heisooshin@hanmail.net</a></p>
<p><b>Honey Tan</b> - Honey Tan Lay Ean is an Advocate and Solicitor of the High Court of Malaya, and a Barrister-At-Law (Middle Temple). She has a master's degree in Law from Warwick University. She serves on the Common Bar Course Committee, and the Family Law Committee of the Malaysian Bar where she heads the Divorce and Matrimonial Rules Sub-Committee.</p> <p>Honey is engaged in many public interest litigation matters in the areas of equality and non-discrimination. She is also a trainer with the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD) in the Feminist Legal Theory and Practice Programme which enables her to increase the awareness of activists and lawyers in the region in</p>	<p>Malaysia, Southeast Asia</p>	<p>English, Bahasa Malaysia</p>	<p>honeytan@gmail.com</p>

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<p>the area of Feminist Legal Theory and Practice. Every quarter, Honey trains around 25 young lawyers in the areas of Feminisms and Feminist Perspectives of Law. She has more than 15 years experience in the areas of policy and legal reform work in Malaysia involving women's rights.</p>			
<p><b>Indira Jaising</b> – is the first CEDAW Committee Member and the first women to reach the post of Additional Solicitor General of India. She is currently the Director of the Lawyers Collective Women's Rights Initiative (LCWRI), an organisation of lawyers and law students. Starting practice as a lawyer in the early sixties, she became the first woman to be designated as a Senior Advocate by High Court of Bombay in 1986. Right from the beginning of her legal career, she has focused on protection of human rights of women and those of the poor working class. She has argued several cases relating to discrimination against women. She was a fellow at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies London and has been a visiting Scholar at the Columbia University New York.</p>	India; South Asia; Global	English	<a href="mailto:wri.delhi@lawyerscollective.org">wri.delhi@lawyerscollective.org</a>
<p><b>Lee Waldorf</b> – is the Human Rights Advisor at UN Women Headquarters in New York. Prior to joining UN Women she worked with UNICEF's Division of Evaluation, Policy and Planning. She was a practicing lawyer in Canada. She is an author and a lead editor of a number of significant publications regarding CEDAW and the human rights based approach, such as 'CEDAW and the Human Rights Based Approach to Programming; A UNIFEM Guide' (2007); 'Pathway to Gender Equality: CEDAW, Beijing and the MDGs' (2004); and 'Turning the Tide: CEDAW and the Gender Dimensions of the HIV/AIDS Pandemic' (2001).</p>	Global	English	<a href="mailto:Lee.waldorf@unwomen.org">Lee.waldorf@unwomen.org</a>
<p><b>Madhu Mehra</b> – is feminist lawyer and a founding member and the Executive Director of the Partners for Law in Development, Senior Member for Asia Pacific Forum for Women, Law and Development (APWLD) and IWRAW-AP. She has worked with UN Women South and Southeast Asia Regional Offices on CEDAW training for government officials in India and Cambodia from 2005, and took part in the CEDAW training programmes for judicial officers by British Council and the University of Warwick. As a</p>	India; Asia Pacific	English	<a href="mailto:madhu05.m@gmail.com">madhu05.m@gmail.com</a>

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<p>researcher and consultant on women's rights, she has contributed to CEDAW training, implementation and reporting and promotion of domestic and international human rights law from a feminist perspective at national, regional and international levels through advocacy, and designing and conducting training programmes for governmental and non-governmental institutions.</p>			
<p><b>Pramila Patten</b> – is a CEDAW Committee Member since 2003; and also consultant for the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), and Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU) and ILO, Geneva. Within these functions, she has provided technical assistance on CEDAW training, implementation and reporting to state parties and parliamentarians. She was also invited as a key speaker and resource person to a number of international conferences and seminars. In her home country, Mauritius, she has been practicing barrister since 1982, served as district court magistrate for two years, and as a legal advisor to the government ministries. She drafted for the government, bills on protection from domestic violence (amendment), sex discrimination, and family laws amongst others.</p>	Global	English; French	<a href="mailto:patra@intnet.mu">patra@intnet.mu</a>
<p><b>Rea Chiongson</b> – is a lawyer and a consultant on gender, human rights and international law. She is involved in UN Women's Southeast Asia Programme (SEAP) on CEDAW as a consultant to provide technical assistance to assess compliance of national laws with CEDAW in Indonesia and Cambodia. She has worked as a programme officer and a resource person at IWRAW Asia Pacific for a number of CEDAW trainings. She formerly served as the Deputy Secretary-General for the Manila-based Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism and as a member of the Human Rights Committee, LAWASIA.</p>	Southeast Asia	English	<a href="mailto:reachiongson@yahoo.com">reachiongson@yahoo.com</a>
<p><b>Dr. Saisuree Chutikul</b> – is a former Minister attached to the Office of the Prime Minister of Thailand and a current member of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women from 2007. She is a senator in the Thai Parliament and the chair of several bodies working against trafficking of</p>	Thailand; Southeast Asia	English	<a href="mailto:schutikul@hotmail.com">schutikul@hotmail.com</a>



