

## MEETA SAINJU PRADHAN

Contacts: [meetasp@gmail.com](mailto:meetasp@gmail.com) Phone: +977-98510-22035  
Jhamsikhel, Ward 3, Lalitpur, NEPAL

---

### SUMMARY PROFILE

I have had extensive experience in the development sector in Nepal, most recently as the Director of the Himalayan Program of The Mountain Institute, where I am currently a Senior Fellow. Over the years I have held technical and senior management positions, gathering experiences in fund raising, management, program design, strategy and policy development, monitoring and evaluation, partnership building and liaison, networking, outreach and communications in relation to multi-sectoral development programs in Nepal. After 15 years of development experience, I returned to academia for a Doctorate in Philosophy at the University of Michigan, USA, where I conducted research and wrote my dissertation entitled: “*Social Exclusion and Social Change: Access to, and Influence of, Community-Based Collective Action Programs in Nepal*”, which resulted in a series of three papers, two of which have been published. I have also gathered extensive experience in research focusing on poverty alleviation, gender equality and social inclusion, resulting in peer reviewed publications. I am currently engaged as an Independent Development Professional and Researcher, and am affiliated with a few research institutions in Nepal.

---

### EDUCATION

2011 Doctorate in Philosophy, Sociology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, USA.  
1991 Masters of Arts, Sociology, George Mason University, Virginia, USA.  
1989 Bachelor of Arts, Jesus & Mary College, Honours in Sociology, University of Delhi, INDIA.

---

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Nov 2021 – May 2023** (expected): *Co-Principal Investigator* (part time).

A Participatory Action Research project titled, “Co-producing a shock resilient business ecosystem for women-led enterprises in Nepal”. The key objective of the project is to “co-produce realistic solutions for financially viable and shock-resistant agriculture and forest-based enterprises that support women’s economic self-sufficiency”. I am the Theme Leader for Gender Equality and Social Inclusion and oversee the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning aspects of the project. Lead by Southasia Institute for Advanced Studies (SiAS) and funded by IDRC, Canada.

**Sept 2021 – Present:** *Expert*, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI).

This task is related to preparing a National Framework for “Leaving No One Behind” as part of the Accelerating Implementation of SDGs in Nepal Project implemented by the National Planning Commission and UNDP Nepal. Contracted by Karnali Investment and Development Company, Nepal.

**July 2021 – Present:** *Consultant*, Technical Guidance for Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI).

This task is related to providing technical guidance to the Central Bureau of Statistics Nepal, through UNFPA, on GESI in relation to all the Nepal Population and Housing Census activities and products ranging from communications materials, training manuals and materials, selection and recruitment procedures for supervisors and enumerators, dissemination and tabulation plans, inception report and analytical reports, etc. Contracted by UNFPA, Nepal.

**December 2020 – July 2021:** *Team Leader*, Research on “Gender Equality and Sustainable Development in the Mountain Areas of Asia. Exploring the role of gender equality in addressing climate change, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem restoration and food security.”

This is a desk-based research initiative to contribute towards advancing gender equality in addressing multiple Sustainable Development Goals, particularly climate change, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem restoration, and food security in selected mountain areas of Asia – Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Nepal and Thailand. As the Team Leader, I coordinated the study with experts from all the countries. The study was commissioned by Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development in Nepal, with support from the United Nations Environment Programme–

International Ecosystem Management Partnership and Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research-Chinese Academy of Sciences.

[http://www.libird.org/app/publication/view.aspx?record\\_id=439&origin=results&QS=QS&sortfld\\_221=Date&reversesearch=true&top\\_parent=221#](http://www.libird.org/app/publication/view.aspx?record_id=439&origin=results&QS=QS&sortfld_221=Date&reversesearch=true&top_parent=221#)

**February 2021 – March 2021: *Consultant*, Technical Support for Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI).**

This task is related to providing technical guidance to the Central Bureau of Statistics Nepal, through UNFPA, on GESI in relation to all census activities and products ranging from communications materials, training manuals and materials, selection and recruitment procedures for supervisors and enumerators, dissemination and tabulation plans, inception report and analytical reports, etc. Contracted by UNFPA, Nepal.

