

INTRODUCTION

Friends for Peace (FFP) is a non-governmental, non-profit organization registered under the Associations Registration Act, 1977. It is dedicated to conflict transformation and peacebuilding in Nepal. FFP was established in May 2004 with a view to facilitate research in the sphere of conflict transformation and peacebuilding. When the second round of peace negotiations failed in 2003, a group of human rights activists and facilitators who were involved in the past two rounds of peace negotiations came up with the initiative regarding the need for a resource centre, which could provide needs-based and research-oriented knowledge and expertise to all stakeholders engaged in conflict resolution and peacebuilding endeavors. This concerted effort led to the birth of FFP. The current activities of FFP are implemented on the basis of Strategic Planning Meeting, under the guidance of the Executive Board, Board of Advisors and FFP staff in collaboration with International Alert, a London-based international peacebuilding NGO. With the mutating conflict dynamics, FFP remains a public resource, and keeps exploring new avenues related to conflict transformation and peacebuilding in Nepal. FFP continues to collaborate with different like-minded national and international organizations.



Members of Friends for Peace (FFP) and International Alert (IA) participating at the Strategic Planning Meeting, February 2007.

VISION

FFP envisions to be a leading national, independent research and resource organization with the capacity to provide needs-based information, credible knowledge and expertise on conflict transformation in order to contribute to sustainable peace, not only in Nepal but around the Asian region.

MISSION

Our mission is to create an unbiased, non-partisan and democratic forum, through which issues of conflict in Nepal can be researched and assimilated, and provide research-oriented knowledge and expertise to stakeholders, creating an environment of trust and confidence among them - for a peaceful political settlement.

OBJECTIVES

The main objective of FFP is to establish a credible knowledge base that provides expertise on the issues of concern during the time of crisis or in a post-conflict situation. It also hopes to facilitate greater participation of civil society organizations and individuals to bring about a peaceful transformation of all types of conflict, and pave the way for sustainable peace in the future.

Specific objectives include:

- To work as a think tank and carry out research on various issues related to conflict transformation and peacebuilding in Nepal.
- To generate and collect resources on conflict transformation and peacebuilding to assist researchers and other related stakeholders with better resources.
- To facilitate a wider exchange of ideas through seminars, conferences, public forums, informal discussions, international exchanges and other interaction programs.
- To synthesise regional, national and international experiences, knowledge and expertise on conflict transformation and peacebuilding.
- To establish links and collaborate with a range of like-minded national and international organizations to relevant research.

ACTIVITIES

Based on a wide range of consultations, FFP is conducting research on various issues considered to be of paramount importance in the changing scenario of the country.

The most important areas of our activities are :



- Research undertaken on comparative peace processes, security sector reform and international relations specific to conflict. Within this broad framework, documentation of local peace agendas, peace initiatives and media response to conflict are also covered.
- In the current context, efforts are being made towards building capacity for civilian oversight of the security sector, aiming to generate awareness and facilitate debate on democratic control, transparency and accountability of the security sector.
- Another area of continuous focus of FFP is to initiate research and debate on the issues of Constituent Assembly Election, constitution making and role of different stakeholders in the entire process.
- FFP is also organizing interactions and workshops on issues of contention such as federalism, inclusive democracy, electoral reform, delimitation of electoral constituencies to pave the way for a new federal Nepal as guided by the first amendment in the Interim Constitution.
- FFP organizes interactions among civil society, political stakeholders, media, NGOs and academics, to better understand, assimilate and address conflict-related issues.
- FFP's future research activities would be on the basis of new challenges relevant to the contemporary realities in the days to come.

PHYSICAL FACILITIES

The FFP office is centrally located at Purano Baneshwor. It has a well-equipped library with a large range of books, periodicals, magazines, journals and reports on various issues related to conflict transformation, peacebuilding, strategic studies, international relations, war, terrorism and human rights. It is constantly updated, and has a computerized database installed to facilitate easier access to all materials. The library has internet and e-mail access for the patrons.

FUNDING RESOURCES

FFP carries out its activities by generating funds from different sources. FFP accepts grants from various national and international organizations or individuals; however, it does not compromise on altering its vision, mission and objectives. At present, FFP is supported by the Norwegian government through International Alert (IA).

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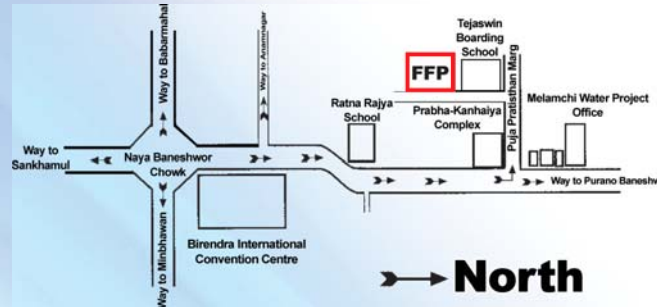
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Working together for peace



Friends for Peace (FFP)

Dedicated to conflict transformation and peacebuilding