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<p>children and women. She has been the leading advocate of progressive views on children, women, education, and social development, and has represented her country on various United Nations committees concerning the rights of women and children, including the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) as the Vice Chairperson 2001-2005. She is also currently Thailand representative to the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children.</p>			
<p><b>Salbiah Ahmad</b> – is a legal practitioner of Syariah and civil laws in Malaysia and Singapore and teaches, inter alia, Islamic Family Law, Constitutional Law and Land Law at the International Islamic University, Malaysia. She also served as the Deputy Head of Office and Senior Gender Adviser to the Office of the UN Recovery Coordinator for Aceh and Nias (UNORC) in Banda Aceh, Indonesia from 2006. She has extensive experience in gender, human rights and Islam and has worked on these concerns with Women Living Under Muslim Laws (WLUML) and the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD). She also co-founded the Malaysian NGO, Sisters in Islam (SIS), where she worked until 1997 on contextualising the principles of convergence of Islam, Gender, Human Rights and developing reformation within the Islamic Framework.</p>	Asia Pacific; Global	English	<a href="mailto:salbiah.ahmad@gmail.com">salbiah.ahmad@gmail.com</a>
<p><b>Dr. Salma Khan</b> – is a former member and the first Asian elected as the chairperson of the CEDAW Committee. She is currently the Chairperson and Project Coordinator of NGO Coalition of Beijing Plus Five (NCBP); board member of Women for Women (a research study group), Bangladesh; and a member of the National Council on Women and Development and National Education Commission. She is also founder of CEDAW Forum, an action and lobbying group for full implementation of the Women’s Convention in Bangladesh. She held public office and has been involved in the area of women’s development for over 19 years. As an economist and human rights expert, her professional and publishing work has focused on economics, women, children, labour, credit and NGOs.</p>	South Asia; Global	English	<a href="mailto:womenwomen@yahoo.com">womenwomen@yahoo.com</a>

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<p><b>Sapana Malla Pradhan</b> – is Nepal Constituent Assembly Member. Advisor, Committee on Violence Against Women, Office of the Prime Minister; Board Member of IWRAW-AP; Chair of the Executive Board, Equality Now. Over the last fifteen years, she has been engaged in advocacy, preparation of national action plan and shadow report and capacity building for the implementation of CEDAW, working with Governments, NGOs and international organisations. She has published extensively on the legal status of women in Nepal. As a practicing lawyer before the Supreme Court of Nepal, she has been an advocate for the rights of Nepali women in several landmark cases. She has been involved in almost all leading public litigation in the country, including cases involving legalisation of abortion, criminalisation of marital rape, and equality in marriage and family law. Due in large part to her efforts, more than 64 discriminatory laws of Nepal have been struck down.</p>	Nepal; South Asia	English	<a href="mailto:fwld@fwld.wlink.com.np">fwld@fwld.wlink.com.np</a>
<p><b>Savitri Goonesekere</b> – is a former CEDAW Committee Member from 1999-2002. Emeritus Professor of Law, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka. She was formerly Vice Chancellor, University of Colombo. She has contributed to advocacy and law reform initiatives in Sri Lanka and has regularly acted as a consultant for a wide range of international bodies and as an advisor to several UN agencies working on law and human rights projects in the Asian region. She has represented Sri Lanka at a number of international forums. She has published widely on family law, women and children’s rights, human rights, law and development issues.</p>	South Asia	English	<a href="mailto:cenwor@slt.lk">cenwor@slt.lk</a>
<p><b>Shantha Mohan</b> – is a former member of the NGO Forum for the Review Session of the CEDAW, United Nations, New York, 2000. Fellow and the Head of the Gender Studies Unit, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore since 1997 to date; also served as an Assistant Professor to the Department of Education, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore from 1990-1997. Executive Member of Mahila Samakya (Education for Women’s Equality), Karnataka; and Coordinator, Country Group, IWRAW-AP. While engaging in advocacy and study projects and publishing a number of work on various gender issues such as water</p>	India; South Asia	English	<a href="mailto:shantham@nias.iisc.ernet.in">shantham@nias.iisc.ernet.in</a> <a href="mailto:shantham@indiatiemes.com">shantham@indiatiemes.com</a>