**November 2020 – December 2020**

***Program Development Consultant.*** This assignment was related to developing a technical proposal on the prevention of and response to gender-based violence in two Provinces in Nepal. I reviewed necessary documents, facilitated discussions with staff and all partners that came together in a consortium, and coordinated all the necessary supporting documentation needed for the proposals. I developed three proposals to address the key contracts called by the terms of reference of the multilateral agency, which called for applications. Contracted by Ipas Nepal.

**July 2017–November 2020**

***Team Leader and Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Expert*, National Level Research Project - “A Study on the State of Social Inclusion in Nepal” (SOSIN).**

This was a national level research project with four major studies being undertaken: (i) Nepal Social Inclusion Survey, (ii) Resilience Capacity of Communities, (iii) Inclusive Governance, and (iv) Monitoring the SDGs. The primary objective of this research was to generate empirical data and furnish sound analysis on the current state of social inclusion in contemporary Nepal. It has generated comprehensive quantitative data to measure social inclusion at the national level, complemented by in-depth ethnographic studies on micro-dynamics of exclusion and barriers to inclusion. This study follows the ground breaking 2012 study – “Social Inclusion Atlas and Ethnographic Profile” – that provided, for the first time in Nepal, household level data of 98 different caste and ethnic groups on social, economic, political representation and discrimination. This second wave provides opportunities for measuring changes over the 6-year period and is of tremendous value for targeted policy interventions.

I participated as one of the Team Leaders and the GESI Expert, working with all the study teams to help integrate gender equality and social inclusion into the household surveys and the ethnographic data collection processes, train survey enumerators and ethnographers, and conduct data analysis using an intersectional framework. The four key outputs from this research are accessible at the following link: <http://anthropologytu.edu.np/book/>. The studies present the research findings as well as policy recommendations to help policy makers to understand and use the data for policies, programs, monitoring and evaluation purposes. This study was carried out by the Central Department of Anthropology, Tribhuvan University, Nepal and was commissioned by USAID Nepal.

**February 2020**

***Gender Analysis of a Solar Technology Project*, as a GESI Expert, German Development Cooperation (GiZ), Nepal.**

Extensive review of and expert inputs in the background document entitled “*Gender Analysis of the Promotion of On- and Off-Grid Solar Technologies for Inclusive Development*”. Contracted by GiZ, Nepal.

**November 2019-March 2020**

***The Mountain Institute (TMI) Himalayas Program Advisor.***

Provide advice, guidance and support to the TMI Himalaya Program Office staff in Kathmandu, on programmatic issues, financial management and coordination with key government officials. Contracted by TMI HQ in Washington DC, USA.

**August 2019**

***Document Review as GESI Expert*, International Labour Organization, Nepal.**

Extensive review and expert inputs in the study report entitled, “*Review of laws, policies and practices in the areas of violence and harassment in the world of work*”. Contracted by the ILO, Kathmandu, Nepal.

## July 2018 onwards

**Senior Fellow**, The Mountain Institute.

The Mountain Institute is the only international, non-governmental organization that focuses exclusively on the challenges faced by remote mountain communities and the fragile environments that surround them. As Senior Fellow I will continue to focus on advocating for more equitable attention to the marginalized geographies that are a key source for food, water and clean energy for much of the world's population, as well as the communities that have a rich and diverse cultural heritage. Yet life conditions in these communities are being affected by growing economic poverty in the light of climate change and limited global and national attention. I also provide guidance, mentorship and networking support to the team in Nepal, and provide technical inputs to new program and strategy development when needed.

## January 2014 – June 2018

**Director, Himalayan Program**, and *Jane Pratt Fellow in Sustainable Mountain Development*, The Mountain Institute (TMI).

TMI is the only international non-governmental organization that focuses on the environmental conservation, sustainable livelihoods and cultural preservation of high mountain areas. As Director of the Himalayan Program, I was responsible for the overall program leadership in Nepal and the Asia Region, which entails responsibilities related to overall program management; fund raising; program, strategy and policy development; action research initiatives; partnership building and liaison; networking; outreach and communications. Program development initiatives spanned those that were designed exclusively by TMI, to others where multiple national and international partners were involved including those who were non-profit organizations as well as the private sector.

