
Daayitwa Abhiyaan

Monthly Newsletter



May 2025

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Daayitwa

Growth Entrepreneurship and Employment Program (GEEP)

The Growth Entrepreneurship and Employment Promotion (GEEP) program has made significant strides in fostering innovation and economic empowerment across Gandaki and Koshi provinces. In Gandaki and Koshi provinces GEEP program has successfully identified and honored 400 outstanding entrepreneurs from a combined total of 1,039 applicants. In Gandaki, 200 entrepreneurs from Jaljala, Hupsekot, Badigad, Siranchok, and Myagde rural municipalities were selected from 606 applicants. Similarly, in Koshi, 200 entrepreneurs from Gauradaha Municipality, Ramdhuni Municipality, Aiselukharka, Phakphokthum, and Pauwadungma rural municipalities were chosen from 433 applications. Entrepreneurs were recognized for their potential to drive income growth, job creation, and sustainable development.

Both regions hosted two-day intensive bootcamps where entrepreneurs developed practical business plans in sectors like agriculture and tourism, guided by trainers and 80 management students. These efforts, supported by provincial ministries, local governments, and the Daayitwa organization, are transforming rural economies through collaborative and innovative approaches.



The program's impact was further amplified through gallery walks and jury evaluations, where entrepreneurs presented their innovative business model canvases to panels comprising RRI coordinators, financial experts, private sector representatives, and academics. In both provinces, these presentations fostered peer learning and community engagement, with 100 entrepreneurs (20 from each municipality) selected for the next phase, gaining access to tailored financial and market support. The involvement of 50 RRI team members and local implementation committees in each province ensured robust execution, while 80 management students gained hands-on experience refining business models alongside entrepreneurs. With continued coordination from provincial ministries and local governments, the GEEP program is laying a strong foundation for sustainable economic growth, empowering communities, and creating exemplary entrepreneurs poised to inspire nationwide.

Meet Our Fellows - Daayitwa Nepal Public Policy Fellowship 2025

The Fellowship Team is all set to start the fellowship on the 2nd of June 2025. This year's cohort of Daayitwa Fellows will be working with 3 public institutions and 3 federal parliamentarians. Our fellow Supun Dahal will work with the Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers (OPMCM) on administrative reform, mentored by Dr. Udaya Raj Wagle. Sristy Gautam will support Hon. Yogesh Bhattarai on enhancing the cardamom value chain, guided by Dr. Santosh Pathak. Anoushka Pant will collaborate with the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies (MoICS) on strengthening intellectual property law, mentored by Dr. Bishwa S. Koirala. Sayeja Aryal will assist Hon. Gagan Thapa on promoting youth-led enterprises, mentored by Dr. Jayash Paudel. Astha Pokharel will work with Hon. Abdul Khan on improving market access for rural MSEs through technology, guided by Dr. Gokarna Sharma. Finally, Susil Khanal will support the National Planning Commission (NPC) in analyzing the economic implications of Nepal's LDC graduation, under the mentorship of Dr. Gyan Nyaupane. Nepali Academics in America (NACA) is the mentorship and training partner for DNPPF.



Research Project “Technological Adoption Using Social Networks” Started in Dhankuta



Governance Lab, in collaboration with Caltech and the University of Exeter, undertook a pioneering field research project titled “Technological Adoption Using Social Networks.” and it has started this month in Dhankuta Municipality. The study aims to understand how social connections and community dynamics influence the adoption of electric cookstoves in rural Nepal and being led by Dr. Juni Singh, Visiting Researcher at Caltech, California, USA.

By combining randomized controlled trials (RCTs) with digital data collection tools, the project explores how information flows through friendships and community networks can accelerate behavioral change. The research begins with a baseline survey to map social networks and understand individual beliefs around clean cooking technologies. Outcomes such as cookstove usage, CO₂ emission reductions, and peer adoption rates will be tracked to evaluate how proximity and similarity within networks impact diffusion. This work not only advances our understanding of technology adoption in rural settings but also offers actionable insights for designing scalable, socially-informed climate solutions.

Initiation of Kurakani Kollektive



Governance Lab along with Impact447 is super excited to launch The Kurākāni Kollektive. Kurākāni means meaningful conversation in Nepali—a space for honest dialogue, shared reflection, and genuine connection. Hence, the Kurākāni Kollektive is a refreshing after-work conversation series, designed for professionals in Nepal’s development and humanitarian sectors, it breaks away from conventional meetings; no panels, no PowerPoints, no performance. Just one speaker, one audience, and a shared space for open reflection!! Tackling under-discussed topics like power dynamics, failed projects, youth leadership, and decolonizing aid, it invites bold voices to challenge, rethink, and inspire. A platform for real talk and real impact.

Inclusion Economics Nepal

Inclusion Economics is using an Innovative Approach to Challenge the Nation’s Male-Dominated Political Structures



Nepal has made important strides toward political gender equality in recent decades as it transitioned from a male-dominated political system to one that is more inclusive. However, structural barriers to attaining leadership positions remain. To better understand structural barriers to women's candidacies in Nepal, Inclusion Economics organized focus groups of female politicians from the major political parties. Those interviewed voiced their desire to collaborate with one another on countering male political gatekeepers and building cross-party networks for greater women's representation in local government. Inclusion Economics will now carry out research to explore whether these barriers can be increased and how they can be addressed. This podcast series delves into values carried by the organizations of Daayitwa Abhiyaan (comprising of Daayitwa, Governance Lab, Nepal Leadership Academy and Nepal Rising) and discusses themes of governance, leadership and innovation with the aim to promote Sustainable Economic Development in Nepal and Evidence based Policy Research.