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management, economic empowerment, governance and violence, she has also worked on sensitising government and non-government officials, grassroots workers and police officers on gender issues through training and orientation programmes.			
<b>Shanti Dairiam</b> – is a former CEDAW Committee Member. For the last twenty-seven years she has focused her professional and community work on the promotion of women’s rights in a variety of contexts. She has undertaken collaborative projects with women’s NGOs, Governments and international institutions that aim to contribute to the effective implementation of international human rights standards for the advancement of women. Her work has included creating and developing conceptual clarity and tools in regard to: the practical application of CEDAW Convention, methodologies for research oriented advocacy, and training. She is the founder of IWRAP Asia Pacific.	South Asia	English	<a href="mailto:shanthidairiam@yahoo.com">shanthidairiam@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Tulika Srivastava</b> – is a lawyer and a human rights activist; Founder Member, Managing Trustees; and Technical Advisor of the Association for Advocacy and Legal Initiatives (AALI), a feminist advocacy and resource group. She has vast experience in women’s human rights and gender issues, especially in the private zone. In addition to engaging in the casework at the grass-root level, she was a key negotiator for the NGO Working Group for the Optional Protocol to the Women's Convention. She came to the social justice sector as a professional lawyer, and began work with Mahila Samakhya. After stepping down from the Executive lead position in AALI, she worked as Human Rights Expert for the UNDP/Justice Programme in Afghanistan and as the Executive Director with IWRAP Asia-Pacific. She has also been working on CEDAW implementation since 1994 and has undertaken various capacity building programmes on the Women’s convention. Presently she consults with various national and international organizations.	South Asia; and Southeast Asia	English	<a href="mailto:tulujagdish@gmail.com">tulujagdish@gmail.com</a>
<b>Vedna Rajni Jivan</b> – is Senior Lecturer in the Law Faculty, University of Technology, Sydney, prior to which she practised as a solicitor in the community legal sector for	Australia; Southeast	English	<a href="mailto:Vedna.Jivan@law.uts.edu.au">Vedna.Jivan@law.uts.edu.au</a>

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<p>eight years. She has researched widely in the areas of women’s human rights, tort law and the scope and limitations of the legal system to achieve social change. She has worked as a consultant for various international organisations including the UNDP Pacific Centre, UNIFEM Pacific, UNIFEM Southeast Asia and the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development. She is co-author (with Christine Forster) of several publications including, ‘Gender Equality Laws: Global Good Practice and a Review of Five Southeast Asian Countries’ (2009), ‘CEDAW Legislative Compliance in the Cook Islands’ (2008), and ‘Translating CEDAW into Law: CEDAW Legislative Compliance in Nine Pacific Countries’ (2007).</p>	<p>Asia and Asia Pacific</p>		

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**Second tier – CEDAW resource persons from South Asia**