I represented TMI on behalf of mountain communities in national, international and regional forums, conferences and workshops, where papers were presented on a wide area of topics focusing on the niche role and opportunities of mountain communities and geographies. As a member of the Senior Management Team of TMI, I contributed to the global agenda of the organization in terms of programs and strategy development, and lent support to the TMI teams in the Andes Program and the Headquarters in USA. Lead and mentored a group of highly committed and dedicated staff, as well national and international interns. [www.mountain.org](http://www.mountain.org)

## July 2011 – December 2013

### *Various Assignments as an Independent Development Consultant*

January 2012 – December 2013

**Gender and Social Inclusion Expert Advisor to the Research Team** and *Co-Author* on the Nepal Social Inclusion Survey Report for a study entitled "Social Inclusion Atlas and Ethnographic Profile (SIAEP)", carried out by the Central Department of Sociology/ Anthropology, Tribhuvan University, Nepal, and commissioned by the Social Inclusion Research Fund and supported by the Royal Norwegian Embassy, Nepal.

March 2013 – December 2013

**Consultant, Monitoring Human Rights and Gender Equality Programmes** that are funded by the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Nepal. Monitoring of programmes of four different agencies implementing programmes supporting human rights and gender equality at the community, VDC and District levels, namely INSEC, Blue Diamond Society, the Inter Party Women's Alliance and Sankalpa-Women's Alliance for Peace, Justice and Democracy. Field visits conducted in Banke, Bardia, Jhapa, Ilam, and Doti districts. Contracted by the Royal Norwegian Embassy, Nepal.

August 2013 – October 2013

**Consultant, Identifying Social Development Priorities for the Social Inclusion Action Programme**, focusing on (i) gender equality and social inclusion, and (ii) migration patterns and its impact on the family. The assignment entails a review of existing secondary data, reports and assessments, as well as series of consultations with a range of stakeholders, resulting in a study report. Contracted by the World Bank, Kathmandu.

February – August 2013

**Lead Consultant, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Advisor**, supporting the insertion of GESI modules and materials in the curriculum of five different areas in the health sector – Skilled Birth Attendants, Female Community Health Volunteers, Health Facility Operation and Management Committees, Senior Auxiliary Health Workers and Behaviour Change and Communication. Contracted by Nepal Health Sector Support Programme, Nepal.

December 2012 - January 2013

**Consultant, Programme Design**. Successfully supported the design of a proposal for the Multi-Stakeholder Forestry Programme, for a joint venture between LI-BIRD and Alliance Nepal. Contracted by LI-BIRD, Nepal.

December 2012 – January 2013

**Consultant**, “Map Existing Provisions and Initiatives towards Rural Women’s Economic Empowerment” This assignment was related to a Joint Programme of four UN agencies - UN Women, FAO, IFAD and WFP – titled “Accelerating Progress towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women”. Reviewed relevant documents, conducted consultations with a wide range of stakeholders and prepared a report on the topic. Also conducted a preliminary review of the project document that was under development for the same project. Contracted by UN Women, Nepal.

August 2012 – January 2013

**Lead Researcher**, Further Analysis of the Nepal Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) 2011. The co-authored paper is titled: *Maternal and Child Health in Nepal: The Effects of Caste, Ethnicity, and Regional Identity. Further Analysis of the 2011 Nepal Demographic and Health Survey*. Contracted by Nepal Health Sector Support Programme (NHSSP), Kathmandu, Nepal. The paper is available at: <http://www.measuredhs.com/pubs/pdf/FA73/FA73.pdf>

July 2011 – July 2013

**Researcher**, “Research into the Long Term Impact of Development Interventions in the Koshi Hills of Nepal”, a study commissioned by the UK’s Department for International Development and managed by GRM International, Kathmandu, Nepal. The goals of the study were to understand the dynamics of economic and social change, to assess the role of development interventions and draw conclusions that may help shape future development policy-making and to assess the approach taken to development by providing key insights into what has, and has not, impacted on the socio-economic development of this region. For a copy of the report and other details refer to:

<https://www.gov.uk/dfid-research-outputs/long-term-impact-of-development-interventions-koshi-hills-nepal>

### August 2005 – June 2011

**Graduate Student**, Department of Sociology, and **Trainee**, Population Studies Center, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA.

