GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON HOMEBASED WORKERS

8TH FEBRUARY, 2015
REGIONAL PRESENTATION
SOUTH ASIA
Overview of HBWs in the region:

- 50 million homebased workers in South Asia, 80% women,
- 2 million HBW in Bangladesh (2009-10)
- 37.4 million HBW in India (2011-12)
- 0.92 million HBW in Nepal (2008)
- 1.43 million HBW in Pakistan (2008-09)
## Women Homebased Workers:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Women urban HBWs</th>
<th>Total urban HBWs</th>
<th>Women, as percentage of total urban HBWs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh (2009-10)</td>
<td>156836</td>
<td>454529</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India (2010-11)</td>
<td>734000</td>
<td>16950000</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal (2010-11)</td>
<td>120,000</td>
<td>230000</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan (2010-11)</td>
<td>424000</td>
<td>545000</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>8040836</td>
<td>1817959</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Type of Homebased Work:

- Piece Rate and Own Account workers:
- Handicrafts- embroidery, weaving, stitching, knitting,
- Food Processing-
- Assembling & packaging-
Extent of organizing HBWs and type of organizations of HBWs in your region-

- **HomeNet South Asia** – Regional network of homebased worker organisations,

- **Country**- Bhutan, Bangladesh, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka,

- **Mapped organisations**- 508- *Bangladesh*, 39 –*India*, 135-*Nepal*, and 307 in *Pakistan*, *Sri Lanka*-147-(Trade Unions, Cooperatives, Association, NGOs, Community Based Organisations (CBOs) self help groups,)

- **Type of homebased workers**- own account workers-most found in *rural*, piece rate workers-most found in *urban*,
Role of Organisations: Organising HBWs

• Survey to identify homebased workers,
• Organising groups around various issues - wages, marketing, social security, civic amenities
• Capacity building of groups - leadership quality, strategic organising, group management, collective bargaining,
• Building Membership Based Organisation,
• Linkages to various schemes and program
• Raise voice of homebased workers through dialogues with policy makers
Capacity building
Region Progress:

- Identification of Organisation through mapping exercise;
- Identified homebased workers in 5 countries (Bhutan, Nepal, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Pakistan - 38582 hbws)
- Organising and formalizing of hbws in groups
- Homebased Workers Company - SABAH (SAARC Business Associate of Homebased Workers - 7 countries (Except India), skills enhancement, marketing,
- Draft National Policy on homebased workers - India, Nepal and Pakistan;
Region Progress:

• Dialogues with city Authorities for access of civic amenities for homebased workers, ( Adoption of Asian Cities Declaration)
• Awareness amongst homebased workers on Social security programme
• Sensitization of policy makers,
• Representation of hbws in local ward committee,
• Regional network- HomeNet South Asia- 49 member organisations
Next Five years:

• Campaign to register and Recognize the HBW.
• Incorporating data on hbws in CENSUS and LFS,
• Improve the health and safety condition of HBWs by related programs/activities
• Network formation of HBW groups organized by different organization;
• Representation of hbws at ward level,
Thank you

SABAH Bhutan, Bhutan
REN, Sri Lanka
Janthakshan, Sri Lanka
SAATHI, Nepal
Women Human Rights- Nepal
Class Nepal, Nepal
HomeNet Pakistan, Pakistan
Women HomeBased Workers Federation, Pakistan