

FIPMO SELF-ASSESSMENT - 2021

Introduction

1. FIPMO (Former International Professional of Multilateral Organizations) was established in in 2015 (and formally registered in 2016). The organization was established to share the expertise of FIPMO members in Nepal for the benefit of the Nepalese. The objective was stated in the Statute as follow:

To Provide A Forum For Members To Channel Their Experience And Expertise For The Benefit Of Nepal And Its People By Means Of Both Supportive And Advocacy Role

2. A Strategic Plan was developed with three Strategic Objectives and relevant activities under each of the strategy objectives. They were the basis for developing work plans to achieve objectives laid down in the Statute. The Strategic Objectives and activities are:

A. Channel the expertise and experience of members

- i) Develop and maintain a directory of expertise
- ii) Facilitate members to serve as mentors
- iii) Develop position papers on matter of topical interest
- iv) Contribute its expertise and experience

B. Advocate on behalf of the United Nations and other Multilateral Organizations

- i) Provide support to fundraising events
- ii) Identify speaking engagements for members
- iii) Promote the work of the UN and other MO
- iv) Invite prominent personalities as guest speakers

C. Maintain and strengthen personal and professional ties with and among members

- i) Develop and main a directory of members
- ii) Organize social networking meetings/conferences
- iii) Provide training / updating for members and also external parties on request
- iv) Organize briefings on relevant issues
- v) Participate in UN events

3. While discussing ideas for future programme of FIPMO at the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 27 June 2021, it was decided that it is about the time that we review the activities that have been carried out during the last seven years and see its effectiveness in fulfilling its strategic objectives. Accordingly, this self-assessment was performed based on the Annual Reports presented to the General Meetings.

Performance

4. The performance of FIPMO during the period is grouped in the three Strategic Objectives.
 - a. Channeling the expertise and experience of members.
 - We have developed a list of expertise, which is placed on the website and we share with external parties. While we have eighty (80) names on our email address list, we have only 48 subscribed members (26 Life members, 21 General

members and an honorary member). Therefore, our list of expertise contains only 48 names.

- We had several initiatives to contribute with the expertise of FIPMO members.
 - We had multiple meetings with the Auditor General and his staff and provided advice on the methodology of performance auditing, review of agriculture and food security, review of agriculture research, and methodology for the review of Sustainable Development Goal.
 - We had a meeting with the Ministry of Women and Children and offered our services to develop a programme to enable rural women.
 - We participated in the workshop to review the initial needs assessment conducted by the National Planning Commission (NPC) following the earthquake of 2015 and a follow up meeting with the National Reconstruction Authority after its creation.
 - We provided a consolidated suggestion on the draft constitution of Nepal to the Chair of the Drafting Committee of the Constituent Assembly.
 - More recently, we offered our expertise to NPC in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. We also offered our support to UN Resident Coordinator's office and participated in the emergency roster.
 - We organized an orientation session for newly appointed ambassadors taking offices with responsibilities for the UN system organizations (New York, Geneva and Bangkok)
- FIPMO initiated several projects of directly support the beneficiaries, which utilized expertise of members, and can be taken as a pilot and replicated,
 - We provided direct material assistance to the earthquake victims in three localities in Lalitpur district.
 - We provided revolving funds to four groups of eight women each from the Daplung village for them to generate income. In the process, the women have organized themselves, developed process for decision making, agreed on criteria for prioritizing the loan, using banks and other management skills.
 - We assisted 17 household of a village in Chitwan on a self-help shelter project where the villagers themselves did the work. Again, the project has assisted the tem to work together, sort our conflicts amicably and prioritise the allocation of resources among themselves.
 - FIPMO collaborated with a couple of external NGOs to provide material assistance to elderly in the early days of COVID-19 pandemic.

b. Advocate on behalf of the United Nations and Other multilateral organizations

- Members have been occasionally invited to speak in the public fora on SDG and other UN related topic. This is sharing the knowledge of the FIPMO members on

the related topics, which has been much appreciated and also fulfilling to the members. Members were also requested to provide leadership training to members of Nepalese youth organizations.

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent a circular to other line ministries inviting them to utilize the expertise of FIPMO members in their respective areas – both in technical matters as well as in governance matter, where appropriate.
- We organized several events inviting prominent personalities for a discourse on relevant topics. Such events provided opportunity to advocate the work of the UN and other multilateral organizations and also helped members to update their knowledge of the national situation on relevant matters.
 - We organized a discussion on addressing the emergency following the earthquake in 2015 together with the Institute of Crisis Management Studies.
 - We organized a discussion forum with the finance minister on the state of economy.
 - We organized a seminar on the state of Nepalese economy with a presentation by FIPMO member, and comments by two FIPMO members, two former finance ministers, and another prominent Nepalese economist.
 - We invited the Vice chairman of the National Planning Commission and the UNDP Country director for a discussion on Nepal development vision 2030 with FIPMO members.
 - We organized a discussion with the Chief Commissioner of the Information Commission to enhance the current knowledge of FIPMO members.
 - We organized a discussion with the Chief of Police Academy to get a briefing and explore the opportunity for mutual collaboration.
 - We organized a mental health awareness session for FIPMO members with the participation of experts in the field.
- We have created a website (www.fipmo-nepal.org) that contains information on FIPMO members as well as its activities. All published information is available on the website both for general public, and for members with credential to access.

c. Maintain and strengthen personal and professional ties with and among members

- We developed a directory of members, including spouse, that facilitates members for contacting one another. We have had several occasional social events to bring together all members and discuss professional as well as personal developments.
- Many of the seminar and discussion that was organized has also helped members to update their local knowledge, after a long absence from Nepal.

Findings:

The activities FIPMO undertook during the past six years since its inception can be grouped in four main categories for the purpose of this self-assessment.

- 1) Advocacy: FIPMO was engaged in advocacy, both internal and external. FIPMO meeting with government officials to brief about FIPMO, and offer its expertise, definitely expanded the sphere of FIPMO. Also, the issuance of a circular by Ministry of Foreign Affairs to other line ministries was a very positive outcome. But at the same time, only 48 out of listed 80 eligible members have subscribed to FIPMO indicates insufficient advocacy within FIPMO itself.
- 2) Expertise Sharing: FIPMO offered its expertise to many institutions, However, an active relationship was established for a while only with the Office of the Auditor General. It is worth exploring whether the cause of the situation is internal to FIPMO or external in the ministries hesitate to take the advice from external sources. This needs to be verified and adjust our strategy accordingly. Likewise, we offered our services to UNRC in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, but very few of FIPMO members offered to be in the roster.
- 3) Interactions: Interaction programme, both with external prominent speakers as well as internal FIPMO experts, were received well although the shortcomings in the advocacy may have prevented the information reaching the larger society. Likewise, involvement of FIPMO members in external outreach in the media and among youth groups has been very positive.
- 4) Direct Support: The most successful of FIPMO activities are direct support provided to beneficiaries. While small in amount, financial or material support seem to have touched the life of recipients. While FIPMO is not needed for this type of support, the transfer of knowledge through the expertise of FIPMO members in these direct support projects can be a significant achievement.

Recommendation:

5. Based on the findings, the following recommendations can be made.
 - a. Focus on what FIPMO has been able to do and continue doing - ,
 - interaction and sharing knowledge and disseminating knowledge through TV, hosting meeting and guest speaker in public fora
 - Provide direct support in emergency and other situation where FIPMO expertise can be demonstrated together with material assistance.
 - b. explore further on how internal and external advocacy can be enhanced.