Dissertation entitled: “*Social Exclusion and Social Change: Access to, and Influence of, Community-Based Collective Action Programs in Nepal*”. This is a dissertation based on a series of three papers of publishable quality.

[http://deepblue.lib.umich.edu/bitstream/handle/2027.42/86357/meetasp\\_1.pdf?sequence=1](http://deepblue.lib.umich.edu/bitstream/handle/2027.42/86357/meetasp_1.pdf?sequence=1)

- **August 2005-June 2011 - Research Assistant:** During the entire period of my Graduate Studies (except for one semester), I worked at the Population Studies Center, within the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan, as a Research Assistant. I supported the research design and preparation of questionnaires for a large-scale, on-going survey research in Nepal. I worked with multiple Professors and Research Associates in the design and administration of their research work and also co-authored papers based on the research (peer reviewed and research reports). I also supported the work of the Institute for Social and Environmental Research (ISER-N) in Chitwan Nepal, which administered the survey work.
- **August 2012-Dec 2012 – Teaching Assistant:** During this semester I was a Teaching Assistant at the Department of Sociology, at the University of Michigan. I supported the Professor teaching an Introduction to Sociology class, conducted weekly discussion sessions for two classes comprising a total of 50 students. I prepared and delivered lectures, led and moderated discussions, counselled students, and reviewed and graded exams.

## **July 2001 – August 2005**

### ***Program Development Coordinator***, CARE International in Nepal.

Coordinating writing program and project proposals to various donors, some over \$2 million.

- Program Proposals: Provided team leadership and coordinated the development of numerous proposals. In 2003-2004 I was involved in the design of 14 different proposals ranging from US\$ 50,000 to US\$ 7.2 million submitted to USAID, DfID, ECHO, EU, Danida, Government of Austria, Gates Foundation, and private donors in the USA. Of them seven had been funded by August 2005.
- Team Work: Worked in teams with CARE staff, local implementing partners, consultants, for designing new projects and developing proposals; planned and co-ordinated the entire process from data collection, analysis, write up of proposal for final submission to donors.
- Development of Program Strategies – contributed towards the formulation of Remote Areas Development Strategy, Churia Area Program Strategy and Health Program Strategy.
- Member, Rights Based Approach Core Team: advancing rights based programming within the organization and in the programs that involved capacity strengthening of staff, designing and supporting pilot initiatives, management of internship program for *Dalits*, and writing proposals for raising funds for supporting this work, and advancing gender and diversity within the organization and in the programs.
- Member, Senior Management Team: provided programmatic and institutional direction and participated in all aspects of decision making in the organization.
- Human Resources Department (two years): overall management of and providing guidance and supporting the day-to-day functioning of the Human Resources Department.

## **August 1997 – June 2001**

### ***Project Coordinator***, CARE International in Nepal

Overall management of two multi-sectoral projects in two districts.

- Line Management Support: to two participatory watershed management projects (annual budget approximately \$0.5 m, 30+ staff) funded by Danida and one project focusing on capacity strengthening of elected and nominated women political representatives funded by CIDA.
- Responsible for gender and caste strategy formulation and technical backstopping to Project Managers and key project staff of eight integrated projects and the Central Office in gender and caste equity program planning and implementation. Responsible for budget preparation and monitoring, liaison with donors, national government authorities, and national/ international networks involved in watershed management, gender equality and good governance programs.
- Project Designs: Led the design of an innovative project focusing on capacity strengthening of elected and nominated women political representatives in three remote districts. Special Initiatives: Developing proposals and raising funds for special initiatives such as a social audit of the organization focusing on gender and caste issues, training for staff, government counterparts and partners in gender and development orientations, and social analysis skill development.
- Network Initiation: "Local Governance and Gender Equity" with an initial membership of 20 government and non-government organizations, focused on learning and influencing.
- Monitoring and Evaluation Training: organized for Project Managers and other senior project staff, based on CARE Standard DM&E framework. Preparing Terms of Reference, identified consultants, designed and executed baseline, mid-term and final evaluation of projects and finalized reports.
- Contributed to design and analysis of one Household Livelihood Security Assessment.
- Member of Senior Management Team, responsible for giving programmatic and institutional directions and involved in all aspects of decision making in the organization.