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<p><b>Nasima Azkiya</b> – is a civil society activist. She worked on violence against women projects with Cooperation Center for Afghanistan (CCA). There she received short courses on violence, violence against women and domestic violence and worked on violence cases and women cases on prison. Then she joint Civil Society and Human Rights Network (CSHRN) where she received different courses on Human Rights and women Rights issues. Right now she is the head of office in the north province and she design and conduct different programs on women rights issues according to their manual Women Rights Debate manual. She also participated on different CEDAW trainings regionally. She was also the coordinator of Access to Information law’s working group</p>	Afghanistan	Persian	<a href="mailto:nasima.azkiya@gmail.com">nasima.azkiya@gmail.com</a>
<p><b>Mohamed Nasheeth Thoha</b> – is a Human Rights activist and Development Practitioner with a keen interest in issues relating to gender. He had worked for Maldivian Democracy Network in their legislative reform project and was heavily involved with the NGO Coalition lobbying for legislations on Domestic Violence in the Maldives. He is skilled in conducting and designing workshops on Gender Issues, especially on the themes relating to Rights and Domestic Violence. He was trained by Partners for Law in Development (PLD) on strengthening the application of CEDAW in South Asia. (On a study break till 12<sup>th</sup> September 2012)</p>	Maldives, South Asia	English and Dhivehi	<a href="mailto:mohamednasheeth@gmail.com">mohamednasheeth@gmail.com</a>
<p><b>Rabeea Hadi</b> – is a gender expert and working as Manager Programs and Coordination at Pakistan’s leading women’s rights organization, Aurat Foundation. As a researcher and author of four annual reports on violence against women, she is engaged with different stakeholders including parliamentarians, civil society organizations and concerned government institutions. She has taught Gender Studies at Peshawar University and been supervising research students as visiting faculty member. She has also developed manuals on gender sensitization and worked with International Rescue Committee as a psychosocial counselor in conflict-prone areas.</p>	Pakistan, Afghanistan	English, Urdu and Pashtu	<a href="mailto:rabeea.shah@gmail.com">rabeea.shah@gmail.com</a> , <a href="mailto:rabeea@af.org.pk">rabeea@af.org.pk</a>
<p><b>Reena Pathak</b> – is a lawyer, human rights educator and activist. She taught human</p>	Nepal	Nepali, English	<a href="mailto:reenu.law@gmail.com">reenu.law@gmail.com</a>

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<p>rights for 5 years in Kathmandu School of Law. She presently serves as Project Coordinator in Forum for Women, Law and Development (FWLD). She holds the post of Treasurer of Economic, Social and Development Rights (ESDR) Alumnus: 2007. She is the member of Gender Equality Committee formed by the Appellate Court Bar Association. She was actively involved in the drafting of the CEDAW Shadow Report 2011. She is consistently working for the promotion of Women's human rights through her research based articles on women's issues in various national newspapers. Her current work involves ensuring women's access to justice during transitional period through advocacy, workshops and lobbying to form the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.</p>			<p><a href="#">om</a></p>

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**Agencies working on CEDAW**

NAME AND PROFILE OF AGENCY	COUNTRIES OF WORK	WORKING LANGUAGES	EMAIL and Website
<p><b>Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK)</b> – is a national legal aid and human rights organisation based in Bangladesh. With is goal to establish the rule of law based on the principles of equality, democracy, human rights, justice and gender equity, it has been engaged in investigation, advocacy, media campaigning, documentation including CEDAW Shadow Report, training and action research as well as legal services. ASK is an active member of regional or international human rights fora, and works in partnership with the Asia Pacific Forum for Women, Law and Development (APWLD), the International Women’s Rights Action Watch-Asia Pacific (IWRAP-AP) and some others. With its special consultative status with UN ECOSOC since 1998, it also engages in advocacy with UN agencies and treaty monitoring bodies, and special procedures, on issues of concern.</p>	Bangladesh	English and Bangla	Email: <a href="mailto:ask@citechco.net">ask@citechco.net</a>  Website: <a href="http://www.askbd.org">http://www.askbd.org</a>
<p><b>Association for Advocacy and Legal Initiative (AALI)</b> - is a feminist legal advocacy organization working since 1998, for the realization of human rights of women with a special focus on violence against women. They implement Domestic Application of Human Rights Instruments (DAHRI) a training course (in Hindi) designed for individual defenders dealing with violations of women human rights as well as advocates of human rights, working at community and municipal levels.</p>	India	English and Hindi	Email: <a href="mailto:aali@aalilegal.org">aali@aalilegal.org</a> <a href="mailto:psu@aalilegal@aalilegal.org">psu@aalilegal@aalilegal.org</a>  Website: <a href="http://www.aalilegal.org">http://www.aalilegal.org</a>
<p><b>Center for Women’s Research (CENWOR)</b> – is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation in Sri Lanka, working towards gender equality and empowerment of women. It actively engages in advocacy and lobbying for the implementation of the provision of CEDAW, the national women’s charter, the UN Beijing Platform for Action and its national action plan. Besides policy and action oriented research on the</p>	Sri Lanka	English	Email: <a href="mailto:cen_info@sltnet.lk">cen_info@sltnet.lk</a> <a href="mailto:cenwor@sl.lk">cenwor@sl.lk</a>  Website:

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<p>corresponding critical areas of BPfA, it also works on information dissemination, training of the government and NGO staff members, development personnel, educators and the community, and monitoring on gender issues as well as networking at local and regional levels.</p>			<p><a href="http://www.cenwo.r.lk/">http://www.cenwo.r.lk/</a></p>
<p><b>Forum for Women Law and Development (FWLD)</b> – is an NGO based in Kathmandu, Nepal working towards the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women in Nepal and protecting and promoting human rights through research and public education, advocacy, legal aid and litigation. FWLD strives for the national implementation of CEDAW and has organised number of trainings on CEDAW and its Optional Protocol. It also produced CEDAW Shadow Reports for Nepal and other publications on the Convention.</p>	Nepal	English and Nepali	<p>Email: <a href="mailto:fwld@fwld.wlink.com.np">fwld@fwld.wlink.com.np</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.fwld.org">http://www.fwld.org</a></p>
<p><b>International Women’s Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific (IWRAP Asia Pacific)</b> – is based in Malaysia and is the only regional/international NGO working with the CEDAW Convention as a main tool for change in the Asia Pacific since 1993. It contributes to the progressive interpretation, universalisation, implementation and realisation of women’s human rights through the lens of the CEDAW and other international human rights treaties. It facilitates a process through which the CEDAW Convention is used as a tool for applying international human rights standards at the national level and in a wide range of contexts (e.g. political participation, armed conflict, rights in marriage, violence against women, trafficking reproductive rights, employment etc.). These activities entail three key strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Building Capacity for Change</li> <li>❖ Enhancing Realisation of Rights and</li> <li>❖ Information, Dissemination Application and Exchange Strategy (IDEAS)</li> </ul> <p>These encompass training, communication, information, education, advocacy and</p>	Regularly work in 15 countries in South Asia and Southeast Asia and have worked with several East Asian countries such as Mongolia and Hong Kong. These are Bangladesh, India, Nepal ,	English	<p>Email: <a href="mailto:iwrap-ap@iwrap-ap.org">iwrap-ap@iwrap-ap.org</a> <a href="mailto:iwrap_ap@yahoo.com">iwrap_ap@yahoo.com</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.iwrap-ap.org">http://www.iwrap-ap.org</a> <a href="http://www.iwrap-ap.org/knowledge/index.htm">http://www.iwrap-ap.org/knowledge/index.htm</a></p>



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support national level women's organisations and community groups working to improve the lives of women.	Pakistan and Sri Lanka in South Asia and Burma, Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor Leste and Vietnam in South East Asia		
<p><b>National Alliance of Women (NAWO)</b> – is a national network of women for peace, justice and development, which serves as an umbrella organisation for women's group, institutions, NGOs and others in India. It was originally formed as National Advisory Committee, comprising of women leaders and activists to direct the preparatory process towards the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing 1995. With its role and vision redefined, now it works on protecting women's rights, monitoring the government's commitments, and implementing the Platform for Action with special focus on the eight point agenda identified at the Conference of Commitment, CEDAW and other UN Conventions as well as advocacy on women's rights related issues. NAWO also has been in the forefront of the initiative in systematic training of women activists and lawyers on the CEDAW.</p>	India	English and Hindi	Email: <a href="mailto:nawo.india@gmail.com">nawo.india@gmail.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.nawoindia.org">www.nawoindia.org</a>
<p><b>Partners for Law in Development (PLD)</b> – is a national level legal resource group based in New Delhi. The organisation works with community based groups, lawyers as</p>	India and South Asia	English and Hindi	Email: <a href="mailto:pldindia@gmail.com">pldindia@gmail.com</a>

