Dear All,

Welcome to the 31st edition of the Open Nepal newsletter! In this issue we share with you the recommendations of both-government and civil society on sharing government data in Nepal. It also presents the top 10 Calls to Action by the civil society for successfully pursuing Open Government Data in Nepal.

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

Facebook  Twitter  Website

From the Open Nepal blog...

Sharing government data in Nepal-
Recommendations from those INSIDE government

Over the past few years, the idea of sharing government data in an accessible, machine-readable format as open government data has gained traction among both civil society and government. Particular progress has been seen in recent months, with a number of events channelling discussion and

Sharing government data in Nepal-
Recommendations from those OUTSIDE government

Despite various progresses made there still remains a gap between the availability of open government data and its positive impact on development. Even in countries ahead of the curve, such initiatives have at times failed to provide value. There has not, for example, always been a strong enough buy-in from
representatives at these events, we have gathered key messages on open government data becoming a reality in Nepal. Learn more!

sufficient attention paid to the needs and interests of data users. So what do people in Nepal think now about the potential for open government data? Learn more!

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**Top 10 Calls to Action by Civil Society for The Success of Open Government Data in Nepal**

In many cases, attempts to deliver sustainable economic, social and environmental interventions are hindered by the failure to get the right information, in the right format, to the right people, at the right time. To discuss these issues in the context of Nepal, we held an event in May this year to give civil society and citizens an opportunity to converse with the government organization spearheading information sharing by the Nepali government - the National Information Commission. Learn more!

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**Announcements...**

ACCESS Development Services under their ‘Livelihood Asia Initiative’ is organizing a **Case Study Competition** inviting entries of cases from across the region showcasing best practices and innovative models in the livelihoods space. The theme for 2016 is ‘Innovations in Sustainable Agriculture’. Participants must send the case study abstract not exceeding 700 words by **August 15, 2016**. You can learn more about this competition here.
**Events…**

**11-20 JULY**

High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development was hosted by the United Nations in New York for the follow-up and review of the Sustainable Development Goals. Open Nepal Network member from Development Initiatives and NGO Federation of Nepal participated in various sessions. **Learn more!**

**19 JULY**

Nepal Innovation Lab is hosting a workshop to share the findings of extensive field study about the intersection of culture and environment in Langtang and Gorkha in a post-earthquake scenario. This workshop will look at discovering how your humanitarian programmes could benefit from such intimate and place-specific data. **Learn more!**

**22 JULY**

Nepal Innovation Lab is organizing a mapping workshop that will focus on teaching people how to map important places and landmarks in their community. The aim is to foster inclusive and innovative solutions for effective humanitarian actions in a post-disaster scenario in Nepal. **Learn more!**

**28 JULY**

CIVICUS is convening a one day gender equality multi-stakeholder forum. The forum will explore opportunities for delivering an integrated, datadriven, multi-stakeholder approach to implementing and monitoring SDGs 5 and gender related targets and indicators in other SDGs in Kenya. **Learn more!**

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**Check out our new data sets!**

Open Nepal Data Portal currently houses 210 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!

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**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.

We look forwards to hearing from you!

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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