## **November 1995 - March 1996**

### ***Assistant Monitoring and Evaluation Officer***, UNICEF, Country Office, Nepal.

- Supported the planning and management of the second and third cycles of the "Nepal Multiple Indicators Surveillance" (NMIS) related to primary education, child health, nutrition status, water and sanitation, conducted under the flagship of the National Planning Commission of the Government of Nepal; and liaison with government counterparts.

## **February 1994 - May 1995**

**Visiting Researcher**, Centre for Environment and Development, Dragvoll University, Trondheim, Norway.

- Associated with "The Politics of Environmental Management and Conservation" Program.
- Presentations on community development and income generation involving women's participation, including lectures at the Centre and for graduate and postgraduate students at the Department of Geography at the University of Trondheim.

#### September 1991 - January 1994

**Women's Development Program Officer**, Makalu-Barun National Park and Conservation Area Project, the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, Nepal, and The Mountain Institute, USA Nepal.

An innovative project managed jointly by the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC), the Government of Nepal and The Mountain Institute, USA, aimed at creating a balance between natural resource management and conservation along with social, economic and cultural development of area through the participation of the local people. Lead and provide direction to integrate a gender perspective in all programs.

- Special focus on promoting and motivating group organization focusing on women's groups and development of potential entrepreneurship opportunities and skill development training.
- Managerial and Capacity Building Support: to the *Allo* Cloth Production Club – a local women's enterprise of weaving and selling nettle cloth, with an emphasis on self-reliance. Developed linkages between the rural producers and urban market centres in Kathmandu to produce a shift from a welfare approach to a more business/entrepreneurial approach.
- Special Program Development: Village Initiated Programs – a small grant program to encourage local level interaction, participation and skills in planning, implementing, monitoring and self-evaluating community development activities by the community members themselves.

#### April 1992 – July 1992

**Research Associate**, for a study entitled: "Clients, Services and Sustainability: A Study of Three Priority Sector Credit Programs". Principle Investigator: Dr Lynn Bennett, The World Bank.

- Supported the design of tools and checklists for data collection, collected data using participatory techniques, focus group interviews, field observation and study of program records, and wrote up two case studies.

## PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

### Publications

**Pradhan, M.S.**, Rai-Paudyal, B., Rai, A., Bai, Y., Hengsuwan, P., Bun, P., and Yangzom, D. (2021). "Exploring the role of gender equality in addressing climate change, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem restoration and food security". In: Thapa, B., Fu, C., and Zhang, L (Eds), *Gender Equality and Sustainable Development in the Mountain Areas of Asia*. LI-BIRD, Pokhara, Nepal.

**Pradhan, M.S** and Gurung, Y.B. 2020. *Who are Left Behind? Tracking Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals in Nepal. Evidence from Nepal Social Inclusion Survey 2018*. Kirtipur, Nepal: Central Department of Anthropology Tribhuvan University. (<http://anthropologytu.edu.np/who-are-left-behind/>)

Pokharel, B. and **Pradhan, M.S.** 2020. *State of Inclusive Governance: A Study on Participation and Representation after Federalization in Nepal*. Kirtipur, Nepal: Central Department of Anthropology, Tribhuvan University. (<http://anthropologytu.edu.np/state-of-inclusive-governance/>)

Gurung, Y.B., **Pradhan, M.S.**, and Shakya, D.V. 2020. *State of Social Inclusion in Nepal: Caste, Ethnicity and Gender. Evidence from Nepal Social Inclusion Survey 2018*. Kirtipur, Nepal: Central Department of Anthropology, Tribhuvan University. (<http://anthropologytu.edu.np/state-of-social-inclusion-in-nepal/>)