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<p>well as state and statutory agencies/ institutions to provide capacity building and technical assistance on women's rights in the region. PLD conducts residential training programmes to build and strengthen capacities on law, gender and human rights. The training programmes provide continuing education to activists and practitioners in social work, law and academia. They can be broadly categorised into three types, to distinguish each on the basis of their primary focus, although a single training may combine elements of all three.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ <a href="#">law, society and social justice</a></li> <li>❖ <a href="#">feminist perspectives</a> on law and human rights</li> <li>❖ <a href="#">CEDAW</a></li> </ul>			<p><a href="mailto:mpldindia@vsnl.com">m pldindia@vsnl.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.pld-india.org">http://www.pld-india.org</a></p>
<p><b>PRO PUBLIC</b> – is a NGO in Nepal, which plays the role of a social change agent in empowering citizens through research, advocacy, litigation and capacity building. It acts as a watchdog for women and child rights and in other areas, increasing accountability and transparency of the Government and private sector through good governance advocacy and judicial activities as well as enhancing the capacities of the government personnel and local and grassroots organisations staff. It has organised training of local representatives and women activists on CEDAW and conducted research on relevant women's issues.</p>	Nepal	English and Nepali	<p>Email: <a href="mailto:propublic@wlink.com.np">propublic@wlink.com.np</a> Website: <a href="http://propublic.org">http://propublic.org</a></p>
<p><b>Shirkat Gah Women's Resource Centre</b> – is a leading organisation for women's rights and gender equality in Pakistan. For more than thirty years it has facilitated women's empowerment by increasing their access to information, resources, skills and decision making, and helped to bring about positive change to policies, laws, and practices. Amongst its areas of activities, Shirkat Gah is working on advocacy, capacity building especially of women, and training. Shirkat Gah has in-house expertise to conduct training on CEDAW. Shirkat Gah produced the Second CEDAW Shadow Report for Pakistan in 2007.</p>	Pakistan	English	<p>Email: <a href="mailto:shirkat@cyber.net.pk">shirkat@cyber.net.pk</a> <a href="mailto:sgrh@cyber.net.pk">sgrh@cyber.net.pk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.shirkatgah.org">http://www.shirkatgah.org</a></p>

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<p><b>Simorgh Women’s Resource Center – Women Living Under Muslim Laws</b> – mainly focuses on research on women by women in order to free both women and men from the dominance of ideas that support social and economic divisions on the basis of gender, class, religion, race and nationality. Simorgh works with students, teachers, media and professionals, and has strong links with other national and international women’s groups. In addition to doing a variety of publishing, Simorgh conducts seminars, conferences, income generation projects and gender awareness workshops.</p> <p>It brings out “BAYAN” a socio-legal journal, with the aim of providing a critical edge to legal discourse in Pakistan. BAYAN’s point of departure from other legal journals in the country lies in the fact that it focuses on and highlights the connection between laws, legal practice, culture and society, thus granting visibility to the contradictions and lacunae in the laws when they come into play within the historically contingent and fluid terrain of people’s lives and circumstances.</p>	Pakistan	English	Email: <a href="mailto:simorgh@brain.net.pk">simorgh@brain.net.pk</a>  Website: <a href="http://simorghpk.org/">http://simorghpk.org/</a>
<p><b>Society for the Advancement of Education (SAHE)</b> – is a non-profit, non-governmental organisation in Pakistan responding to the deteriorating standards of education and the first of its kind to focus on the cause of accessible quality education for the disadvantaged in Pakistan and has played a pivotal role in the civil society movement. It has extensive experience and expertise in implementing indigenous models of human resource development through strong networking relationships with NGOs and institutions of higher learning, and of associating with well-known researchers and teachers. It has also collaborated with local NGOs in different districts and provinces for providing training to both Government and NGO teachers/staff to ensure the involvement of local organisations and to contribute to the development of sustainable networks and structures. It published ‘An Illustrated Book on CEDAW’, which aims to raise civil society awareness on CEDAW and gender equality.</p>	Pakistan	English, Urdu	Email: <a href="mailto:sahe@sahe.org.pk">sahe@sahe.org.pk</a>  Website: <a href="http://www.sahe.org.pk">http://www.sahe.org.pk</a>