

SAFA Women's Day Celebrations & SAFA Women Leadership Awards 2024

The SAFA Women Leadership Committee (WLC) celebrated SAFA Women's Day on March 1, 2024, with the theme 'Inspire Inclusion'. The First SAFA Women Leadership Awards 2024 were also announced at the occasion. This event marked a momentous occasion in recognizing and celebrating the achievements of women in the field of accountancy across SAFA countries. With a blend of in-person attendance in Nepal and virtual participation, the event truly embraced the spirit of inclusion.

The program commenced by Samita Dangol, Senior Officer at ICA Nepal, served as the Master of Ceremonies.

Hina Usmani, Chairperson SAFA WLC, extended a warm welcome and provided an update on SAFA WLC's activities, setting the stage for an enlightening discourse on women's empowerment and inclusion. Sujan Kumar Kafle, President ICA Nepal, shed light on how ICA Nepal is steadfastly supporting women's empowerment and inclusion initiatives.

Ashfaq Yousuf Tola, Vice President SAFA, explored the immense potential of women professionals in accountancy across SAFA countries. Heshana Kuruppu, President SAFA, shared insights into SAFA's strategic direction for fostering diversity and inclusion, setting a precedent for progressive measures in the region.

The honorable Chief Guest, Saraswati Aryal Tiwari, Minister of Energy, Water Resources, and Drinking Water Nepal, graced the occasion and shared valuable thoughts with the audience, congratulating the committee on holding this event in Nepal.

The highlight of the event was the announcement of the SAFA Women Leadership Awards 2024. These awards have been introduced as a tribute to outstanding women of SAFA Member Bodies to showcase their talent for our future generations. This initiative also underscores SAFA's commitment to promoting gender diversity in the accountancy profession. RA Meera Shrestha and Darshani Watawal, Members SAFA WLC unveiled the esteemed winners who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and contribution to the field. Winners against each category are:



The event concluded with a vote of thanks by RA Meera Shrestha, Member of SAFA WLC, expressing gratitude to all speakers, guests and participants for their unwavering support towards promoting gender equality and inclusivity in the profession.

The SAFA Women's Day Celebrations & SAFA Women Leadership Awards 2024 stood as a testament to the collective commitment towards empowering women and fostering a more inclusive environment within the accountancy profession.