Tamang, M.S; Shakya, D.V, **Pradhan, M.S**, Gurung, Y.B. and Mabuhang, B. 2020. *Community Resilience Capacity: A Study on Nepal's 2015 Earthquakes and Aftermath*. Kirtipur, Nepal: Central Department of Anthropology, Tribhuvan University. (<http://anthropologytu.edu.np/community-resilience-capacity/>)

Klein, Julia A., Tucker, C.M., Steger, C.E., Nolin, A., Reid, R., Hopping, K.A., Yeh, E.T., **Pradhan, M.S.**, Taber, A, Molden, D., Ghatte, R., Choudhury, D., Alcántara-Ayala, I., Lavorel, S., Müller, B., Grêt-Regamey, A., Boone, R.B., Bourgeron, P.,

- Edwin Castellanos, E., Chen, X., Dong, S., Keiler, M., Seidl, R., Thorn, J., Yager, K. 2019. "An integrated community and ecosystem-based approach to disaster risk reduction in mountain systems". *Environmental Science and Policy* 94:143–152.
- Koleros, A., Jupp, D., Kirwan, S., **Pradhan, M.S.**, Pradhan, P.K., Seddon, D., and Tumbahangfe, A. 2015. "Methodological Considerations in Evaluating Long-Term Systems Change: A Case Study From Eastern Nepal". *American Journal of Evaluation*, 37 (3): 364-380. (<http://aje.sagepub.com/content/early/2015/12/01/1098214015615231.abstract>)
- Pradhan, Meeta S.** 2014. "The Influence of Community Group Experiences on Gender and Family Related Attitudes". *Studies in Nepali History and Society* 19(1): 41-84.
- Gurung, Y.B., B.R. Suwal, **M. S. Pradhan** and M. S. Tamang. 2014. *Nepal Social Inclusion Survey 2012. Caste, Ethnic and Gender Dimensions of Socio-Economic Development, Governance, and Social Solidarity*. Kathmandu, Nepal: Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology, Tribhuvan University.
- Pradhan, Meeta S.** 2014. "Perspectives on Multiple Dimensions and Intersections in Social Inclusion". Paper in *Perspectives on Social Inclusion and Exclusion in Nepal*, pages 38-56, Edited by Om Gurung, Mukta S. Tamang and Mark Turin. Kirtipur, Nepal: Central Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Tribhuvan University.
- Pandey, J. P., M.R. Dhakal, S. Karki, P. Poudel, and **M.S. Pradhan**. 2013. *Maternal and Child Health in Nepal: The Effects of Caste, Ethnicity, and Regional Identity: Further Analysis of the 2011 Nepal Demographic and Health Survey*. Calverton, Maryland, USA: Nepal Ministry of Health and Population, New ERA, and ICF International. (Link to this publication is: <http://www.measuredhs.com/publications/publication-FA73-Further-Analysis.cfm>)
- Pradhan, Meeta S.** 2012. "Who Participates? The Association of Caste and Ethnicity and Participation in Local Level Collective Action Programs". *Contributions to Nepalese Studies*, Special Issue, 39:99-136.
- Williams, Nathalie E., Dirgha J. Ghimire, William G. Axinn, Elyse A. Jennings, and **Meeta S. Pradhan**. 2012. "A Micro-Level Approach to Investigating Armed Conflict and Population Responses". *Demography* 49:1521–1546
- Pradhan, Meeta S.** 2010. "Keeping Girls in School and Delaying Early Marriage in Nepal". *Policy Brief*, Chitwan, Nepal: Institute for Social and Environmental Research-Nepal (ISER-N).
- Williams, Nathalie E., and **Meeta S. Pradhan**. 2009. "Political Conflict and Migration: How has Violence and Political Instability Affected Migration Patterns in Nepal?" *PSC Research Report No. 09-677*, Population Studies Centre, University of Michigan.
- Pradhan, Meeta S.** and Marcy Vigoda. 2001. *Diversity Strategy: Towards Gender and Caste Equity*. CARE Nepal, Kathmandu. Nepal.
- Byers, Elizabeth and **Meeta Sainju**. 1994. "Mountain ecosystems and women: opportunities for sustainable development and conservation". *Mountain Research and Development* 14(3): 213-228.
- Sainju, Meeta**. 1994. "Partners in Development? Makalu Barun Conservation Project and the *Allo* Cloth Production Club: Experiences from Eastern Nepal". *Message No. 4/95 Centre for Environment and Development*, University of Trondheim, Norway.

