Dear All,

We are pleased to welcome you to the 34th edition of the Open Nepal newsletter! This issue shares Nepal's country profile on Leave No One Behind, news of two new government open data initiatives presented at Open Data Day and an update on data from the National Reconstruction Authority.

Look out for more frequent updates on the latest news, stories and happenings about the development data community in Nepal on Twitter and Facebook.

From the Open Nepal blog...

Leaving No One Behind in Nepal’s development – where are we now?

As one of the founding partners of the Leave No One Behind Partnership, Development Initiatives has produced a Country Profile of Nepal to support the national discourse on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It provides national level data which could be helpful in tracking progress against the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and make sure that no one is left behind. Learn more!
Two exciting new government open data initiatives presented at Kathmandu Open Data Day 2017

"In order to bring changes in Nepal’s public health sector we need to embrace the notion of transparency and accountability as our guiding principles. If we can be transparent by opening up data and information [...] we can establish the regime of accountability". With this message in his keynote speech at Kathmandu Open Data Day 2017, honourable Minister of Health, Gagan Thapa launched SMART Health, a new initiative to improve public health service delivery by establishing transparency and accountability. Learn about some key takeaways from the day’s panel sessions.

Open Data Hackathon on Public Health and Public Procurement

On 25th February more than 40 young techies gathered at Leap Frog Technology to tussle for the Open Data Hackathon challenge. They worked in groups of five, diving deep into data to create solutions to the issues facing public health and procurement in Nepal. At the end of the day they presented their product ideas, including web apps, mobile apps, and visualizations, to a panel of judges from Nepal’s IT, health and public procurement sector. The winning teams were announced at the Open Data Day event on 4th March. Read more...

PPTIN in Action

The Supply side

Public Agency 1
Public Agency 2
Public Agency 3
Procurement Data in centralized eGP System
Open Contracting Portal using ODDS (Open Procurement Data)

The Demand Side

Civil Society
Media
Public Agency Decision Makers
Pet Sector

Open Contracting: Paving the Way for Open Government in Nepal?

"The current initiative of Public Procurement Monitoring Office to open-up contracting data is a fresh start among all the government agencies in Nepal to adopt Open Government Data", said chief commissioner of the

Status of Earthquake reconstruction projects—NRA

NRA is working on objectives like building resilience among people and communities at risk in the earthquake-affected districts, developing new opportunities by revitalizing the productive sector for economic opportunities and livelihoods. Recently, NRA
Procurement Transparency in Nepal through Open Data Management. PPMO has taken an extra step to publicly open data related to individual procurements through the recently announced 'Public Procurement Transparency Initiative in Nepal' (PPTIN) - implemented in collaboration with the Open Contracting Partnership. Learn more!

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**Announcements...**

**Call for Innovations for the SDGs (2017)**

United Nations is launching a Call for Innovations for the sharing of innovations that provide solutions targeted to these six SDGs. Innovators from around the world are invited to submit their scientific and technological solutions to the challenges posed by the six SDGs by 24 March 2017. Find out more!

**US announces $300,000 challenge for data-driven solutions for food security**

The US Agency for International Development (USAID), through the US government’s Feed the Future Initiative, is looking to innovators to help Nepali farmers increase value from agricultural productivity. The competition will be open for entries until April 6 2017. Find out more!

**Data for Climate Action challenge is now open for applications!**

UN Global Pulse has announced a call to researchers and innovators around the world to put their skills to use to help achieve Goal 13 (combat climate change and its impacts). Selected participants will have approximately four months to analyze the datasets provided by companies and produce papers, apps, tools and/or platforms. Learn more and apply to participate by 10 April here.

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**Events...**

**29-31 MARCH**

ESCAP is organising the next Asia and Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD 2017) on the theme of "Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing Asia-Pacific" in Bangkok, Thailand. Learn more!
Check out our new data sets!

Open Nepal Data Portal currently houses 311 datasets on various thematic topics which are sourced from the online publications of Nepali government agencies and multilaterals, and published in open format that allows reuse and redistribution of these datasets. The new datasets are related to the recent Nepal Earthquake. These data in open format can be downloaded to use, reuse, and redistribute. Watch this space to get updates on new releases!

Stay in touch!

We would love to hear updates from you about any of the following:

- **Examples of past and future potential (open) data use** - How you have used data or open data in your work? Do you have any planned accountability-related projects that could benefit from our help to increase the availability, accessibility and skills capacity to use open data? Do you have an infographic that you would like to share?

- **Availability and accessibility of (open) data** – What data would really help your work? Are there any datasets that you would particularly like to see on the Open Data Portal? Do you have data to share that we can help to make open?

- **Building the community** – Please let us know of any news, case studies, resources or upcoming events relevant to the open data / data revolution / access to information agenda so that we can share them to build a community of knowledge, collaboration and synergy around these issues.
Open Nepal is an initiative to promote more effective development through the increased use of data and information. We aim to catalyze a revolution in data sharing and use - building an inclusive information system in Nepal, supported by a dynamic community of stakeholders.

Contact us at info@opennepal.net

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