



**ASIA PACIFIC NETWORK OF ENVIRONMENT DEFENDERS**

## **Solidarity Statement for the Tamang Indigenous People in Nepal**

The Asia Pacific Network of Environment Defenders (APNED) condemns the state repression and violence towards the Tamang Indigenous People and Locals. Our network supports the environmental human rights defenders and indigenous people in Nepal in their struggle to uphold their rights to Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) and environmental rights and to live and own their ancestral domains peacefully.

The construction of the Tamakoshi-Kathmandu 220/400 kV Transmission Line Project in Kathmandu follows the pattern of development aggression and environmental destruction in the ancestral lands of indigenous people. The Nepalese government, institutions, and international organizations have approved the project while ignoring due diligence and process. The strong opposition is in response to the construction of the project's substation located directly within the locals' settlement area. The substation's construction will gravely impact their livelihood and cultural and religious practices.

The struggle for the right to land, culture and life has perpetuated years of violence, repression and attacks against environmental human rights defenders. All over the world, indigenous people and EHRDs face imminent threats to their lives for asserting their rights and fighting climate change and biodiversity loss. According to Global Witness, in 2021, 40% of fatal attacks of EHRDs were against indigenous people.

On behalf of our network, we'd like to call our fellow environmental human rights defenders to help the Tamang Indigenous People and Locals against their struggle for their right to land and life.

We are asking everyone to endorse the [joint statement](#) of the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP), the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA) and the Struggle Against Marginalization of Nationalities (SAMAN) by accomplishing the sign-on statement through this link: [Sign-on statement](#).