### **Online Publications**

- Spoon, J. and **M. S. Pradhan**. 2016a (25 April) Looking back on the one year anniversary of the 2015 Nepal earthquakes. *Exposure* (blog). The Mountain Institute. <https://tmi.exposure.co/one-year-after-the-nepal-quake>.
- Spoon, J. and **M. S. Pradhan**. 2016b (25 April). Critical Transitions One Year After the Nepal Quake. Mountain Partnership. <http://www.mountainpartnership.org/news/news-detail/en/c/411787/>.
- Taber, A. and **M.S. Pradhan**. 2014. "High Poverty: Medicinal Plants Offer Way Forward for Nepal's Mountain Communities". *New Security Beat* (Blog). (September 29) The Mountain Institute. <https://www.newsecuritybeat.org/2014/09/high-poverty-medicinal-plant-cultivation-offers-nepals-mountain-communities/>

### **Professional Presentations**

- Pradhan, Meeta S. and A. Taber. "Community-Based Innovations for Climate Resilience in Mountains: Linking Traditional and Scientific Knowledge". Presentation at the side event - *Bio-cultural heritage-based innovations for climate resilient food systems: Lessons and best practices* - at the COP22 in Marrakech. UNFCCC, COP22, Marrakech, November 15<sup>th</sup> 2016.
- Pradhan, Meeta S. "Building Back Resilient Livelihoods: Experiences from the Nepal 2015 Earthquake". Presentations at two side events at the COP21 in Paris: (i) *Ecosystem-Based Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction*; and (ii) *Adapting to Climate Change - Success Stories and Challenges from across Mountain Ranges*. UNFCCC, COP21, Paris, 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015.

- Meeta S. Pradhan and Andrew Taber. "Linking Impoverished Communities to Global Markets". Presentation at the Event: *Trade Policy Dialogue on Promoting Products which Contribute to Sustainable and Inclusive Growth through Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation*, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Meetings, Cebu, Philippines, 28 August 2015.
- Meeta S. Pradhan (with Karma Bhutia and Brian Peniston). "From Vulnerable to Vibrant: Cultivating Medicinal and Aromatic Plants in the Himalayas". Presentation at the *International Conference on Organic and Ecological Agriculture in Mountain Ecosystems*, jointly, organized by the Government of Bhutan, Navdanya, Millennium Institute and the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM). Thimpu, Bhutan, March 2014.
- Pradhan, Meeta S. "Perspectives on Multiple Dimensions and Intersections in Social Inclusion". *Paper presented at "Methodology Design and Consultation Workshop" for Research on Social Inclusion Atlas and Ethnographic Profile (SIAEP)*, Kathmandu, Nepal, 6-8 May 2012.
- Pradhan, Meeta S. "Participation in Community Groups: Changes in Membership among Individuals from Different Castes Groups". *Paper presented at conference on Changing Dynamics of Nepali Society and Politics*, Kathmandu, Nepal 17-19 August, 2011.
- Pradhan, Meeta S. "Who Participates? The "Penalty" of Caste and Ethnicity on Participation in Local Level Collective Action Programs". *Paper presented at 2010 Asian Population Association*, New Delhi, November 14-19, 2010.
- Pradhan, Meeta S. "Who Participates? The "Penalty" of Caste and Ethnicity on Participation in Community Group Programs". *Poster presented at 2010 Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America*, Dallas, TX, April 15-17, 2010.
- Pradhan, Meeta S. 2010. "The Relationship Between Participation in Community Groups and Attitudes About Marriage and Gender Roles". *Paper presented at the Annual Meetings of the Population Association of America*, New Orleans, April 2008.
- Williams, Nathalie and Meeta S. Pradhan. 2008. "Political Conflict and Migration: How has Violence and Political Instability Affected Migration Patterns in Nepal?" *Paper presented at the Third Annual Himalayan Policy Research Conference*, Madison, Wisconsin, October 2008.
- Pradhan, Meeta S. 2008. "The Relationship Between Participation in Community Groups and Attitudes About Marriage and Gender Roles". *Paper presented at the Annual Meetings of the Population Association of America*, New Orleans, April 2008.
- Sainju, Meeta. 1992. "Women, Environment and Participatory Development: Some Experiences From East Nepal". *Paper presented at the VII National Conference of Women Studies, Looking Forward, Looking Back: In Search of Feminist Visions, Alternate Paradigms and Practices*. December 27-30, 1992, Jaipur, India.

