Rapporteur’s Report: World Bank’s IDA21 CSO Consultation in Nepal, South Asia

June 17, 2024

Eliza Sthapit, National Director,
Habitat for Humanity International Nepal

The South Asia Second Regional IDA Forum on IDA 21 Strategic Directions and Updates of a Better Bank brought together various civil society actors ranging across national, international and regional agencies. Majority of the discussion revolved around some of the common themes of addressing needs of people and planet, shared prosperity and livable planet through greater impact and accountability and fulfilled by ambitions led by data and evidence. IDA's commitment on including CSO voices towards IDA evaluation, engaging CSOs better throughout the program/project cycle and ways to find integration of IDA's grant initiatives with climate resilience were highly welcomed by the audience.

Key Takeaways:

- **Simplicity**: in terms of process management and understanding of policy and regulatory frameworks and ways to enhance operational efficiency around programming and efficient delivery

- **Active role of CSOs**: in IDA replenishment, program design, consultation, accountability and implementation; more clarity solicited in terms of CSOs role on effective delivery of IDA support such as through PPP models.

- **Focus on building pro-poor human capital**: at the grassroots in a decentralized manner, considering global to local impacts and to ensure household level resilience.

- **Interconnectedness and inclusion**: at scale across programming (climate change, gender, inclusion, addressing inequalities and poverty etc) and further unpacking the program priorities at granular level to enhance understanding and address gaps.

- **Solidarity through partnerships**: is enhanced through south-south connectivity, knowledge exchange and collaboration across varied sector of civil society actors on the ground, holistic ways to look into IDA replenishment across sectors and making IDA more effective through robust M&E, and addressing barriers/deficits to emphasize on data driven results and impacts. Accountability is a key in partnerships at all levels and mechanisms should be in place to ensure that all stakeholders are accountable to delivery of results. There should be consideration of collaboration beyond current priorities such as children trafficking, care economy, informal economy, social protection, inclusion of gender and sexual minorities, caste-based discrimination and rights based approach.

- **Policy framework**: ensures strong intent from all government and other partners who implement policies and better coordination among public and civil society actors.

- **Stronger Call for climate action**: to ensure urgent action and attention for concepts getting translated into firm actions.