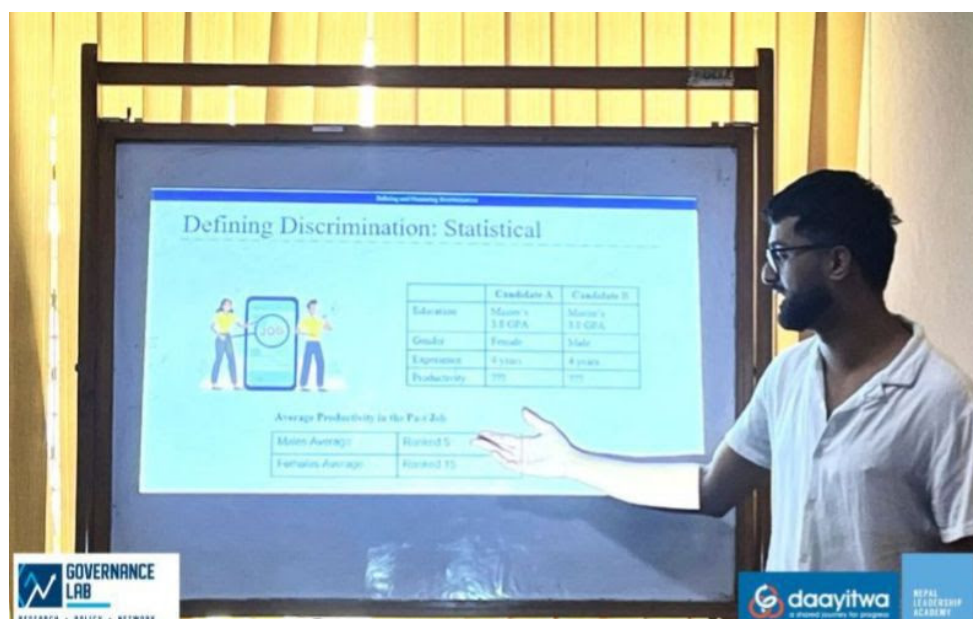
Podspective
by Daayitwa Abhiyaan

New episodes are coming soon! Don't forget to like, share and subscribe to stay updated on all future episodes!

[YouTube Link Here](#)

Staff Engagement

Daayitwa Abhiyaan Monthly Activity: Research Presentation on Exploring Discrimination Through Data



Following the Daayitwa Abhiyaan Monthly Activity, this month Inclusion Economics Nepal (IEN) presented their research conducted on Exploring Discrimination Through Data. This presentation delved into many forms of discrimination observed in political engagement and representation. Anchored in economic literacy, this study also examined how biased are measured in field settings, especially in developing countries. All the findings were drawn from the Politician Committee Members Survey and Voter's Survey conducted by IEN in 2017 and 2022.

Publications

Interview- Nepal's Young Voices, Unmuted

THE KATHMANDU POST

This inclusive approach has helped many, including Pratisha Joshi, now a research and communication professional. She shares that Smart Club didn't just teach her how to speak—it taught her how to listen. A moment that stood out for her was a debate on digital surveillance, where one participant expressed how they had never considered the gender biases embedded in algorithms. It's these kinds of thoughtful dialogues that Joshi believes can transform the way young people view and practice communication.

Joshi also touches on the educational system in Nepal, where expression is often stifled by strict adherence to obedience. "In schools, expression is tied to obedience. In the media, noise outweighs nuance. Platforms like ours let youth practise democratic dialogue," she says. This sentiment

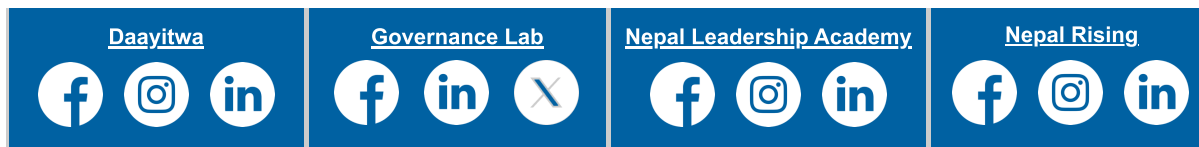
Pratisha Joshi, Research and Program Officer at Governance Lab was interviewed for the article on "Nepal's Young Voices, Unmuted" where she highlights the importance of active listening as well as the necessity of a transformative & democratic dialogue platform. Her commentary highlights Nepal's education system where expression is often linked to obedience rather than independent thought. In that light, we can see in Nepal, the supportive platform where young minds can express their view, learn proper communication techniques, and garner critical thinking is very limited. Even in the capital city, there are a few platforms as such which actually help the youth shape their professional future and career with these much needed skills. Highlighting this with her experience, she tries to convey this necessity which would give youths purpose, place, and power.



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