## OTHER ACADEMIC/PANEL PRESENTATIONS AND ADVISORY FUNCTIONS

### Advisory and Mentoring Functions

- **November 2020 – Present:** Mentor for the TU Research and Writing Support Group, through which I am mentoring two scholars to provide support in preparing a journal article for publication (on a volunteer basis).
- **July–November 2019:** Member of Advisory Committee for the study on "Adaptation Finance Tracking in Nepal", conducted by Prakriti Resources Center and Care Nepal, Kathmandu.

### Presentations as a Panellist

- 5 December 2019: Panellist in the launching programme of the Global Hunger Index Report 2019 in Nepal.
- 2 April 2019: Panellist in the session "Making Himalayan Initiatives Work" at the Fourth Himalayan Consensus Summit 2019, Kathmandu.
- 13 March 13, 2019: Panellist in the session "Varying Visions for Karnali" at the program - *Towards an Inclusive Vision for Sustainable Water Futures in Western Nepal*, International Water Management Institute, Kathmandu.

### Academic Presentations

- 29 Sept 2012: Guest Lecture at the Central Department of Sociology/Anthropology at Tribhuvan University, Nepal for MPhil students.
- 1995-96: Conducted guest lectures on women's development and livelihoods in mountain areas of Nepal on a number of occasions at the University of Trondheim, Norway.



## **AFFILIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS**

- Sr. Research Scientist: Institute for Social and Environmental Research–Nepal (ISER-N), Nepal ([isernepal.org.np](http://isernepal.org.np))  
Sr. Research Fellow: South Asian Institute of Advanced Studies ([www.sias-southasia.org/team/](http://www.sias-southasia.org/team/))  
Life Member: Population Association of Nepal  
General Member: Nepal Sociological Association  
Vice Chairperson: TEWA - Fund for Women, a Nepali non-profit committed to philanthropy for equitable justice and peace ([www.tewa.org.np](http://www.tewa.org.np)).  
Vice Chairperson: Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD), a Nepali non-governmental organization ([www.libird.org](http://www.libird.org)).  
Board Member: Nepalese Parkinson's Disease Association, a Nepali non-governmental organization ([www.nepda.com.np](http://www.nepda.com.np)).  
Board Member: Sambhav (Possible Health) (<https://possiblehealth.org/who-we-are/team/>)  
Chairperson: LIBIRD Consulting Private Limited (LCPL).

## **AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

- 2011 Rackham One-Term Dissertation Fellowship, University of Michigan, USA.  
2009-10 Population Policy Communication Fellow, Population Reference Bureau, USA.  
2009 Marshall Weinberger Research Fellowship Award. Population Studies Center, University of Michigan.  
2009 PG Brown Grant. Population Studies Center, University of Michigan, USA.  
2009 Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant. University of Michigan, USA.  
2008-09 Barbour Scholarship. Rackham Graduate School, University of Michigan, USA.  
2007/8 & 2010 Fogarty Fellow, Fogarty International Center, National Institutes of Health (NIH), USA.  
2006 Kathryn London Memorial Fellowship, Summer Fellowship, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan.  
2005 LS&A Regent's Departmental Fellowship, Fellowship, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan.

## **LANGUAGES**

- English: Excellent  
Nepali: Excellent (mother tongue)  
Newari: Fair (ethnic language)  
Hindi: Fair

## **REFERENCES**

Available upon request.