

Daayitwa Abhiyaan

Monthly Newsletter

February 2024

We are pleased to present the February edition of our monthly newsletter, a platform that provides insights into the core thematic areas central to the endeavors of Daayitwa Abhiyaan.

Daayitwa

Information Session Webinar on Daayitwa Nepal Public Policy Fellowship 2024



Daayitwa in collaboration with The Great Nepali Diaspora organized an information session webinar on **Daayitwa Nepal Public Policy Fellowship 2024**. The speakers, Dr. Juni Singh, a Postdoctoral fellow at Caltech, and Mr. Raj Kharel, a consultant at the World Bank, shared their experiences from their fellowship journey while answering queries from the participants. Additionally, Dr. Gyan Nyaupane, the chairperson of Nepali Academics in America (NACA), our capacity partner, shared a few points on the mentorship that the fellows will receive and what to expect from it.

[Learn More](#)

[Watch the Webinar](#)

Rural Enterprise Acceleration Program (REAP)



Under the **Mayor-Daayitwa Rural Enterprise Acceleration Program, Sunwal**, Daayitwa in collaboration with Sunwal Municipality with the vision of creating an enterprising Sunwal recognized twenty entrepreneurs who showed great potential. The **Potential 20 Entrepreneurs** were awarded certificates and granted the Enterprise Challenge Fund. The selected entrepreneurs will also receive training on technical and adaptive aspects of entrepreneurial growth and management.

The Enterprise Challenge Model implemented by REAP garnered 100 applications from diverse production and service-based enterprises. After a meticulous selection process, 20

entrepreneurs were chosen based on the following criteria - entrepreneurial skill, current enterprise model and innovation in the enterprise, leadership, and management qualities, financial status, market dynamics, business plan viability, local resource mobilization, community engagement, and impact potential.

Unlock the Potential of Business



A business planning workshop for Tilottama women entrepreneurs, as part of the **Deputy Mayor-Daayitwa Rural Women Enterprise Acceleration Program, Tilottama**, was conducted to unleash the potential of enterprises led by women entrepreneurs. Mr. Min Rana, an Enterprise Development Facilitator, led the session by imparting crucial strategies and tools necessary for crafting a robust business plan. The primary objective of the workshop was to enable women entrepreneurs to make informed decisions, navigate challenges, and turn their visions into thriving ventures based on a strategic business plan. An Enterprise Development Facilitator from Daayitwa will conduct one-to-one sessions with the women entrepreneurs to further develop their strategic business plans.

[To support the program Donate Here](#)

Governance Lab

Governance Lab to Evaluate ILO's SALE Project in Nepal

Governance Lab has been selected as the national consultant for Nepal to conduct an evaluation of the South Asia Leadership in Entrepreneurship (SALE) project, an initiative by the International Labour Organization (ILO). The SALE Project spans across the provinces of Bagmati, Gandaki, Lumbini, and Karnali, covering regions such as Kathmandu, Lalitpur, Pokhara-Kaski, Nepalgunj-Banke, and Birendranagar-Surkhet. Governance Lab's role will involve close collaboration with key implementing partners, namely the Association of Youth Organization in Nepal (AYON) and the Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI).

Insights from the School for Thinktankers 2024



Dr. Nisha Onta, Founder and Executive Director of the Governance Lab, attended the School for Thinktankers 2024 organized by the On Think Tanks (OTT) School in partnership with Bruegel in Brussels. The event ran from January 28 to February 3, 2024, and was designed to enhance think tank skills and empower leaders.

In a recent insight-sharing session for Daayitwa Abhiyaan's teams, Dr. Onta highlighted key learnings from the school around policy-relevant research, communication, fundraising, governance, management, and ecosystem challenges. She also shared valuable experiences

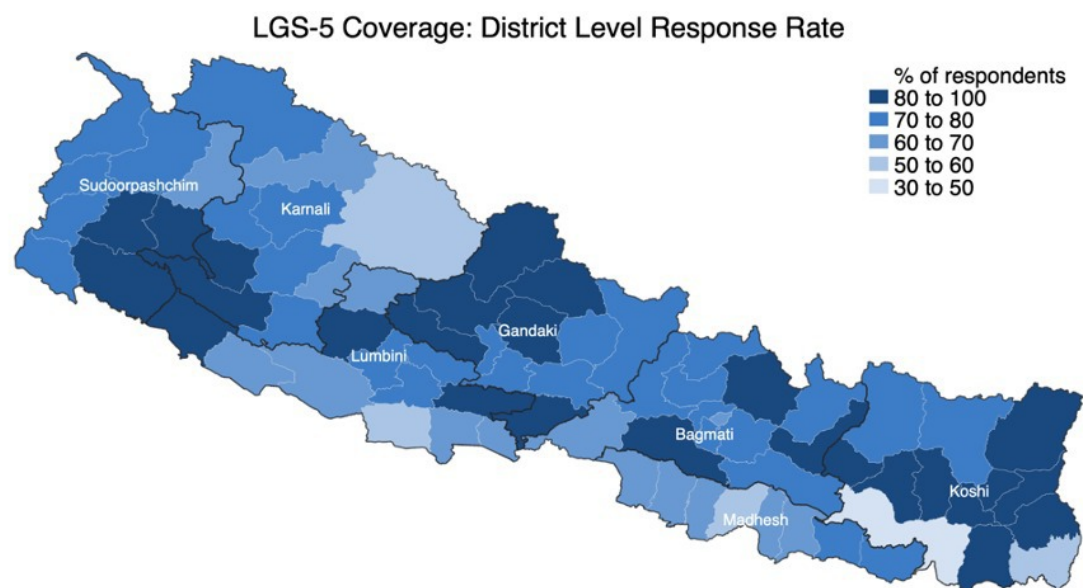
from her time at the event. The school for thinktankers provides an important opportunity for leaders in the think tank space to come together, build skills, and share knowledge. We are grateful that Dr. Onta was able to represent our organization and look forward to applying the many lessons learned to strengthen our work.

Documenting Nepal's Democratic Journey



Governance Lab is currently hosting Dr. Richard Bownas, a Fulbright Scholar and political science researcher hailing from the University of Northern Colorado. Dr. Bownas' research focuses on gathering testimonies from senior Nepali citizens spanning across seven provinces. These testimonies serve to document their narratives of democratic transition and social evolution throughout their lifetimes.

Inclusion Economics Nepal



From February to March 2023, Inclusion Economics Nepal conducted surveys with 12,251 local and ward-level officials across 95% of local governments in Nepal. This was primarily to understand how locally elected officials perceive their own climate responsibility, and whether their actions on climate change are limited by knowledge or by perceived political risks. Findings from the survey reveal that, although local officials recognize that climate change poses a significant risk to their municipalities, many have not been able to take significant action to address its impacts.

The findings present two mechanisms for this: 1) limited knowledge of the officials on climate change and how adaptation can be linked to local policies; and 2) politicians' perception that climate is a low priority among their constituents, suggesting that it may not be a vote-winning issue.

[Learn More](#)

Podspective by Daayitwa Abhiyaan

Episode. 11



From Barefoot Research to Public Policy: Promoting an Inclusive Governance System

“7 years is not enough time to judge an entire system of governance. The transition into the federal system has its ups and downs. We are all still learning. We are on a path to institutionalise the good practices we have learnt.”



DR. SOHAN SHA
Member, Policy and Planning
Commission, Madhesh Province

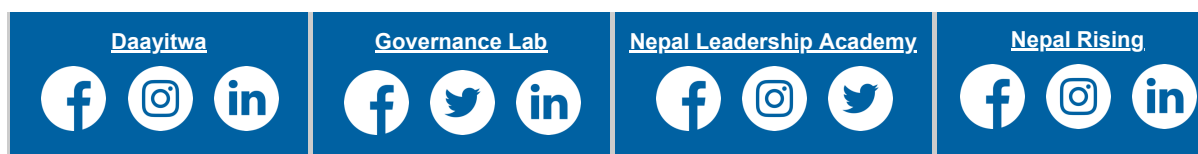
In a recent episode of PodSpective, we had the privilege of conversing with Dr. Sohan Sha, a distinguished member of the Province Planning and Policy Commission (PPPC) of the Madhesh Province Government and a former Daayitwa Fellow. Dr. Sha, a seasoned social science researcher, highlighted his endeavors in leveraging his research skills to advocate for evidence-based policies within the PPPC. Through his insightful discussion, Dr. Sha elucidated the dynamics of the federal system, shedding light on both its opportunities and challenges while championing themes of federalism, inclusion, and effective leadership.

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